



Tri County Canary

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

Former Powell nurse helping fight COVID-19 at NYC field hospital



Former Powell Valley Healthcare nurse Sonja Nisley (left) helps a colleague into her personal protective equipment at the Samaritan's Purse field hospital in New York City's Central Park. Nisley is among many people providing aid amid the pandemic. Photos courtesy Samaritan's Purse.

Editors Note:
This article came from the Powell Tribune from Powell, WY. Sonja is the daughter of Jim and Joyce Howard. She grew up in Clover north of Clearbrook and attended school in Clearbrook. Her father was the pastor of Clover Chapel in Clover. Her mother was a nurse at the Good Samaritan Center in Clearbrook.

By CJ Baker
 As she worked as a nurse in Powell and Cheyenne in recent years, Sonja Nisley hoped her skills could one day be used to help with an international disaster. But never did she think she would be called to respond to a health crisis in America. Late last month, however, Nisley was among dozens of medical professionals dispatched to New York City to help run a 68-bed field hospital in Central Park for patients infected with COVID-19.

"We're at pretty much full capacity right now," Nisley said Saturday, shortly before leaving her hotel for another 12-hour shift at Samaritan's Purse's field hospital. Few places in the world have been hit harder by the new coronavirus than New York state, where more than 189,000 people had tested positive and at least 9,345 people had been killed by the disease as of Monday. Overwhelmed hospitals have struggled to keep up with the flood of patients, which is why Samaritan's Purse, a Christian nonprofit, was asked to lend a hand. "We've had a lot of sadness. There's been death," Nisley said. "And then there's a lot of cheering when ... one of our patients gets to go out that front gate. ... People are improving and they are getting better and are able to go back to their lives."

The work has not been easy — Nisley believes that only God's grace and the prayers of people across the country have kept her and the rest of the team going — but it's exactly what she wants to be doing. "I think God created us to serve, and there's great joy when we're doing that," Nisley said.

A long journey
 Nisley began her nursing career at Powell Valley Healthcare, spending a couple years in the medical-surgical unit at the hospital and then eight years at the clinic.

But her ultimate goal as a nurse was to join the Samaritan's Purse Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) — a group of professionals who, according to the organization, "stand ready to respond at a moment's notice whenever and wherever disaster strikes" to provide water, food, shelter and medical care and to share their faith.

When Nisley and her husband, Bruce, moved to Cheyenne in the latter part of 2017, she joined the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center emergency room team, specifically seeking to learn new skills she could use with Samaritan's Purse.

Nisley "learned a ton" during her 2 1/2 years in the ER, and

last month, she gave her notice. Nisley thought her next stop would be a cross-country cycling trip with Bruce that would take the couple from Montana to Maine and then Florida by next winter.

But, as it has for so many people around the globe, the new coronavirus altered those plans.

Samaritan's Purse put out a call for help to its DART members. Workers were needed to man a newly erected field hospital in Cremona, Italy — one of the regions hit the hardest by COVID-19. Nisley signed on and prepared to leave for Europe.

However, the plans suddenly changed as it became clear that the epicenter of the pandemic had shifted; New York City was in crisis.

On Sunday, March 29, Nisley got a call: Instead of leaving for Italy on April 10, could she fly out to NYC the following day? She — along with several others — agreed.

It was an eerie trip through Denver International Airport, with the usually bustling hub almost deserted. Outside of staff, "there wasn't a soul in the whole United area," she said.

On her flight to New York City, Nisley was one of only two travelers aboard the 120-passenger Airbus A319, she said, tended to by a crew of five. The other passenger was a fellow volunteer with Samaritan's Purse, heading to work in the field hospital's lab.

While en route, one of the flight attendants had the two medical workers jot down their names on a napkin. "She just said, 'I'm going to pray for you every day,'" Nisley said.

'Amazing and so fast'
 On March 30, the same day that Nisley arrived in New York City, President Donald Trump expressed disbelief at the images he was seeing from the metropolis — specifically, of bodies being loaded into trailers at a hospital not far from where he used to live.

"I've seen things that I've never seen before. I mean, I've seen them, but I've seen them on television in faraway lands," Trump reflected at a press conference. "I've never seen them in our country."

Samaritan's Purse was among those to answer New York's call for help. The evangelical organization has a half-century of experience assisting in the aftermath of hurricanes, famines, wars and other crises, but this is the first time Samaritan's Purse has deployed medical aid within the U.S.

Dave Philips, the deputy director for Samaritan's Purse international projects, said in a podcast from the organization that, under normal circumstances, it might have taken years to get the government permissions needed to set up a temporary hospital in Central Park.

"And so it's just amazing that ... literally in a few hours, the people came together who needed to," Philips said, adding, "All these people just came together, and they said, 'You know what, you're here to help and we're gonna make this work.'"

Crews set up the 14-tent field

hospital — which was previously deployed in war-torn Mosul, Iraq in 2017 — in Central Park over the course of a couple days.

"Samaritan's Purse has been — like so many others — just been amazing and so fast," President Trump said April 1.

Samaritan's Purse set up equipment and beds, running water, electricity and heat to each of the tents and "roads" between them to accommodate wheelchairs and carts.

The field hospital slowly started seeing patients, initially just a handful, as the 68-bed operation got up and running.

All walks of life
 The Samaritan's Purse hospital includes 10 ICU beds with ventilators, for patients who are unable to breathe on their own due to the new coronavirus; those beds were all full on Saturday, Nisley said.

For her part, she helps oversee the men's ward, where patients' conditions aren't as dire. But the situation can still be grim.

Nisley saw a few patients with COVID-19 symptoms before her time at the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center came to a close, "but nothing like what we're seeing here."

Cody Regional Health
 "People are really sick," she said. "This hits them with a fever and they just become so weak they can barely get up." The patients hit with the respiratory disease come from all walks of life.

"There's working class people right in there with financial people," Nisley said, hailing from a wide variety of cultures and languages.

They sometimes communicate in broken English, an effort made more difficult by the sound-muffling masks and face shields that go along with the gowns, double-gloves and other personal protective equipment worn by medical workers.

The Samaritan's Purse facility lacks the amenities and privacy that modern hospitals generally afford, but Nisley said patients have simply been thankful to be receiving care. One young mechanic told the staff that he waited in an emergency room for seven hours, then was placed in a small, one-patient room with two other men before being transferred to the field hospital.

Most of the patients have been over the age of 50, Nisley said; but not all of them are older; one recent charge was a man in his 30s, who works for the New York Police Department.

"They all just say, 'I didn't think it could happen to me. And when I started having symptoms, I still denied that it could be real,'" Nisley said. "And yet they become where they just can't even get up, they become so short of breath."

'Sadness in each cot'
 Two nurses work days and two nurses work nights in the men's ward, from 7 to 7.

"Back in the real world," Nisley said she used to think she couldn't do more than three 12-hour shifts in a row. Saturday was her 13th day in New York City, which she credits to the prayers going up around the country for the operation.

"My phone is full of people from Powell just saying that they are praying for the people that I'm working with and for my patients and also just courage and strength to keep going," Nisley said, saying she is so appreciative of the support.

As for her day-to-day work, it's "a lot of just caring for the basic needs of people and helping them to the bathroom and helping them fluff pillows and try to get comfortable on cots and stay warm," she said. "It brings a lot of joy when you can see that you're easing their suffering in just the small things."

On Saturday, Nisley's ward consisted of 13 men on cots who were receiving oxygen.

One man — who already lost his brother to the virus — was among several worried patients.

"They worry about their jobs, and their animals at home and lots of concerns and sadness in each cot as we get to know their story," Nisley said.

With Samaritan's Purse being an openly Christian organization, she and other staffers offer to pray with the patients.

"Fear is rampant with this disease and so [there's] a lot of trying to reach towards that and bring the comfort of that and bring the comfort of Christ," she said, "because truly in ourselves, we have nothing to offer, but he does."

Nisley said patients have appreciated the prayers — though not everyone in New York has welcomed the organization's Christianity.

New York reacts
 Evangelist Franklin Graham, son of the late Rev. Billy Graham, is the president and CEO of Samaritan's Purse. He's led the Christian relief organization for more than four decades, helping bring aid to people in scores of countries.

However, Graham has drawn criticism from supporters of gay rights for his stance that homosexuality is a sin.

The Samaritan's Purse statement of faith says that — in addition to stating that "human life is sacred" and "we must have concern for the physical and spiritual needs of our fellowmen" and other points — marriage "is exclusively the union of one genetic male and one genetic female."

