



Tri County Canary

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



12-year-old McKenna Bjerk of Mahanomen.

12-year-old student, now a Published Author!

For so many of us when the pandemic hit last spring we did not know what to do with ourselves while stuck at home, but that was not a problem for 12-year-old McKenna Bjerk of Mahanomen, MN who used this time last spring to write a book and is now a published author.

McKenna's 187 page chapter book is a pirate adventure called "Black Sails: Secrets of the Seas" was published December 17, 2020 and can be found on Amazon. Along with writing the book, McKenna

also did all of her illustrations, created a quiz for Accelerated Reader schools, and is now working on a sequel. Congratulations and good luck on your next book!

-Submitted article
Amazon's description for "Black Sails: Secrets of the Seas". *There's no such thing as an easy life for a pirate. Bizz, Barth and their crew wouldn't want it any other way. What would be the fun in that? Forming an unlikely alliance, the pirates set out on a journey to find*

the treasure of Francis Drake. But Bizz and Barth are like oil and vinegar. Can they stop arguing long enough to achieve their goal? Or will their journey end in defeat? Only time will tell. Their journey takes them on a wild chase that tests their perseverance and ability to stay focused. When the pirates finally reach the spot where the treasure is located, they get a surprise that changes everything. With the royal soldiers closing in, will they find the treasure in time?

Garden Valley Technologies has been awarded a border-to-border broadband grant

[Erskine, MN Jan. 28] Garden Valley Technologies has been awarded a border-to-border broadband development grant from the State of Minnesota through the DEED Office of Broadband Development. This grant will assist in the broadband build to Euclid and rural northwest Thief River Falls.

Residents and businesses in this area expressed support for GVT's border-to-border grant application, which gives GVT the opportunity to offer Euclid and rural Thief River Falls Internet access, allowing employees to work from home and their children improved access to homework and educational resources. Euclid leaders agree that the area is in desperate

need of fast, reliable Internet service to help the area progress, especially as technology continues to advance around them.

The grant provides the assistance needed to plow state-of-the-art fiber optic cable to the homes in this area allowing access to Internet speeds up to 1 Gbps, local phone service and digital video services, which includes over 200 channels.

"This is exciting news and I would like to thank the office of broadband and the State of Minnesota for this grant opportunity," said Timothy Brinkman, CEO/General Manager at Garden Valley Technologies. "Grants like these make it possible to build out broadband in highly rural environments."

The border-to-border broadband project for Euclid and rural Thief River Falls will bring service to 126 unserved and underserved locations which include 92 residences, eight businesses, 22 farms and four community institutions. The total project cost of \$3,281,444 million will be financed by the \$1.6 million Minnesota border-to-border broadband grant and a local match of \$1.6 million by Garden Valley Technologies. The project is expected to finish with installation of subscribers in the fall of 2022 and will cover 95 square miles. Residents living in the area will receive communication from GVT on next steps in the project.

Century Farm Program Applications Being Accepted

St. Paul, Minn. – Minnesota families who have owned their farms for 100 years or more are invited to apply for the 2021 Century Farm Program. Produced by the Minnesota State Fair in conjunction with the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, the Century Farm Program was created to promote agriculture and honor historic family farms in the state. More than 10,500 Minnesota farms have been honored since the program began in 1976.

Family farms are recognized as a Century Farm when three requirements are met. The farm must be: 1) at least 100 years old according to authentic land records; 2) in continuous family ownership for at least 100 years (continuous residence on the farm is not required); and 3) at least 50 acres and currently be involved in agricultural production.

A commemorative certificate signed by the State Fair Board of Managers President Ron Ole-

heiser, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation President Kevin Paap and Governor Tim Walz will be awarded to qualifying families, along with an outdoor sign signifying Century Farm status.

Applications are available online at mnstatefair.org/about-the-fair/awards-and-recognition/; at fbmn.org; by calling the State Fair at 651-288-4400; or at statewide county extension and county Farm Bureau offices. The submission deadline is Monday, March 1, 2021. Recipients will be announced by early April. Previously recognized families should not reapply.

Information on the Century Farm Program will be available at the Minnesota Farm Bureau exhibit during the 2021 Minnesota State Fair. A Century Farm database is also available at fbmn.org.

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and best-attended expositions in the world, attracting more than 2 million

visitors annually. Showcasing Minnesota's finest agriculture, art and industry, the Great Minnesota Get-Together is 12 Days of Fun Ending Labor Day. Visit mnstatefair.org for more information. The 2021 Minnesota State Fair runs Aug. 26 - Labor Day, Sept. 6.

Minnesota Farm Bureau – Farmers • Families • Food, is comprised of 78 local Farm Bureau associations across Minnesota. Members make their views known to political leaders, state government officials, special interest groups and the general public. Programs for young farmers and ranchers develop leadership skills and improve farm management. Promotion and Education Committee members work with programs such as Ag in the Classroom and safety education for children. Join Farm Bureau today and support efforts to serve as an advocate for rural Minnesota. fbmn.org.

Over \$20.6 million awarded to provide reliable, high-speed access to Greater Minnesota communities

Governor Tim Walz announced that the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) will award grants totaling \$20,645,425 to 39 projects in the sixth year of the Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant program. State grant dollars are matched by \$33,695,279 in local funds, for a total investment in broadband infrastructure of \$54,340,704.

"The pandemic this past year has made it crystal clear that fast, reliable broadband access is critical for people living in Greater Minnesota – for everything from education and health care to business operations and telecommuting," said Governor Walz. "These grants continue this vitally important work toward our goal of ensuring that every Minnesotan has high-speed internet access by 2022."

"As we look to promoting economic recovery from the pandemic, these grants help ensure that every Minnesotan can participate in building back our state's economy even stronger," said DEED Commissioner Steve Grove. "We want to be a model state for innovation – and having reliable, high-speed internet access is fundamental to that goal."

The projects will bring high-quality broadband access to underserved and unserved areas of Minnesota, providing fast, reliable internet access for 6,922 businesses, homes, and community anchor institutions.

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.

The State of Minnesota has set a goal for universal access and high-speed internet so that by no later than 2022, all Minnesota businesses and homes have access to high-

speed broadband that provides minimum download speeds of at least 25 megabits per second and minimum upload speeds of at least three megabits per second. And by no later than 2026, all Minnesota businesses and homes have access to at least one provider of broadband with download speeds of at least 100 megabits per second and upload speeds of at least 20 megabits per second.

Garden Valley Technologies – Northwest Thief River Falls and Euclid – GRANT \$1,640,722

This middle and last mile project will serve 104 unserved and 22 underserved locations in portions of Marshall and Polk counties. The project will bring internet speeds to a synchronous 1 Gbps capability, exceeding the State's 2022 and 2026 speed goals. Essential to the area's economic prosperity, broadband will allow area residents to work from home

The funding, which was approved during the 2019 legislative sessions, goes to broadband providers to build out wireline broadband infrastructure to unserved and underserved locations across the state. A map of projects awarded grants in 2021 is posted on DEED's website. The following is a brief description of three of the 39 grant projects awarded this round:

and students to participate in distance learning as well as provide improved access to telemedicine and enable businesses and farms connectivity for financial management, pest management information and up to date weather information.

Total eligible project cost is \$3,281,444, Local match is \$1,640,722

Paul Bunyan Communications – City of Cook GigaZone Fiber – GRANT \$311,254

This last mile project will improve high-speed broadband for 57 unserved and 254 underserved locations in the community of Cook in St. Louis County. In a funding partnership with the State of Minnesota and City of Cook, 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 for homes, businesses, and community facilities in the project

area. The project will enable businesses to take advantage of online resources, including training, marketing, and business support services. In addition, it will increase quality of life and economic opportunity for all residents by providing new avenues to pursue education, employment, health care, social life, and entertainment.

Total eligible project cost is \$691,675, Local match is \$380,421

Wikstrom Telephone Co. Inc. – Wiktell NW MN Broadband 2020 – GRANT \$490,997

This last mile project will serve 153 unserved locations in sparsely populated areas in Kittson, Marshall and Polk counties. In a funding partnership with the State of Minnesota, Wikstrom Telephone will bring broadband speeds up to 1 Gbps download and 1 Gbps upload, exceeding the 2022 and 2026 state speed goals.

This fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) network will provide service to an area with only 1.5 subscribers per route mile of cable and is key to economic development, successful e-learning for children, and home health care monitoring in this remote area.

Total eligible project cost is \$1,091,104, Local match is \$600,107

7th Annual Small Scale Sustainable Sheep Event Saturday February 20, 2021

Janet McNally of Tamarack Lamb & Wool, Hinkley, MN will be the keynote speaker again this year at the Sustainable Sheep event. Janet provided such a wealth of information last year, many people left the event even more interested in sustainable farming and hoping to hear Janet speak again.

Janet will be doing presentations but also taking time to answer questions and participate in discussions about regenerative grazing systems and livestock guard dogs. If you have particular questions you'd like Janet to address, if possible, please send those to sustainablesheep@gmail.com in advance of the event. Or come prepared with your queries to the event.

Formerly the instructor for the Pine Technical College Lamb and Wool Program, Janet farmed full time for 20 years raising sheep and beef cattle. She now raises sheep near Hinkley Minnesota in a Regenerative Grazing system. An experience with wolves in 1999 caused her to make some changes to her grazing program to help the Livestock Guard Dogs to be more effective. It turns out these changes resulted in more grass and less parasites in addition to keeping sheep safe. Find more information about Janet at www.tamaracksheep.com.