After plans for the field hospital were unveiled last month, the speaker of the New York City Council, Corey Johnson, called it "extremely troubling that [Graham] and his organization are involved in our relief efforts in any way" and that he would be "monitoring this situation closely and making sure that our city's values [of diversity] are being represented at all times."

Democratic Mayor Bill de Blasio said at a press conference that he was "very concerned to make sure this is done right. But if it is done right, of course we need all the help we can get."

Samaritan's Purse leaders said the fears of potential discrimination were misplaced.

"Everybody's welcome," Graham said in an appearance on The Ben Shapiro Show that aired Sunday. "And if a gay or transgender person would show up at the hospital, we would show them the same love and compassion and give them the same world-class healthcare we'd give to anybody else that comes."

He said that, in 50 years of operations, there's never been an accusation that the organization refused someone help due to their beliefs, because "we just don't do that."

Graham added in an appearance on Fox & Friends Weekend

that New Yorkers have come out to encourage the organization and its efforts, including bringing food.

"... It's just incredible," he said.

That's the kind of response Nisley said she has experienced.

It's about a mile from her hotel to the field hospital and as she and her fellow nurses with Samaritan's Purse have walked to work in their scrubs, they've been cheered along. Some people — forced to stay indoors while the pandemic spreads through the city — have stuck their hands out of their windows to clap as the nurses pass by. And at 7 p.m. every night, residents holler and bang pots and pans to express their gratitude for the medical workers' efforts.

"The people of New York have been just amazing," Nisley said.

"As for Nisley, serving on the emergency response team "was my ultimate goal, and so this seems like a real fulfillment of kind of a long journey."

The work in NYC could be just the first of many missions for Nisley, as she hopes to be able to serve again when another need arises. However, she is quick to downplay her role.

"Truly it is the nurses that have been working in the hospitals here in New York for months that are the heroes," she emphasized. "They work long hours without the right equipment trying to take care of very sick people."

On Monday, one of those NYC nurses was among Nisley's patients. Samaritan's Purse had treated 130 people at the field hospital as of Monday — and there are signs New York is turning a corner, with fewer coronavirus hospitalizations in the state.



The Christian nonprofit Samaritan's Purse has set up a 68-bed field hospital to provide some relief to New York City's swamped healthcare system.



Pictured in the photo are (l-r): Mike Hoffmann, supply chain director for Sanford Bemidji, and Cole Young, development officer for Sanford Health Foundation.

TEAM Foundation donates 2,000 N95 masks to Sanford Bemidji Foundation

BEMIDJI, Minn. — TEAM Foundation recently made a donation of 2,000 N95 masks to the Sanford Health Foundation of Northern Minnesota.

According to guidelines from the CDC, N95 masks are a key part of the recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) for healthcare providers caring for patients confirmed to have COVID-19.

"TEAM Industries and TEAM Foundation are grateful for the health care providers in our communities and remain committed to supporting them in any way we can," said Tricia Young, sales manager of TEAM

Industries and president of TEAM Foundation. "We understand the risks taken by health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic and hope that these masks can help mitigate that risk. Our thoughts remain with all of those affected by COVID-19 and all of the health care professionals that support our communities every day."

"We are very appreciative of TEAM Foundation's thoughtful gift during this trying time," said Susan Jarvis, president and CEO of Sanford Health of Northern Minnesota. "Their generosity will help contribute to protecting our staff on the

frontlines as they provide essential care for our communities."

The Sanford Health Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the enhancement and expansion of health care services, state-of-the-art technology and facilities to provide health and healing for the Sanford Bemidji region.

Anyone interested in supporting the Foundation may do so by contacting the Sanford Health Foundation at (218) 333-5505. Partnering with the Foundation not only supports new services and technology, but also helps care for individuals within the community.

Using Your Time to Benefit Your Future

Adult Education (ABE) is still available in Bagley, Clearbrook, Gonvick, Gully, Oklee, Trail, and across Minnesota. Instead of face-to-face, it is being done virtually through online learning platforms. Some of these platforms may be familiar to you, if you have school-age children at home.

Have you been putting off getting your GED because you just didn't have the time? If you are not working, there is no better way to fill the empty hours than to work on your GED or Adult Diploma. If you are able to go to work, your social life and activities have certainly slowed, and honestly, there is a limit to how much television or social media one can watch.



Sherry Hjelle

ABE offers GED & Accuplacer prep, digital literacy/computer skills, job skills, basic

math and reading skills, all at an amazing low price – FREE! Sherry Hjelle, your local ABE instructor, is available via e-mail, phone, shjelle@nwservice.org, 218-776-2789 (Clear Waters Life Center) or 218-487-6008 (home). Zoom, Google Hangouts, or even a video call through Facebook messenger allows us to be face-to-face.

If you don't have a strong internet connection at your house; a smartphone, tablet or computer, Sherry can provide packets of materials with self-study helps and assistance. Instruction is FREE and getting started is as easy as picking up your phone. Sherry is part of the Northwest Service Coop ABE.

Curbside Delivery is Coming Soon!

April 16, 2020 LARL News
While Lake Agassiz Regional Library buildings are currently closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, a new service is in the works. Soon, locations will begin to offer no-contact curbside delivery, allowing customers to pick up books, DVDs, print-outs and more in the library or LINK Site's parking lot.

How can I use this service?

We encourage you to place holds on items in the library catalog. With limited sharing between libraries, limit your search to your home library using the "Library" dropdown list when searching the catalog. This will ensure an item will be available in a more timely fashion.

Stay tuned! An online book recommendation service for requesting materials is coming soon. At present, customers are encouraged to call or email their location for book and DVD

recommendations from their favorite genre.

How does no-contact curbside delivery work?

The librarian will arrange a time for you to pull up and pick up your items, carefully placing them six feet from your vehicle and requesting that you remain in your vehicle until the librarian has stepped away. When the librarian gives you the 'thumbs up', you may exit your vehicle and pick up your items.

What about returning the items I've checked out?

For now, we are asking that customers keep all items at home until the library building can be reopened.

Where is this service offered?

We are slowly rolling this out around the region, and will be updating this list weekly:

Moorhead Public Library
Detroit Lakes Public Library
Crookston Public Library
Barnesville Public Library

Fosston Public Library
McIntosh Public Library

What can I pick up at my location?

We are able to assist you with picking up books, audiobooks, DVDs, music CDs, print jobs, tax forms, and more.

If you have a question about no-contact curbside delivery or any of the library's services, call the hotline at 833-522-5275.

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Polk County Sheriff

Single vehicle accident

On 4/19/2020 at approximately 1850 hours, Polk County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to a single vehicle accident on County Road 19 near 420th Ave SW. It was reported a vehicle went off the roadway and was submerged in Grand Marais Creek.

The Deputy arrived on scene and discovered a 2020 Subaru Legacy partially submerged in the water. The driver, identified as Zachary Markovich, age 21 of East Grand Forks, was able to escape the vehicle without any injuries.

No further information will be given at this time.

Assisting agencies were East Grand Forks Police Department and Minnesota State Patrol.

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FDIC R6C

Red Lake County SWCD will sponsor two students to attend Long Lake Conservation Camp

Long Lake Conservation Center has provided summer camp experience since 1965. Long Lake Conservation Center is located in the beautiful northland of Minnesota forests and bogs, and its campus buildings are situated overlooking Long Lake. The Center is near Palisade, MN.

The 2020 season offers two Outdoor Explorer I Sessions for ages 10-13 and one Outdoor Explorer II Session for ages 13-15. The Outdoor Explorers Camp will be held July 21-26, 2019.

Outdoor Explorers I – Ages 10-13 years old

Interested in being an adventurer? Then the Outdoor Explorer camp is for you! Every summer we offer NEW activities for outdoor explorer camp, which means campers can come back year after year! This camp is for youth interested in having adventures in nature! Every day campers will spend time exploring hands on activities to build skills in nature and conservation. (Examples activities from past camps include outdoor cooking, building survival shelters, canoeing, camping, and bog exploration). This camp also includes plenty of time for fun summer activities like swimming, crafts, fishing, campfires, and games!

Dates: June 28-July 3, 2020

-OR- July 26-31, 2020

Outdoor Explorers II – Ages 13-15 years old

Take outdoor exploration to the next level in Outdoor Explorers 2! We build off outdoor skills learned from level 1 and put them to the test this summer. Each day is themed for skills application! We practice camping skills, utilize survival skills, navigate through the backcountry and more! This camp is for campers ready to experiment, try new things, take on new challenges, and have fun in nature!