The event will be held at the Hubbard Community Center, 12141 Lake Street, Park Rapids, MN 56470 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. *Pre-registration required by February 13, 2021.*

Cost is \$20/person, \$30/couple, \$15 for SSFC members. Pay at the door, make checks payable to SSFC The included lunch is catered by Hugo's Family Marketplace, Park Rapids.

The SSFC has their annual meeting and nominations for board of directors will be accepted. Please consider join-



ing your board of directors or volunteering to help out in the coming year.

Weather permitting, the finished Tapestry Felted Traditional Mongolian yurt will be at the event with fiber artist Linda Johnson-Morke on hand to answer questions. The yurt showcases how sheep wool can be used to create traditional shelter. More information about the yurt and project at sheepcommunity.com

The SSFC works with adults, 4H and area children to teach about wool and natural fibers. In addition to the Small Scale Sustainable Sheep Event, volunteers also organize the Farm Fiber Festival in early October.





45th Annual Grandma's Marathon is scheduled!

From Zach Schneider, Marketing & Public Relations Director, Grandma's Marathon

We are very excited for the opportunity to host the 45th annual Grandma's Marathon weekend! This year is certainly presenting some new challenges, but we are optimistic that we will be able to host a modified race weekend this upcoming June.

To help in our planning process and to better serve you in June, we are asking that any media interested in covering the 2021 Grandma's Marathon weekend indicate that to us by completing and returning the attached Media Credential Application **no later than March 1, 2021**. Email is preferred, but if you are interested in returning the form via mail, please send it to:

Grandma's Marathon
PO Box 16234
Duluth, MN 55816
While we understand our

event is months away and your plans may change, gauging the level of potential media interest now will allow us time to make any necessary changes and improvements to our normal spaces and resources allotted to the media.

We have limited space and must comply with state guidelines, so we unfortunately cannot guarantee that every media request will be honored. We will do our very best to work with every one of you and attempt to accommodate every media outlet interested in covering our event.

This year's event weekend is scheduled for June 17-19, 2021. The schedule is tentative and subject to change, but for planning purposes I have included a timeline of the weekend used in the past for the popular media events:

Friday, June 18
12:00 p.m. Marsh Nelson Media Luncheon

1:15 p.m. Grandma's Marathon Women's Elite Media Conference

1:45 p.m. Grandma's Marathon Men's Elite Media Conference

6:00 p.m. 27th Annual William A. Irvin 5K

Saturday, June 19
6:15 a.m. 31st Annual Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon

7:45 a.m. 45th Annual Grandma's Marathon
If your organization is not planning on sending anyone to Duluth but is still interested in covering Grandma's Marathon, please let us know and we will work with you to provide the appropriate information and access.

If you have any other requests or questions about the weekend, please feel free to call me at the office at (218) 727-0947 or on my cell phone at (218) 343-9874. You can also email me anytime at zach@grandmasmarathon.com.

American Federal Banker Earns Top Recognition



Justin Marquis

American Federal Bankers Ag and Business Bankers Justin Marquis, Dan Paulson and Ryan Paulson, who work in the Fosston market, have earned American Federal's highest recognition for outstanding sales performance in 2020. Ryan was also the top performer in the Ag and Business Banking division.

In recognition of their achievement, they were among 19 American Federal "Sales Star" employees who attended a special virtual recognition event on Friday, January 29 to honor their accomplishments.

A "Sales Star" is the highest honor of recognition an employee can earn at American



Ryan Paulson

Federal.

American Federal is a financially-strong, community bank with full-service banking locations in Fosston, Hallock, Warren, Ada, Crookston, Moorhead, East Grand Forks and Fergus Falls in Minnesota and Fargo,



Wed., January 27th winner of the calendar drawing is Tim Leshuk of Hillsboro. He won a Savage 93R17 17 HMR.



Dan Paulson

Grand Forks, Wahpeton and Northwood in North Dakota. American Federal is a Top 100 Ag Lender in the United States.

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College News

Minnesota students receive degrees from NDSU

Minnesota students included on the attached list were among the students to graduate from North Dakota State University in fall 2020. NDSU awarded 987 degrees to students.

Students are listed by hometown. The list includes their major and degree received. An asterisk indicates students who graduated with honors. A student must earn a 3.50 grade point.

Bagley - Jessica Benson, BS, Animal Science

McIntosh - Tara Sue Glandt MEDUCAT, Educational Leadership

Red Lake Falls - Drake Reed Engelstad, BS, Agricultural Economics

Winger - Olivia Kay Simonson, BS, Dietetics

Polk County Sheriff

Lamb Track Brusher accident CR 12 and 150th AVE SE Rural Mentor, MN

On 01-29-2021 at 1620 hours the Polk County Sheriff's Office responded to the report of a Lamb track brusher laying on its side in the roadway of CR 12 at the intersection of 150th AVE SE in rural Mentor, MN. Deputies responded and determined a lamb track brusher had accidentally slid off a flatbed trailer onto the roadway. Deputies shut the road down while a wrecker was able to remove the lamb track brusher from the roadway. No one was injured in the accident while it remains under investigation. No further information is being released at this time.