Date: July 26-31, 2020*Participation in Outdoor Explorers 1 preferred, but not required.

Students will make life-long friends and life-long memories at Long Lake. This camp is for youth interested in having adventures in nature! Every day campers will spend time exploring hands on activities to build skills in nature and conservation. (Example activities, from past camps include outdoor cooking, building survival shelters, canoeing, camping, and bog exploration). This camp also includes plenty of time for fun summer activities like swimming, crafts, fishing, campfires, and games! You won't want to miss this!

Red Lake County SWCD will sponsor two youth to attend

camp. If you are interested, please write a short paragraph (300 words or less) describing why you would like to attend camp. Also, please provide your full name, parent's names, and telephone number. The deadline is Thursday, April 30th.

Please send to Tanya Waldo at the Red Lake County SWCD, 2602 Wheat Drive, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750 by Thursday, April 30th. If you have any questions, please contact Tanya at (218) 253-2593.

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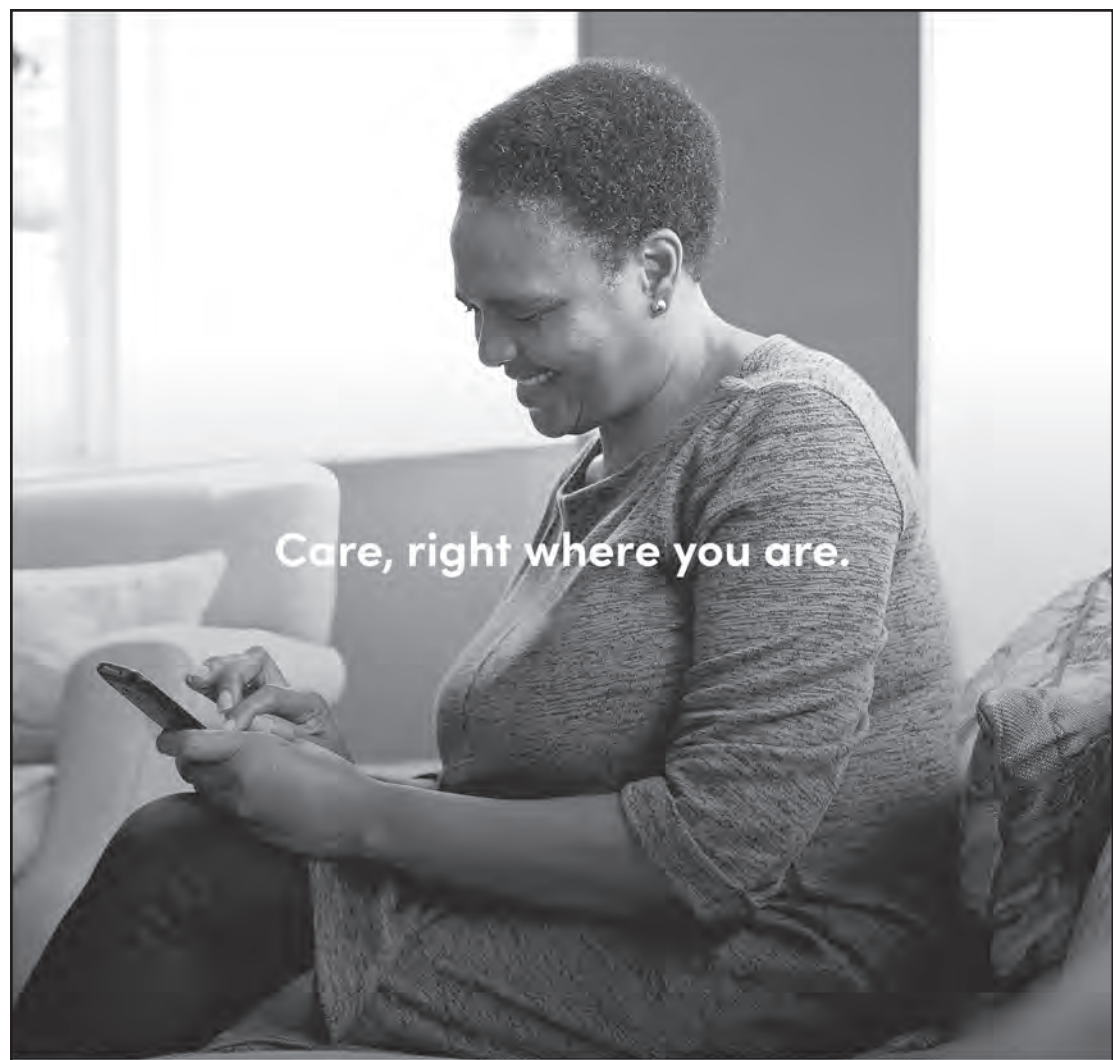
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USDA Reports Record Enrollment in Key Farm Safety-Net Programs

WASHINGTON, April 21, 2020 – Producers signed a record 1.77 million contracts for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for the 2019 crop year, which is more than 107 percent of the total contracts signed compared with a 5-year average. USDA also reminds producers that June 30 is the deadline to enroll in ARC and PLC for the 2020 crop year.

"Producers for several years have experienced low commodity prices, a volatile trade environment and catastrophic natural disasters," said Richard Fordyce, Administrator of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). "Farmers looking to mitigate these risks recognize that ARC and PLC provide the financial protections they need to weather substantial drops in crop prices or revenues."

Producers interested in enrolling for 2020 should contact their FSA county office. Producers must enroll by June 30 and make their one-time update to

PLC payment yields by September 30.

FSA attributes the significant participation in the 2019 crop year ARC and PLC programs to increased producer interest in the programs under the 2018 Farm Bill and to an increase in eligible farms because of the selling and buying of farms and new opportunities for beginning farmers and military veterans with farms having 10 or fewer base acres. Enrollment for 2019 ended March 16.

USDA Service Centers, including FSA county offices, are open for business by phone only,

and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

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DUST CONTROL - POLK COUNTY ROADS

The Polk County Highway Department is accepting requests for application of calcium chloride for dust control in front of residences that lie along County or Township gravel roads. The cost will be approximately \$250.00 or 5 cents per square foot, whichever cost is higher. County Roads: the cost will be the responsibility of the homeowner on County roads. Township roads: Each landowner will be responsible for paying their specific amount to their township. Polk County will bill each Township for the total cost of Calcium Chloride applied in their respective townships. Polk County requires Township approval/permission documentation prior to chloride application on township roads. The cost will be for a one-time application only. The size and cost of each application may vary. The application site must be flagged from start to finish by residents. Polk County requires all individuals requesting Calcium Chloride to complete and submit application forms. Forms will be available at the Polk County Highway Department in Crookston or by visiting the Public Works Department page, Maintenance Section at <http://www.co.polk.mn.us/>. Individuals may either stop at our office to receive a form or call 218-281-3952 to request forms be mailed to them. Township residents may also contact their Township Clerk for application forms.

Application deadline is May 18, 2020. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Calcium Chloride Chart APPROXIMATE COST

		Length of Application						
Width	150'	200'	250'	300'	350'	400'	450'	500'
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M6-8C

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EssentiaHealth.org/VirtualVisit



Essentia Health

If you have concerns or symptoms related to COVID-19*, Essentia Health is providing E-Visits at no cost for evaluation. To learn more, or to start an E-visit, go to EssentiaHealth.org/COVID-19.

*Testing ordered as a result of screening may incur a charge.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Full-time Head Cook Position

Red Lake County Central Elementary School in Plummer, MN has a full-time Head Cook position open for the 2020-2021 school year. Applicants must hold, or be eligible to acquire the required Food Protection Manager Certifications. Interested candidates must submit the following:

- District Application
- Letter of Application
- Resume
- Food Service Credentials

Applicants interested in the position, should submit their completed application to: Mr. Andrew Fougner, Principal
Red Lake County Central Elementary
PO Box 7, Plummer, MN 56748
218-465-4222

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Application forms are available at www.rlcc2906.org
ISD #2906 is an equal opportunity employer.