Sons of Norway postpones meetings

The Granlund Lodge of the Sons of Norway will not be having a February meeting. Inquiries on membership or other matters may be directed to Wes Roland by calling 435-1230. Regular monthly meetings will resume when health risks decline.

MCCL meeting scheduled

The February meeting of MCCL (Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life) will be held Tuesday, February 9th at 7:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church in McIntosh. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend. Local Chapter #45.



Public Notice of Request for Proposal

Independent School District #162 ("District") requests proposals for group insurance coverage for the health plan year beginning July 1, 2021. Sealed proposals will be accepted in paper from until 4:00 pm central time on March 22, 2021. Copies of the request for proposal and exhibits may be requested from Jenetta Weems, jweems@bagley.k12.mn.us, and will be sent electronically at no charge. District reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities. District reserves the right to select the proposal which it determines to be in the best interest of the District.

R45-46C

Gully Area Sportsman's Club Coyote Hunt

Entry fee: \$20.00
February 1st - March 27th, 2021
Sign up and rules may be picked up at Shorty's Place, Gully, MN

R46-47C

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lori.melby@ssbokie.com
201 MAIN ST, OKLEE, MN 56742

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O46C

10 REASONS to READ your Local Newspaper

- You're looking for a bite to eat!**
Local school & senior menus posted weekly. Restaurants and bar specials posted.
- You need a job (or a new job)!**
The latest job listing are posted in the classifieds section.
- You've outgrown your apartment or house!**
Homes for sale & apartments for rent posted in the classifieds.
- Your car went kaput or needs some work**
Watch the Canary section for vehicles for every budget.
- You want to know who passed away in your area.**
Obituaries are posted weekly in the Canary section.
- You need a carpenter, electrician, or a realtor!**
Professional services listed in the classifieds.
- You get to see your relatives, friends and neighbors in pictures from area events.**
- Keep up on school events!**
Lunch menu, sports calendar, plays and more!
- If you read a story you like, you can tear it out and save it!**
- Your newspaper is inexpensive and recyclable!**

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99¢
16 OZ

PORK, SHRIMP OR CHICKEN
CHUNG'S
EGG ROLLS
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TOTINO'S
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 ANGUS FARMS BONELESS BEEF TOP ROUND ROAST \$3.79 LB	 ANGUS FARMS BONELESS BEEF RIBEYE STEAK \$9.99 LB	 FAMILY PACK BONE-IN PORK SHOULDER STEAK \$1.59 LB	 SEABOARD PORK BABY-BACK RIBS \$3.69 LB	 FAMILY PACK BONELESS, SKINLESS CHICKEN BREASTS \$1.69 LB	 SCOTT & JOHN'S ASSORTED VARIETY SHRIMP AND RICE BOWLS \$4.29 8 OZ	 NO NAME ASSORTED VARIETY STEAKHOUSE BURGERS \$7.99 24 OZ	 FAMILY PACK HICKORY SMOKED BACON \$2.99 LB

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V-8 46 OZ **3/\$5**

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CLERK TYPIST CASHIER III POLK COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER

The Polk County Auditor-Treasurer's Office has an opening for a full-time Clerk Typist Cashier III position. Duties include but are not limited to: Performing various office duties. Cross-training with other County departments to develop a skill set and knowledge base to address common citizen requests. Process various forms, applications, documents, and receipts. Provide information and responds to inquiries for the general public regarding licensing, property documents, and tax statements. Assist in organizing and monitoring election centers; operating election Works-Knowledge of computer applications in MS Office Suite-specifically MS Word and Excel. A high school diploma or GED and moderate experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience is needed. Wage range for this position is \$16.88 - \$21.46 per hour, DOE and qualifications. Interested individuals may contact the Polk County Administrator's Office at 218-281-5408. To obtain an application and full job description go to: www.co.polk.mn.us and click on Careers. Applications for this position must be received by 4:30 p.m., February 17, 2021. Please submit your completed application to the Polk County Administrator's Office Polk County Government Center, 612 N. Broadway, Room 211, Crookston, MN 56716. Applications may also be emailed directly to alecia.helms@co.polk.mn.us EOE.

R46-47C



Head Start Position Available

Inter-County Community Council is accepting applications for an opening in our Head Start department:

Classroom Aide: 40 hours a week, 10 month position, classroom located in Thief River Falls, MN. Work with a team to provide care and education to 4 years olds in a classroom setting; primary duties include assisting the teachers in the classroom with group activities, cleaning, assisting children with handwashing/tooth brushing, riding the bus, and transporting meals. Must be able to pass a background check. Position requires a high school diploma or GED. Experience with children preferred, additional training will be provided.

Application and position specific information, including job duties, salary and educational requirements are available on our website at www.intercountycc.org. Send completed application and resume to Inter-County Community Council, Human Resources, PO Box 189, Oklee, MN 56742 or hr@intercountycc.org. Applications must be received by **Noon on Friday, February 5th**. Call 218-796-5144 x1028 for more information.