O6-7C

DISPATCHER

The Polk County Sheriff's Department in Crookston, MN has a full-time Dispatcher position available. Applicants must possess excellent computer skills, have the ability to speak clearly and concisely, and have the ability to exercise independent judgment, using all information available in critical and emergency situations. Provides a single point of contact for 24-hour voice/radio communications - emergency and 911 services to citizens. High school diploma or GED is required. Post-secondary education preferred. Wage range for this position is \$22.04 - \$28.02/hour; DOE and qualifications. An application and full job description can be obtained at <http://www.co.polk.mn.us> click on Careers. Please mail your completed application and resume to the Polk County Administrator's Office, 612 N. Broadway, Room 211, Crookston, MN 56716. (281-281-5408) Applications will be received until May 11, 2020. EOE.

M6-7C

OFFICIAL JOB POSTING

The Red Lake County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications to fill a Sheriff's Deputy position. This is a non-scheduled position to cover open shifts when full-time deputies take vacation or sick leave, and to provide extra patrol coverage for special events. The applicant will be expected to work nights and weekends. Applicants must be POST License eligible and be available to start working in this position by May 18, 2020. Starting salary will be \$24.13 and a detailed job description and information about additional qualification standards will be available upon request. Applications can be obtained at the Red Lake County Sheriff's Office in Red Lake Falls or on Red Lake County's official web page. All persons interested in this position must submit their application to Sheriff, Mitch Bernstein by 4:00pm on Monday, May 11, 2020. Any applicants selected for oral interviews will be contacted sometime after that date. Red Lake County is an equal opportunity employer.

O6-7C

Sort Line Operator I or II - Polk County Incinerator

The Polk County Incinerator in Fosston, MN has an opening for a full-time Sort Line Operator I or II. Primary duties include sorting or separating recyclable or problem materials from the recyclables and solid waste delivered to the facility. Position also required to clean equipment and to perform basic maintenance on, as well as operate conveyors, & equipment. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent. A valid MN driver's license and pre-employment physical exam are required. Wage range for this position is \$14.66 - \$19.75/hour, DOE and qualifications. Interested individuals may contact the Polk County Incinerator at 218-435-6501 or the Polk County Administrator's Office at 218-281-5408. An application and job description can be obtained at <http://www.co.polk.mn.us> click on Careers. Please mail your completed application and resume to the Polk County Administrator's Office, 612 N. Broadway, Room 211, Crookston, MN 56716. This position will remain open until filled. EOE

M6TFN

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Delivery Experience is preferred, but not required. For more information on this position or to get an application, please contact Tom at 218-686-0091 or send resume to Tom@rlcoop.com or Po Box 37 Brooks MN 56715.

R6-7C

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R2-10C

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M316C

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R3-6C

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R45-7C

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R6C

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R6-7C

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R3-7C

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R6-7C

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O B U S I N E S S O T Y I S E E A C E V
R L V U W F U Y T O I S A T M G P A C X
I U L O P G I R M E W T S M E W A T W V
T E M R V Y O E P Q I I P M G G H P F A
Y M C Q S P R S M S S H E E E U A T S
P Y H N P Q H W F N Y N F N C W L T N O
N Y E U A O G A O T T S T I O R E M Q V
O S S P M C C L I Y Q V L L N E P B I
E H A P C T R A S N Q R L L T T P P E R
Q T I X I A Y O R Q E O Q I R O O N O I
L N I O T O L P F S F F O I O X H A W M
G H N Q L C H A P R A N C G H W T G N P
X X U S U M F N T V E S T G C M L N O A
L N Y X P E S M X I X P I Q B P U R C C
C Y H X X E T R E S O L U T I O N L C T
R E P E A T W T L E H N I M P R O V E M
G L M G Q V X A E W E C N E I R E P X E

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

CUSTOMER WORD SEARCH

Answers on page 5

AGENT
ATTENTION
BUSINESS
CONSISTENCY
CUSTOMER
ESCALATION

ETIQUETTE
EXPERIENCE
FOLLOW-UP
IMPACT
IMPROVE
LOYALTY

MANAGEMENT
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R29th

NURSE PRACTITIONER – Polk County, MN

Polk County Public Health in Crookston, MN has a Nurse Practitioner position available up to .8 FTE with flexible work schedule. This position will provide program coordination and oversight, and a variety of patient-centered health care services, including but not limited to Sexual/Reproductive Health services, for clients of Polk County Public Health and Norman-Mahnomen Public Health.

Eligible applicants must have a Master's degree in Nursing from an accredited college or university, be a graduate of an accredited Nurse Practitioner Program, and have a Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate. Verification of Licensure by the MN State Board of Nursing as a Registered Nurse and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) & Certification by a national APRN certifying body in specialty area will be required.

Applicants must possess excellent computer skills, have the ability to speak clearly and concisely, and exercise independent judgment, using all information available in sensitive/critical situations among youth and young adults. Must have a valid driver's license or evidence of equivalent mobility. Wage range is \$35.12 - \$44.65/hour.

Please call 218-281-3385 or visit www.co.polk.mn.us click on Careers for an application and position description. Please mail your completed application along with a resume to the Polk County Administrator's Office, Polk County Government Center, 612 N. Broadway, Room 211, Crookston, MN 56716. Applications for this position will be received until 4:30 p.m., May 15, 2020. All qualified applicants will be considered for employment. EOE

M3-6C

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EOE R26TFC

Maintenance II - Polk County Highway Dept.

Polk County Highway Department is seeking applicants for a Maintenance II at the Fosston Shop. The primary duty for this position is the maintenance and repair of county roads, bridges, parks by operating various heavy equipment, including motor grader, tandem truck, loader, forklift and tractor/mower.

Applicants must possess a high school diploma or GED and moderate experience in mechanical and heavy equipment operation experience or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Must have a valid Commercial Driver's License with Class "A" endorsement. Wage range for this position is \$19.61 - \$24.94/hour; DOE and qualifications. An application and job description can be obtained at <http://www.co.polk.mn.us> click on Careers. Please mail your completed application and resume to the Polk County Administrator's Office, 612 N. Broadway, Room 211, Crookston, MN 56716. (218-281-5408) Applications will be received until May 6, 2020. EOE.

M5-6C



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OBITUARIES



Obituary for Emilie L. Kirk

Emilie L. Kirk, 84, formerly of Clearbrook, MN, died on Thursday, April 16, 2020 at Valley View Elder Care in Grand Forks, ND.

UPDATE: Due to COVID-19, private family services are tentatively planned for Friday, May 1, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cease Family Funeral Home in Bagley, MN with a visitation one hour prior. You can watch the funeral service online via Cease Family Funeral Homes Facebook page or the You Tube Channel Cease Family Funeral Home Service channel. Interment will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery in Clearbrook, MN. The Cease Family Funeral Home of Bagley assisted the family

with arrangements.

Emilie was born on July 4, 1935 in Fosston, Minnesota to Melvin and Dorothy (Rydeen) Grue. She graduated High School and went on to attend Faribault Tech School. She married Lester Kirk on May 15, 1965 in South Minneapolis. Lester passed away on December 3, 1999. Emilie wasn't camera shy and loved to take pictures. She remembered everyone's birthday's and holidays and never missed sending a card. She was very involved in the Deaf Community.

She is survived by her son, Terry Kirk; her granddaughters, Casandra Kirk and Sarah Kirk; her great grandson, Michael Perez; her siblings, Merlin Grue, Rosemary (Jim) Erickson, Diane Ketcham, Edna (Dennis) Grivos, Edwin (Joan) Grue, Derald (Shelia) Grue; and many aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester Kirk; her parents, Melvin and Dorothy Grue; her sister, Ruth Reigstad; her sister-in-law, Rozann Grue; her brother-in-law, Clyde Ketcham JR; her nephew, Steven Reigstad; and her grandmother, Louella Rydeen.

Messages of condolence may be sent to ceasefuneral-home.com

Spring bird feeding tips from Minnesota DNR

Spring is the time to adjust your bird feeding system to accommodate springtime migrants, as well as the winter birds and permanent resident birds that have been visiting your feeders all winter.

The most delightful aspects of spring bird feeding are the variety of species and the stunning spring breeding plumages.

Foods

The biggest change necessary for spring is to increase the proportion of millet mix provided both in feeders and on the ground.

These birds and returning mourning doves all prefer the smaller seeds of millet-type mixes. By early May the millet can also attract indigo buntings.

Black oil sunflower seeds and cardinal mixes should also be provided for northern cardinals, blue jays, chickadees, house finches, and purple finches.

Suet is another staple that should be provided throughout the spring.