ICC is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.

R46C

ROSTER NURSE

Polk County Public Health has an opening for one part-time, non-benefitted Roster Nurse position. (Up to 150 hours per year). This position is responsible for but not limited to providing a holistic assessment of clients and develop, implement and evaluate nursing care plans through health promotion and disease prevention and control services. A two-year RN degree and a valid driver's license is required. Wage range for this position is \$26.91 - \$36.26/per hour, DOE and qualifications. Interested individuals may contact the Polk County Administrator's Office at 218-281-5408. To obtain an application go to www.co.polk.mn.us and click on Careers. Please submit your completed application and resume to the Polk County Administrator's Office, Polk County Government Center, 612 N. Broadway, Room 211, Crookston, MN 56716 before **4:30 p.m., February 12, 2021**. Applications may also be emailed directly to alecia.helms@co.polk.mn.us EOE.

R46-47C

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R46C

**MORE
EMPLOYMENT
ADS ON
NEXT PAGE**



The Bagley Public School has openings for the following positions:

Paraprofessionals and Substitute Paraprofessionals. Candidates must be highly qualified, which includes either 2 or more years of college, an AA Degree, or the ability to pass the Para Pro Exam.

Food Service Support and Substitute Food Service Staff, a high school diploma or GED is preferred but not required.

Native American Home School Liaison Positions - One full-time position open for 2020-2021 school year. Candidates must be highly qualified, which includes either two or more years of college, an AA Degree, or the ability to pass the Para-Pro Exam.

Successful candidates must pass a criminal background check. Positions will remain open until filled. Application forms may be downloaded, picked up in the District Office or you may email jweems@bagley.k12.mn.us For more information, please call Jenetta Weems at 694-6184.

Full-Time Route Bus Drivers and Substitute Bus Drivers, must have or be able to obtain a school bus driver's license endorsement. The District is willing to help applicants obtain their school bus endorsement. New drivers will receive a \$200 stipend after six months of driving to help defray the cost of certification.

Application forms may be downloaded, picked up in the District Office or you may email jweems@bagley.k12.mn.us For more information, please call Stuart Dukek at 694-6122.

R46-47C

CITY OF ERSKINE

PART TIME MAINTENANCE

The City of Erskine is seeking applicants for a part time City Maintenance Operator. Duties include but will not be limited to snow removal, mowing, trimming, intro to municipal water and waste water system, general street maintenance, operation and maintenance of city equipment and property. Wages depending on experience. Applications are available by calling the City Clerk's office at 218-687-4646. Applicant should submit the completed application by February 5, 2021 by 12:00pm to the City of Erskine, PO Box 59, Erskine MN 56535. The City of Erskine is an Equal Opportunity Provider. M44-46C

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 or e-mail alecia.helms@co.polk.mn.us. This position will remain open until filled. EOE M66tn

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R43tn

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P N N I S P T A D C A T A U G H R A C Y
V N I I N M R R T T D R T C C A K L M S
Z E G L W A A O E I G E T V G M U F H C
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Answers are on page 7

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EMPLOYMENT

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LT SUBSTITUTE

KMS Public Schools has teaching positions available: High School English beginning February 2021; High School Social Studies beginning March 2021. Apply online: www.kms.k12.mn.us or send letter of interest, resume, references to KMS Public Schools, Box 168, Kerkhoven, MN 56252

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EMPLOYMENT ADS

- Landfill Technician – Polk County Landfill -

The Polk County Landfill located in Gentilly, MN has an opening for a full-time Landfill Technician. Primary duties include but are not limited to evaluating and inspecting waste materials, documenting load information, operating heavy equipment to process materials, maintaining equipment, collecting fees and maintaining compliance with local, state and federal permits. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent and have a minimum two (2) years of experience operating various types of heavy equipment. A valid Class B MN driver's license is required. Applicants must have the ability to clearly and effectively communicate verbally with the public and to work in adverse site conditions and extreme environments. A pre-employment physical exam is required. Wage range for this position is \$18.50 - \$23.52/hour, DOE and qualifications. To obtain an application and full job description go to <http://www.co.polk.mn.us> click on "Careers". This position will remain "open until filled". Please mail your completed application to the Polk County Government Center, Administrator's Office, 612 N. Broadway, Room 211, Crookston, MN 56716 (218-281-5408) or e-mail: alecia.helms@co.polk.mn.us EEO R38TFC

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Household

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Clearbrook-Gonvick School is hiring for full-time or part-time custodial staff. This is a 12 month, Monday-Friday position. Must be able to lift 75 lbs. and pass a background check. Starting wage is \$13.14 per hour; previous experience will be considered. Please submit resume, letter of interest, and credentials to: Clearbrook-Gonvick School, 16770 Clearwater Lake Rd. Clearbrook, MN 56634 Attn: Jeff Burgess R45-48C