Keep finch feeders stocked with niger thistle to attract goldfinches, and any redpolls or pine siskins that linger from their winter visits to your feeders.

as well as occasional visitors like squirrels.

Spring is an excellent time to make a temporary brush pile near your feeders. Brush piles should be about 10 feet from a feeder cluster.

Trim some shrubs or smaller tree branches, and make a pile of branches perhaps six to eight feet wide and three to four feet high. You don't need to use heavy limbs. Small branches with lots of twigs are fine. This provides small birds with hiding places where they can avoid being caught by migrating birds of prey.

It is also very important to have water available for migrating birds. A shallow bird bath or shallow pool with a recirculating water pump can provide dripping or splashing water that is especially appealing to



birds. The best bird baths are shallow pools no more than one-and-one-half to two and one-half inches deep.

By the first of May, put out tray feeders with grape jelly, overripe bananas, orange halves, chunks of suet, finely crushed eggshells, corn bread, and small containers of mealworms.

Hummingbird and nectar feeders should also be put out by May first because they may be visited by warblers as well as early-returning hummingbirds and Baltimore orioles.

Tips to successfully grow tomatoes

Slicing into the first tomato of the season is a much anticipated moment for gardeners. Tomatoes are among the most popular fruit or vegetable plants grown in home gardens. Much of that popularity may be credited to the fact that red, ripe tomatoes have a delicious, juicy flavor that serves as the basis for all sorts of recipes. And since tomatoes can just as easily be grown in a full backyard garden or in a container on a patio or balcony, tomatoes appeal to gardeners regardless of their living situations.

While tomatoes are relatively easy to grow, they are prone to certain problems and pests. Knowledge of what to expect when planting tomatoes

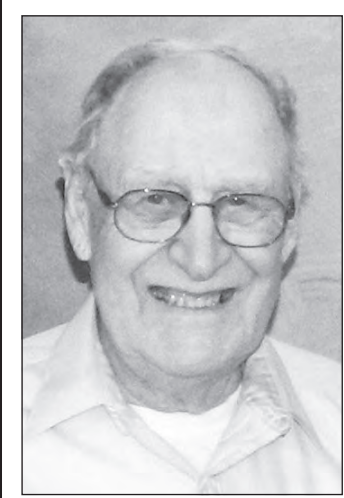
and how to start off on the right footing can help produce a season's worth of delicious bounty.

- **Wait until after the last average frost date.** Tomatoes can be grown from seeds outdoors in warm areas, but tomato gardeners often find success starting seeds indoors six to eight weeks before the last frost date. Gradually introduce seedlings to the elements for a few hours each day, increasing the duration of time outside. Then they can be transplanted outdoors when temperatures are consistently over 60 F.
- **Choose a sunny spot.** Tomatoes love to soak up sunlight, according to The Home Depot. Place the plants in a sunny spot so they can thrive.
- **Space out plants.** The experts at Better Homes and Gardens say to leave anywhere from 24 to 48 inches between plants to accommodate for growth and ensure the plants will not get stunted.
- **Plant deeply.** Tomatoes tend to root along their stems. If transplants are long and lean, dig a trench and lay the stem sideways in the dirt, and then bend the top of the plant upward. Snip off the lower branches and cover with soil up to the first set of leaves. This will produce extra root growth and stronger, more vital plants.



- **Give the plants support.** Tomato cages or stakes can help keep the leaves and fruit from touching the ground, which can cause rot and, eventually, death to the tomato plant.
- **Lay down a layer of mulch.** Tomatoes grow best when the soil is consistently moist. Mulch can help retain moisture from watering and rain. Mulch also will help prevent soil and soilborne diseases from splashing on the leaves and plants when it rains. While you amend the soil, make sure that it drains well and is slightly acidic.
- **Prune away suckers.** Tomatoes produce "suckers," which are leaves that shoot out from the main stem. Removing these leaves promotes air circulation and keeps the plant's energy focused on growing fruit.

Tomatoes are a rich addition to any garden. A few simple tricks can help even novice gardeners grow delicious tomatoes.



Obituary for Allen Barsness

Allen Barsness, Fosston, MN, formerly Oklee, MN, 90, passed away on Thursday, April 23, 2020 at First Care Nursing Home, Fosston, MN.

A private family funeral service will be on Saturday, May 2, 2020. Burial will follow at Greenwood Cemetery, Thief River Falls, MN.

Visitation will be held from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM on Friday, May 1, 2020 at Johnson Funeral Service in Oklee, MN, with a limit of 10 people in at a time.

Allen Barsness was born July 9, 1929 in Spring Valley, WI, the son of Melvin and Ella (Hanson) Barsness. He attended the local Grove Country School and Spring Valley High School graduating in 1948.

On April 10, 1954, Allen was united in marriage to Dorothy Burdette in Stockholm, WI. They moved to Oklee, MN where they continued to reside for 61 years and the past few years have

resided at the Fosston First Care Living Center.

Allen was a farmer and in 1966, he started at Detroit Mobile Homes and Homark retiring in 1992. The couple enjoyed camping, dancing, and spending time with family. Allen was very interested in genealogy, and family history.

Survived by children: Keith Barsness (Lisa Drake of West Tawakoni, TX) of Grygla, MN, Dwelton Barsness of Thief River Falls, MN and Lila Coulter (Ken Thomas) of Gonvick, MN; grandchildren: Michael Barsness of West Tawakoni, TX, Joseph Barsness of Thief River Falls, MN, Celeste Coulter (Dieter Hermann) of Ettrick, WI, Candace Coulter of Gonvick, MN, and Colette (Billy) Neely of Prague, OK; great grandchildren: Taylor (Shawn Zabel) Coulter, Nicholas Hermann, Carlisle Coulter, Augustus Coulter, Calen Neely, Ciera Neely, Holden Neely and Hazel Neely; brother and sisters-in-law: Danny (Barbara) Carlstrom of River Falls, WI, Charlotte Schivley of Cochrane, WI and Ruthy Linehan of Minneapolis, MN, Janice Barsness of Minneapolis area; along with several nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by wife Dorothy, parents, grandparents, brother Ellis Barsness and brother and sister-in-law Marland (LaDonna) Barsness and nephews, Kenny and Steve Barsness, son-in-law Lawrence Coulter.