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The RLCC High School in Oklee has an immediate opening for a paraprofessional for the remainder of school year 2020-21. Contact the School for an application or with questions. 218-796-5136. Position open until filled. ISD 2906 is an equal opportunity provider and employer. O45-46C

Full Time Para Professionals
The Clearbrook-Gonvick School has openings for full-time para professionals. These positions will be working directly with students. Starting wage is \$13.14 per hour; previous experience will be considered. Applicants must have passed or be able to pass a para pro test and pass a background check. Please submit letter of interest, resume, and two references to: Clearbrook-Gonvick School, 16770 Clearwater Lake Rd. Clearbrook, MN 56634 Attn: Carl Dugstad Email: cdugstad@clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us R44-47C

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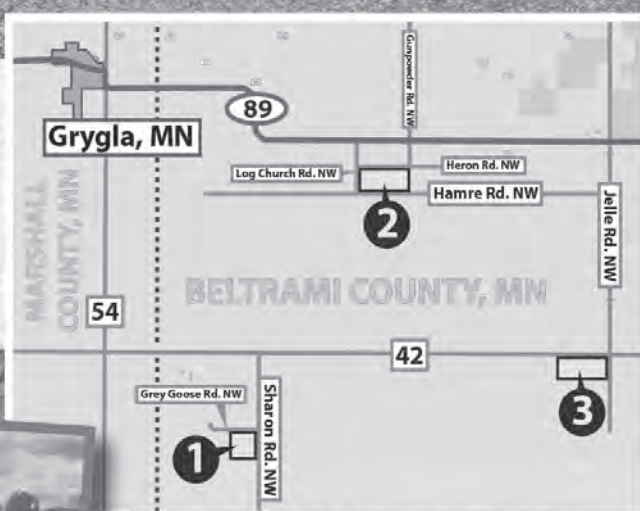
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Theology in the Trenches

By Kathleen Kjolhaug

In Honor of Helen...A True Saint (I pray you have a Helen in your life.)

She was a saint who lived among us, you know. Yes, Helen was. I cannot think of one Bible verse she quoted, although she knew His word well. She did more than merely quote scripture; she lived it and into each one who crossed her path it did go.

In Galatians it says you will know them by their fruit. It says the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

Helen had all of these gifts fully present...all at the same time. It was as if they were easy to come by. From what I know, they are not. The opposite erupts from time to time in most, but not Helen. And to help her practice these, God gifted her a husband in life who protected her so she might live them out.

Oswald Chambers says, "A river touches much of which its source knows nothing." Helen did not know how many lives she touched by being among us. As well, she never would have been aware just how much her sweet countenance added to those present in her midst.

Mom, grandma, friend, neighbor, parishioner, believer, Bible study attendee, lover of

her extended family, lover of the stranger, kind, humble soul she was. I marveled at her gifts each time she was near. I marveled at her gifts when she was nowhere near.

She attended to the needs within the community. I know this because she did it for me; many could attest to the same. Her gentle Spirit never admonished another but in tender voice she'd find some way to uplift with compassion any who stood before her.

St. Helen was perhaps the safest person in the world to be around. She listened well. She never boasted. She was consistent and offered stability to all who entered under her roof. All who knew her felt as though they were her best friend. She treated them with awestruck wonder that they would be so kind as to grace her with their presence. Yet, the reality was, they were the lucky ones.

Gentleness poured out of her like living water upon all who drew nigh. If she were to read this, she'd no doubt smile while releasing soft laughter saying, "Oh my, do you really think so?" And soon she'd turn your way letting you know just how highly she had always regarded you.

Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol



Question: I thought I lost my driver's license. I

searched high and low and for the life of me I couldn't find it. Seriously, I looked near and far and didn't leave a stone unturned. So I went and applied for a new driver's license and received it. But just the other day, lo and behold and by the Grace of God it appeared. Call it a miracle or maybe my mind is going. So now I have two Minnesota driver's licenses that appear to be valid as they don't expire for a few years yet. Which one should I be using and what should I do with the other?

Answer: I am very happy that you found your driver's license and you did the right thing by applying for a new license when you truly thought it was lost. Anytime your driver's

license is lost, damaged or destroyed, you will need to apply for a duplicate license.

Minnesota law requires that every licensee shall have the license (driver's license, instruction permit or provisional license) in immediate possession at all times when operating a motor vehicle.

To answer your question about which license to use, the most current license is the one that is valid in the system. Once issued a driver's license or identification card, the more recent the issue date, will be the valid card. Yes, there is an issue date that many people don't notice. It is listed on there as: 4a ISS (followed by the date).

For the older of the two, I would recommend shredding the card that was found after applying for the duplicate. If that license ended up in the wrong hands it could be used in criminal activity. Keep the card

with most recent issue date.