Family condolences may be sent to www.johnsonfuneralservice.com

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MOTH, 92. CRICKET, 93. GRASSHOPPER, 94. TOAD, 95. SNAKE, 96. LIZARD, 97. TURTLE, 98. FROG, 99. BAT, 100. OWL, 101. EAGLE, 102. HAWK, 103. VULTURE, 104. CROW, 105. RAVEN, 106. OUSE, 107. MICE, 108. BEETLE, 109. WORM, 110. SPIDER, 111. FLY, 112. MOTH, 113. CRICKET, 114. GRASSHOPPER, 115. TOAD, 116. SNAKE, 117. LIZARD, 118. TURTLE, 119. FROG, 120. BAT, 121. OWL, 122. EAGLE, 123. HAWK, 124. VULTURE, 125. CROW, 126. RAVEN, 127. OUSE, 128. MICE, 129. BEETLE, 130. WORM, 131. SPIDER, 132. FLY, 133. MOTH, 134. CRICKET, 135. GRASSHOPPER, 136. TOAD, 137. SNAKE, 138. LIZARD, 139. TURTLE, 140. FROG, 141. BAT, 142. OWL, 143. EAGLE, 144. HAWK, 145. VULTURE, 146. CROW, 147. RAVEN, 148. OUSE, 149. MICE, 150. BEETLE, 151. WORM, 152. SPIDER, 153. FLY, 154. MOTH, 155. CRICKET, 156. GRASSHOPPER, 157. TOAD, 158. SNAKE, 159. LIZARD, 160. TURTLE, 161. FROG, 162. BAT, 163. OWL, 164. EAGLE, 165. HAWK, 166. VULTURE, 167. CROW, 168. RAVEN, 169. OUSE, 170. MICE, 171. BEETLE, 172. WORM, 173. SPIDER, 174. FLY, 175. MOTH, 176. CRICKET, 177. GRASSHOPPER, 178. TOAD, 179. SNAKE, 180. LIZARD, 181. TURTLE, 182. FROG, 183. BAT, 184. OWL, 185. EAGLE, 186. HAWK, 187. VULTURE, 188. CROW, 189. RAVEN, 190. OUSE, 191. MICE, 192. BEETLE, 193. WORM, 194. SPIDER, 195. FLY, 196. MOTH, 197. CRICKET, 198. GRASSHOPPER, 199. TOAD, 200. SNAKE, 201. LIZARD, 202. TURTLE, 203. FROG, 204. BAT, 205. OWL, 206. EAGLE, 207. HAWK, 208. VULTURE, 209. CROW, 210. RAVEN, 211. OUSE, 212. MICE, 213. BEETLE, 214. WORM, 215. SPIDER, 216. FLY, 217. MOTH, 218. CRICKET, 219. GRASSHOPPER, 220. TOAD, 221. SNAKE, 222. LIZARD, 223. TURTLE, 224. FROG, 225. BAT, 226. OWL, 227. EAGLE, 228. HAWK, 229. VULTURE, 230. CROW, 231. RAVEN, 232. OUSE, 233. MICE, 234. BEETLE, 235. WORM, 236. SPIDER, 237. FLY, 238. MOTH, 239. CRICKET, 240. GRASSHOPPER, 241. TOAD, 242. SNAKE, 243. LIZARD, 244. TURTLE, 245. FROG, 246. BAT, 247. OWL, 248. EAGLE, 249. HAWK, 250. VULTURE, 251. CROW, 252. RAVEN, 253. OUSE, 254. MICE, 255. BEETLE, 256. WORM, 257. SPIDER, 258. FLY, 259. MOTH, 260. CRICKET, 261. GRASSHOPPER, 262. TOAD, 263. SNAKE, 264. LIZARD, 265. TURTLE, 266. FROG, 267. BAT, 268. OWL, 269. EAGLE, 270. HAWK, 271. VULTURE, 272. CROW, 273. RAVEN, 274. OUSE, 275. MICE, 276. BEETLE, 277. WORM, 278. SPIDER, 279. FLY, 280. MOTH, 281. CRICKET, 282. GRASSHOPPER, 283. TOAD, 284. SNAKE, 285. LIZARD, 286. TURTLE, 287. FROG, 288. BAT, 289. OWL, 290. EAGLE, 291. HAWK, 292. VULTURE, 293. CROW, 294. RAVEN, 295. OUSE, 296. MICE, 297. BEETLE, 298. WORM, 299. SPIDER, 300. FLY, 301. MOTH, 302. CRICKET, 303. GRASSHOPPER, 304. TOAD, 305. SNAKE, 306. LIZARD, 307. TURTLE, 308. FROG, 309. BAT, 310. OWL, 311. EAGLE, 312. HAWK, 313. VULTURE, 314. CROW, 315. RAVEN, 316. OUSE, 317. MICE, 318. BEETLE, 319. WORM, 320. SPIDER, 321. FLY, 322. MOTH, 323. CRICKET, 324. GRASSHOPPER, 325. TOAD, 326. SNAKE, 327. LIZARD, 328. TURTLE, 329. FROG, 330. BAT, 331. OWL, 332. EAGLE, 333. HAWK, 334. VULTURE, 335. CROW, 336. RAVEN, 337. OUSE, 338. MICE, 339. BEETLE, 340. WORM, 341. SPIDER, 342. FLY, 343. MOTH, 344. CRICKET, 345. GRASSHOPPER, 346. TOAD, 347. SNAKE, 348. LIZARD, 349. TURTLE, 350. FROG, 351. BAT, 352. OWL, 353. EAGLE, 354. HAWK, 355. VULTURE, 356. CROW, 357. RAVEN, 358. OUSE, 359. MICE, 360. BEETLE, 361. WORM, 362. SPIDER, 363. FLY, 364. MOTH, 365. CRICKET, 366. GRASSHOPPER, 367. TOAD, 368. SNAKE, 369. LIZARD, 370. TURTLE, 371. FROG, 372. BAT, 373. OWL, 374. EAGLE, 375. HAWK, 376. VULTURE, 377. CROW, 378. RAVEN, 379. OUSE, 380. MICE, 381. BEETLE, 382. WORM, 383. SPIDER, 384. FLY, 385. MOTH, 386. CRICKET, 387. GRASSHOPPER, 388. TOAD, 389. SNAKE, 390. LIZARD, 391. TURTLE, 392. FROG, 393. BAT, 394. OWL, 395. EAGLE, 396. HAWK, 397. VULTURE, 398. CROW, 399. RAVEN, 400. OUSE, 401. MICE, 402. BEETLE, 403. WORM, 404. SPIDER, 405. FLY, 406. MOTH, 407. CRICKET, 408. GRASSHOPPER, 409. TOAD, 410. SNAKE, 411. LIZARD, 412. TURTLE, 413. FROG, 414. BAT, 415. OWL, 416. EAGLE, 417. HAWK, 418. VULTURE, 419. CROW, 420. RAVEN, 421. OUSE, 422. MICE, 423. BEETLE, 424. WORM, 425. SPIDER, 426. FLY, 427. MOTH, 428. CRICKET, 429. GRASSHOPPER, 430. TOAD, 431. SNAKE, 432. LIZARD, 433. TURTLE, 434. FROG, 435. BAT, 436. OWL, 437. EAGLE, 438. HAWK, 439. VULTURE, 440. CROW, 441. RAVEN, 442. OUSE, 443. MICE, 444. BEETLE, 445. WORM, 446. SPIDER, 447. FLY, 448. MOTH, 449. CRICKET, 450. GRASSHOPPER, 451. TOAD, 452. SNAKE, 453. LIZARD, 454. TURTLE, 455. FROG, 456. BAT, 457. OWL, 458. EAGLE, 459. HAWK, 460. VULTURE, 461. CROW, 462. RAVEN, 463. OUSE, 464. MICE, 465. BEETLE, 466. WORM, 467. SPIDER, 468. FLY, 469. MOTH, 470. CRICKET, 471. GRASSHOPPER, 472. TOAD, 473. SNAKE, 474. LIZARD, 475. TURTLE, 476. FROG, 477. BAT, 478. OWL, 479. EAGLE, 480. HAWK, 481. VULTURE, 482. CROW, 483. RAVEN, 484. OUSE, 485. MICE, 486. BEETLE, 487. WORM, 488. SPIDER, 489. FLY, 490. MOTH, 491. CRICKET, 492. GRASSHOPPER, 493. TOAD, 494. SNAKE, 495. LIZARD, 496. TURTLE, 497. FROG, 498. BAT, 499. OWL, 500. EAGLE, 501. HAWK, 502. VULTURE, 503. CROW, 504. RAVEN, 505. OUSE, 506. MICE, 507. BEETLE, 508. WORM, 509. SPIDER, 510. FLY, 511. MOTH, 512. CRICKET, 513. GRASSHOPPER, 514. TOAD, 515. SNAKE, 516. LIZARD, 517. TURTLE, 518. FROG, 519. BAT, 520. OWL, 521. EAGLE, 522. HAWK, 523. VULTURE, 524. CROW, 525. RAVEN, 526. OUSE, 527. MICE, 528. BEETLE, 529. WORM, 530. SPIDER, 531. FLY, 532. MOTH, 533. CRICKET, 534. GRASSHOPPER, 535. TOAD, 536. SNAKE, 537. LIZARD, 538. TURTLE, 539. FROG, 540. BAT, 541. OWL, 542. EAGLE, 543. HAWK, 544. VULTURE, 545. CROW, 546. RAVEN, 547. OUSE, 548. MICE, 549. BEETLE, 550. WORM, 551. SPIDER, 552. FLY, 553. MOTH, 554. CRICKET, 555. GRASSHOPPER, 556. TOAD, 557. SNAKE, 558. LIZARD, 559. TURTLE, 560. FROG, 561. BAT, 562. OWL, 563. EAGLE, 564. HAWK, 565. VULTURE, 566. CROW, 567. RAVEN, 568. OUSE, 569. MICE, 570. BEETLE, 571. WORM, 572. SPIDER, 573. FLY, 574. MOTH, 575. CRICKET, 576. GRASSHOPPER, 577. TOAD, 578. SNAKE, 579. LIZARD, 580. TURTLE, 581. FROG, 582. BAT, 583. OWL, 584. EAGLE, 585. HAWK, 586. VULTURE, 587. CROW, 588. RAVEN, 589. OUSE, 590. MICE, 591. BEETLE, 592. WORM, 593. SPIDER, 594. FLY, 595. MOTH, 596. CRICKET, 597. GRASSHOPPER, 598. TOAD, 599. SNAKE, 600. LIZARD, 601. TURTLE, 602. FROG, 603. BAT, 604. OWL, 605. EAGLE, 606. HAWK, 607. VULTURE, 608. CROW, 609. RAVEN, 610. OUSE, 611. MICE, 612. BEETLE, 613. WORM, 614. SPIDER, 615. FLY, 616. MOTH, 617. CRICKET, 618. GRASSHOPPER, 619. TOAD, 620. SNAKE, 621. LIZARD, 622. TURTLE, 623. FROG, 624. BAT, 625. OWL, 626. EAGLE, 627. HAWK, 628. VULTURE, 629. CROW, 630. RAVEN, 631. OUSE, 632. MICE, 633. BEETLE, 634. WORM, 635. SPIDER, 636. FLY, 637. MOTH, 638. CRICKET, 639. GRASSHOPPER, 640. TOAD, 641. SNAKE, 642. LIZARD, 643. TURTLE, 644. FROG, 645. BAT, 646. OWL, 647. EAGLE, 648. HAWK, 649. VULTURE, 650. CROW, 651. RAVEN, 652. OUSE, 653. MICE, 654. BEETLE, 655. WORM, 656. SPIDER, 657. FLY, 658. MOTH, 659. CRICKET, 660. GRASSHOPPER, 661. TOAD, 662. SNAKE, 663. LIZARD, 664. TURTLE, 665. FROG, 666. BAT, 667. OWL, 668. EAGLE, 669. HAWK, 670. VULTURE, 671. CROW, 672. RAVEN, 673. OUSE, 674. MICE, 675. BEETLE, 676. WORM, 677. SPIDER, 678. FLY, 679. MOTH, 680. CRICKET, 681. GRASSHOPPER, 682. TOAD, 683. SNAKE, 684. LIZARD, 685. TURTLE, 686. FROG, 687. BAT, 688. OWL, 689. EAGLE, 690. HAWK, 691. VULTURE, 692. CROW, 693. RAVEN, 694. OUSE, 695. MICE, 696. BEETLE, 697. WORM, 698. SPIDER, 699. FLY, 700. MOTH, 701. CRICKET, 702. GRASSHOPPER, 703. TOAD, 704. SNAKE, 705. LIZARD, 706. TURTLE, 707. FROG, 708. BAT, 709. OWL, 710. EAGLE, 711. HAWK, 712. VULTURE, 713. CROW, 714. RAVEN, 715. OUSE, 716. MICE, 717. BEETLE, 718. WORM, 719. SPIDER, 720. FLY, 721. MOTH, 722. CRICKET, 723. GRASSHOPPER, 724. TOAD, 725. SNAKE, 726. LIZARD, 727. TURTLE, 728. FROG, 729. BAT, 730. OWL, 731. EAGLE, 732. HAWK, 733. VULTURE, 734. CROW, 735. RAVEN, 736. OUSE, 737. MICE, 738. BEETLE, 739. WORM, 740. SPIDER, 741. FLY, 742. MOTH, 743. CRICKET, 744. GRASSHOPPER, 745. TOAD, 746. SNAKE, 747. LIZARD, 748. TURTLE, 749. FROG, 750. BAT, 751. OWL, 752. EAGLE, 753. HAWK, 754. VULTURE, 755. CROW, 756. RAVEN, 757. OUSE, 758. MICE, 759. BEETLE, 760. WORM, 761. SPIDER, 762. FLY, 763. MOTH, 764. CRICKET, 765. GRASSHOPPER, 766. TOAD, 767. SNAKE, 768. LIZARD, 769. TURTLE, 770. FROG, 771. BAT, 772. OWL, 773. EAGLE, 774. HAWK, 775. VULTURE, 776. CROW, 777. RAVEN, 778. OUSE, 779. MICE, 780. BEETLE, 781. WORM, 782. SPIDER, 783. FLY, 784. MOTH, 785. CRICKET, 786. GRASSHOPPER, 787. TOAD, 788. SNAKE, 789. LIZARD, 790. TURTLE, 791. FROG, 792. BAT, 793. OWL, 794. EAGLE, 795. HAWK, 796. VULTURE, 797. CROW, 798. RAVEN, 799. OUSE, 800. MICE, 801. BEETLE, 802. WORM, 803. SPIDER, 804. FLY, 805. MOTH, 806. CRICKET, 807. GRASSHOPPER, 808. TOAD, 809. SNAKE, 810. LIZARD, 811. TURTLE, 812. FROG, 813. BAT, 814. OWL, 815. EAGLE, 816. HAWK, 817. VULTURE, 818. CROW, 819. RAVEN, 820. OUSE, 821. MICE, 822. BEETLE, 823. WORM, 824. SPIDER, 825. FLY, 826. MOTH, 827. CRICKET, 828. GRASSHOPPER, 829. TOAD, 830. SNAKE, 831. LIZARD, 832. TURTLE, 833. FROG, 834. BAT, 835. OWL, 836. EAGLE, 837. HAWK, 838. VULTURE, 839. CROW, 840. RAVEN, 841. OUSE, 842. MICE, 843. BEETLE, 844. WORM, 845. SPIDER, 846. FLY, 847. MOTH, 848. CRICKET, 849. GRASSHOPPER, 850. TOAD, 851. SNAKE, 852. LIZARD, 853. TURTLE, 854. FROG, 855. BAT, 856. OWL, 857. EAGLE, 858. HAWK, 859. VULTURE, 860. CROW, 861. RAVEN, 862. OUSE, 863. MICE, 864. BEETLE, 865. WORM, 866. SPIDER, 867. FLY, 868. MOTH, 869. CRICKET, 870. GRASSHOPPER, 871. TOAD, 872. SNAKE, 873. LIZARD, 874. TURTLE, 875. FROG, 876. BAT, 877. OWL, 878. EAGLE, 879. HAWK, 880. VULTURE, 881. CROW, 882. RAVEN, 883. OUSE, 884. MICE, 885. BEETLE, 886. WORM, 887. SPIDER, 888. FLY, 889. MOTH, 890. CRICKET, 891. GRASSHOPPER, 892. TOAD, 893. SNAKE, 894. LIZARD, 895. TURTLE, 896. FROG, 897. BAT, 898. OWL, 899. EAGLE, 900. HAWK, 901. VULTURE, 902. CROW, 903. RAVEN, 904. OUSE, 905. MICE, 906. BEETLE, 907. WORM, 908. SPIDER, 909. FLY, 910. MOTH, 911. CRICKET, 912. GRASSHOPPER, 913. TOAD, 914. SNAKE, 915. LIZARD, 916. TURTLE, 917. FROG, 918. BAT, 919. OWL, 920. EAGLE, 921. HAWK, 922. VULTURE, 923. CROW, 924. RAVEN, 925. OUSE, 926. MICE, 927. BEETLE, 928. WORM, 929. SPIDER, 930. FLY, 931. MOTH, 932. CRICKET, 933. GRASSHOPPER, 934. TOAD, 935. SNAKE, 936. LIZARD, 937. TURTLE, 938. FROG, 939. BAT, 940. OWL, 941. EAGLE, 942. HAWK, 943. VULTURE, 944. CROW, 945. RAVEN, 946. OUSE, 947. MICE, 948. BEETLE, 949. WORM, 950. SPIDER, 951. FLY, 952. MOTH, 953. CRICKET, 954. GRASSHOPPER, 955. TOAD, 956. SNAKE, 957. LIZARD, 958. TURTLE, 959. FROG, 960. BAT, 961. OWL, 962. EAGLE, 963. HAWK, 964. VULTURE, 965. CROW, 966. RAVEN, 967. OUSE, 968. MICE, 969. BEETLE, 970. WORM, 971. SPIDER, 972. FLY, 973. MOTH, 974. CRICKET, 975. GRASSHOPPER, 976. TOAD, 977. SNAKE, 978. LIZARD, 979. TURTLE, 980. FROG, 981. BAT, 982. OWL, 983. EAGLE, 984. HAWK, 985. VULTURE, 986. CROW, 987