I'd like to add that Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) generally does not forward mail. Minnesota law requires a person applies for a new driver's license within 30 days of changing your address. Important information regarding your driving privileges and registration are sent to the address listed. If you fail to update your address, you will most likely not get what you need.

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).

WD9 McCormick Deering

By Auctioneer Eric W. Mickelson



Maybe you have heard the word, WHEATLAND. This term is often associated with the big standard tread tractors used mainly for plowing, discing, and tillage on the prairies and other places when wheat is grown. If you read my column you know I love those big standard tread tractors. The first tractor I ever drove was an R John Deere, maybe that is why I have an affinity with these big machines. I also own a 55 Massey Harris Diesel, which is the Massey version of the R. I have never had a W9 or a WD9 McCormick Deering but one or the other is on my "bucket list"!!

I now have a couple of H Farmall tractors in my "collection", like the one we had when I was a kid. I do have an M Farmall also but really I don't have a lot of experience with the Farmalls as compared to John Deeres. Farmall row crop tractors had their own alter-egos. The standard versions were the W4, W6, and W9 McCormick Deering tractors. These are the ones that grab my attention. The W6 and W9 also came in diesel versions called the WD6 and the WD9.

Since I was young, I had a love for tractors and apparently everyone knew it! When I was about 16 my neighbor, Art Klassen, took me for a drive. We went south of Gully and a farmer there had a couple of W9 McCormick tractors for sale. I was not familiar with those "red" tractors, but they were those big standards and I wanted to buy one so bad. Unfortunately, I didn't have the \$250 dollars he wanted for one of them! Yes, \$250 dollars.....I

wish I could turn back time!

A few years ago at the Plow Day, during Oklee Market Days, I got to drive an interesting W9 tractor. It was actually a WD9 tractor belonging to my friend and neighbor, George Olson. Being a John Deere man the thing I loved was it had a hand clutch! What a fun ride! I took a round with the big Mc-

Cormick and got off so someone could take a round, but I did not want to get off....I should have taken another!! But I was thankful I had the chance to circle the field once! Next time there is a Plow Day I'm going to bring my R John Deere, but if George has his WD9 there I definitely will ask if I can take another round!

How about a little tractor trivia!! Standard Version!!

1. McCormick Deering's W-9 series also featured a WDR-9. What does WDR-9 stand for?
2. What model tractor replaced the WD9?
3. What letter was added to the A and B John Deere series to designate the standard tread version of each model?
4. What large Oliver standard tractor featured a GM engine?

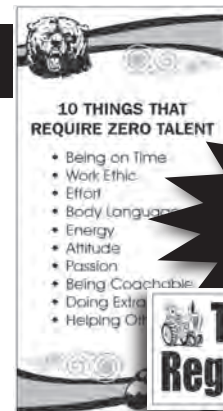
5. The model R John Deere was replaced by the 80, followed by the 820. What was the last of these big 2-cylinder models produced before the new generation tractors?

ANSWERS: 1. It was a W-9, Diesel, made for the Rice fields. 2. The Super WD9 3. R as in AR and BR 4. Model 99 5. The John Deere 830



Here is an unusual WD9 with a cab!!

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OBITUARIES



Obituary for Muriel Halvorson

Muriel Velory Halvorson, 99, of Clearbrook, MN died on Sunday, January 24, 2021 at McIntosh Senior Living in McIntosh, MN.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cease Family Funeral Home Chapel in Bagley, MN, with the Reverend Robert Kirchman officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at the funeral home. Interment will be at Silver Creek Cemetery in Clearbrook, MN. Military Rites will be accorded by the Melvin Johnson American Legion Post #320 of Clearbrook, MN.

Muriel was born on December 11, 1921 at Clearbrook, MN the daughter of Andrew and Alpha (Odnesen) Halvorson and was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. Muriel graduated from Clearbrook High School in 1940. Muriel went to work in Bagley at a Bagley Hotel, washing dishes and filing pay cards. The hotel was located where Galli Furniture is now today. She moved to Minneapolis and worked for Brown and Bigelow, a Calendar Company.

Muriel wanted to serve our country and she chose the branch of the Navy because their uniforms were the most dashing. She enlisted in August of 1944 and was in charge of new recruits. Muriel enlisted for an additional year in order to further her education. Muriel attended Hunter College in New York City and spent time in Cleveland, Ohio while she was in the service. It is in Ohio, that she learned her love of swimming. Muriel loved being in the Navy and describes it as being one of the best times of her life. Af-