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Theology in the Trenches
By Kathleen Kjolhaug

Restorative Recovery (Part II of Ryan's Story)

Private Ryan I suppose we could call him. But we'll stick with Ryan Waggoner, from northern Minnesota. He has shared his recovery story and desires that he no longer remain private in hopes that transparency might be a benefit to others who are in the midst of the struggle.

He wrote:
"I recall my good friend. We were committed to sobriety. I was with him, encouraging him to get up and out of the miry clay in which he was stuck. Doing well he was...until he wasn't. It's called relapse and he did just that. He was swaggering down the street, and I was literally walking the walk along side him when we happened across a homeless man. Wheelchair bound the man was and as we passed by, my inebriated friend stopped. He took out his wallet and realizing there was nothing within it, promptly took off his t-shirt and handed it over. 'This is all I have to give you,' said my friend. After literally giving the shirt off his back to the man in the wheelchair, my friend stumbled away."

Ryan shares from the depths of his memories after this friend, whom he was desperately trying to help, committed suicide. "There aren't enough adjectives to describe how a person feels. So, instead of people talking, people get numb and stop talking."

"No one gives lessons on how to carry your best friend's casket. I thought I could keep him sober. Instead, I spiraled down not knowing how to handle my own pain and began heavily drinking once again. I hid in the shadows and figured God couldn't see me if I kept hiding. Depression took over as my thinking about my friend's death became more obscured and nobody told me to think of it any other way...until I got the help I needed."

Popping to the surface to drink deeply of the Son soaked air – is the call because all is not lost once you've been found. Freedom rings a beckoning because the day of reckoning isn't so bad after all.

No shame in this game...no blame, not even of self cause deflection will not allow one to blame anyone but another. Perhaps that is the stage that is most difficult. It becomes a cover up which does nothing but act as a Son blocker for true healing. Once Light sheds its brilliant rays into the healing corners, one can take owner-

ship. It's called Grace. Not so painful is the releasing of all that needs forgiving. Some call it Step 9. I call it confession. No need to hang onto the fig leaf as it's way too small to cover much up at all.

Shed was His blood for all ills, and the grip is loosened as one allows Him to take that which I confess. Once I confess, it is lifted lighter because He carries. Confession makes room for reception and now I can feel enough to receive that which I have not felt for so long. He desires to carry that which I need not. It's too much, and it is all mere distraction because it is He who sees that which we've been called to.

Ephesians 2:10 says so. "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

"It's all just a ploy that kept me from looking into the face of Christ. When I did look to Him, I saw more clearly," says Ryan. Too much to do...

Too much to feel as I kneel before Thee.

Thank God I am alive.
Thank God I am free.
Thank God You have chosen me...

For such a time as this I now reach out

To those who may be momentarily distracted.

And to those of us who, at this moment in time, have the luxury of going through different struggles, Benedict shares a little something for us all in the twelfth Step 12 of Humility R.B. 7: 67-70.

"The path of humility transforms us from being fearful persons to being people filled with love as John 4:18 speaks. 'Perfect love casts out fear.' Now it will be second nature for you to live a virtuous life, not out of fear, but out of love for Christ and 'All this the Holy Spirit manifests in you' (1 Cor. 12:7).

Thank God for the process of Transformation.

Thank God that "Conversion" is ongoing...

The turning from and the turning towards You happens one-day-at-a-time.

Thank God for the process of Your recovery of me. Amen.

Passport photos
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Happy Birthday with a W-12
By Auctioneer Eric W. Mickelson

Saturday I got to participate in a super fun event. Since we are social distancing it is hard for kids to have a "normal" birthday party! Saturday, April 25, 50 plus farmers and neighbors came together to have a tractor and farm equipment parade. There were old tractors, new tractors, combines, sprayers, air seeders, floaters, two wheel drives, four wheel drives, track tractors, you name it-it was probably there!! It was a parade in honor of two twelve year old farm boys. Atley Vettleson and Rylan Lundeen were at the ends of their driveways as the parade left the Salem Church and traveled a mile and a half or so completing the sweep past the onlookers. Not only the birthday boys but other "spectators" came to watch. That is my kind of parade and my kind of tractor fun!

One of my favorite tractors in the parade was a W-12 McCormick Deering driven by Rylan's uncle Blake Jensen. Blake is a senior at Goodridge High School. He is a former student of mine. When he and his brother Felix were in my class we took a field trip to their farm to take a look at Blake's W-12. I even got to drive it!! It was fun to go to the Jensen Farm and look at Blake's tractor as well as some others, horses, and play a game of baseball on there "home" baseball diamond. I won't forget it!! I have gotten to see the W-12 in a couple of other parades but I have only seen a couple W-12s in my life!!



Senior Blake Jensen on his W-12!!

Greenbush Racepark announces 2020 schedule

by Keith Cumming

The Greenbush Racepark has announced it's 2020 race schedule, but due to the Corona virus outbreak, ANY AND ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Once again this year the Racepark will run the A Mods, Midwest Mods, Streets, and Pure Stocks on a regular basis. The Lightning Sprints, 4 Cylinders and Outlaw Mini Mods will be running select dates. The NLRA Late Models will be back for three shows. The Advantage RV Modified Tour is back along with the Northern Renegade Non Wing Sprint cars.

The season is set to kick off on May 23 with a regular night of racing, May30th will also be a regular night of racing.

June opens with a regular night of racing on the 6th, on June 13th the NLRA Late Models makes it's first appearance of the summer, June 20th has a special for the Midwest Mods, and the Streets. A Pure Stock special on the 27th will close out the month of June.

July opens with a bang with racing on the 4th of July and

The W-12 was only made for a few years and according to my research was replaced by the W-14. I will be honest, I have been to a lot of tractor shows in many different places and for many different brands of tractors but have never seen a W-14! I love standard tread tractors so the little W-12 is quite a sweet little machine if you ask me. Hey and how about a shout out to its driver, Blake Jensen, Goodridge High School class of 2020! It's been tough to be a senior this year with all the craziness.....but man Blake, it must be hard to be sad when you have a W-12!! Wish I did!! Oh yes, and Happy, Happy Birthday Rylan and Atley!!

How about a little tractor trivia!

1. The W-12 was made from 1934- _____.
2. The W-12 was manufactured in _____.
3. What was the row crop version of the W-12 called?
4. The W-12 had _____ forward speeds.
5. The W-12 was rated at about _____ horsepower.

Answers: 1. 1938 2. Chicago, Illinois 3. F-12 4. 3 speeds 5. 14 horsepower (13.52 to be exact)

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Anglers/Boaters to Governor Walz- Allow Statewide Travel!

April 17, 2020 Walker, MN – The MN-FISH Sportfishing Foundation has a message for Governor Walz – allow anglers and boaters to travel statewide.

According to the statement released today by the MN-FISH board of directors: "The MN-FISH Sportfishing Association board is requesting Gov. Walz to clarify his Stay at Home Orders and allow travel across the state for all anglers, boaters and supportive businesses."

"We strongly support Gov.

Walz's position on getting outdoors and believe that statewide travel for anglers and boaters is inherently safe with existing social distancing practices already in place," said MN-FISH president Ron Schara.

Today, the Governor issued an executive order allowing bait shops and marinas to reopen. However, outdoor recreational equipment retail stores, charter boats, launches and guided fishing businesses remain closed.

Support Better Walleye Fishing – Buy a Minnesota Walleye Stamp!

April 22, 2020, WALKER, MN – With fishing opener just weeks away, now is the time to buy a Walleye Stamp or two and support better walleye fishing in Minnesota.

The \$5 Walleye Stamp is not required to fish or keep walleye in Minnesota. However, it raises money to supplement the state's walleye stocking efforts, and that's especially important this year.

On April 14, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources announced it canceled its 2020 egg taking operations for walleye and other species due to COVID-19 and established social distancing guidelines. The result: fish stocking efforts in the state will be greatly reduced this year.

Stocking helps the state maintain fish populations over time, particularly with species like walleye that are generally harvested by anglers. Monies raised through Walleye Stamp sales are used by the DNR to purchase young walleye from private fish farms for stocking in state waters.

Last year, Walleye Stamp sales raised less than \$90,000. The DNR spent an additional \$800,000 to purchase private stock to supplement their own supply of walleye.

"Purchasing a Walleye Stamp this year will help maintain walleye numbers in high priority lakes at a time when that help is needed," said MN-FISH Sportfishing Foundation president Ron Schara. "It also offers anglers a chance to go beyond simply buying a fishing license to improve their own luck."

The Minnesota Walleye Stamp endorsement is available year-round from the DNR website and outlets across the state that sell Minnesota fishing licenses. Ordering one when you purchase your fishing license is easy.

Restore, Protect and Enhance Minnesota Sport Fishing
www.MN-FISH.com • 833-3MN-FISH (366-3474) • info@mn-fish.com

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