ter her honorable discharge, she attended the University of Minnesota Teachers College in Minneapolis, MN and received her Bachelor Degree in Interior Decorating and Education. She already had a job waiting for her before her graduation in 1951. Muriel worked in Fertile for 4 years and she also taught in Chokio for 1 year. Muriel got a job at Bemidji High School teaching Home Economics, where she worked until her retirement in 1982. Muriel and her parents built a house in Clearbrook in January 1959, where Muriel lived until entering the Good Samaritan Center in Clearbrook and then on to McIntosh Senior Living. Muriel fought and overcame ovarian cancer in 1964. Muriel loved to travel and took trips to New Zealand, Australia, Italy, Switzerland, France, Russia and other European Countries. It was there that she went swimming in the Black Sea. Muriel loved to swim especially at the Clearbrook Pool where she swam 2 – 3 times a day and also received the "Queen of the Pool" award. Muriel's faith was very important to her throughout her life. She was a member of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Clearbrook, where she was very active. She enjoyed sewing and made a lot of clothes. Muriel was very proud of her flowers that she grew and loved bird watching, especially her Hummingbirds and Orioles. Muriel had a great interest and was very skilled at Rosemaling, creating many pieces. She was always kind and had a wonderful infectious laugh. Her independent and courageous spirit will be missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by 2 special nieces – Linda (Winton) Mickelson of Oklee, MN Gloria (David) Melby of St. Cloud, Minnesota

Muriel was also survived by other nieces and nephews as well as great nieces and great nephews and great great nieces and great great nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, 4 sisters, Ione, Gertrude, Phyllis and Gerda; 1 brother - Warren and special niece- Arlene Cease; special nephews - Roger Ellickson and Ted Berglund as well as other nieces and nephews.

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



Obituary for Errol Bartz

Errol Duane Bartz, age 74, was surrounded by family and friends as he passed peacefully into the arms of his Lord and Savior on January 27, 2021, after a two-year struggle with cancer. He faced this adversity with the bravery and head-strong tenacity he brought to every aspect of his life. Errol had a competency for making the simple complicated, for "saving" things "just in case" to the chagrin of his wife, his love for fishing and adventure, his passion for traveling with friends, and his ability to make the impossible possible. We will see touches of Errol's numerous projects in every corner of our lives. Errol never made excuses, and never accepted them. He taught all those around him to appreciate the time we have together with those we love and in return, was loved deeply by those who knew him.

Errol was honorably dis-

charged in 1970 after proudly serving in Vietnam as a Sergeant in the Marine Corps beginning in 1966. Upon his return, he spent 36 years working at Aero System Engineering in St. Paul, one week after his retirement he was rehired to consult until officially retiring again in December of 2018.

Errol is survived by his loving and supportive wife of almost 52 years, Cindy. His children, Todd Bartz (partner Ben Maestas), Wendy (Travis) Bartz-Soppa; grand children Jordan Gollner (friend Elizabeth), Maggie Soppa, Chesie Soppa-Greuel, and Alex Crivits; mother Ruth Bartz; sisters Shirley Meloche and Rae Ann Bartz; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and many other extended family members and friends.

He was reunited in heaven with his father Marvin; brother Larry; grandparents Max and Irene Bartz, and Elizabeth Borgeson.

Errol will be profoundly missed by his church family. He unselfishly gave his time and talents to the glory of God in his endless demonstration of God's love for his brothers and sisters in Christ. Therefore, in lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be sent in honor of Errol Bartz, to Grace of God Lutheran Church, 420 Hayward Avenue N., Oakdale, Minnesota, 55128.

Private service are being held. Arrangements are with Kok Funeral Home, Cottage Grove, MN 651-459-2483 www.kokfuneral.com



Obituary for Cedric Johnson

Cedric (Rick) Johnson, Pequot Lakes MN, age 75, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, January 17, 2021.

Visitation will be held one hour before services held at 10:00 am at Johnson Funeral Service in Thief River Falls MN, following with a Burial Service at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Grygla, MN on Saturday, February 6, 2021. Please wear a face mask and practice social distancing.

A Memorial Service TBD this spring at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Grygla MN. Announcements will be made later.

Cedric (Rick) A. Johnson was born on December 24, 1945 in Thief River Falls, MN, the son of Torjus and Francia (Magnuson) Johnson. Rick was confirmed at Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Grygla, MN. He attended school in Grygla, MN and graduated from Goodridge High School in 1963.

Rick went in the Army for two years. Upon returning from his Army duty, he lived in Thief River Falls for a short time.

He left to live in Minneapolis MN where he attended Minneapolis Business School receiving an Accounting/CPA Degree. He married Patricia (nee Hoard), lived in Bloomington MN and had three children: Janelle Johnson, Melissa

(Mike) Roth and Robert (Jennifer) Johnson. He had four grandchildren: Alex, Kyler, Riley, and Hayden.

He was always very insightful. While growing up, his children often thought that he may have had a touch of ESP because he always seemed to know when they were up to something.

He met Brenda Johnson and they were married in 2004. Rick added two step-children Angie Johnson and Craig (Loren) Johnson and then added four more step grandchildren: Hunter, Khloei, Coltin and Rhone.

He and Brenda lived on Little Pelican Lake in Pequot Lakes MN where Rick enjoyed doing things outdoors. He enjoyed hunting with his son, cousins, and friends and family in Grygla MN. He also loved cruising and fishing on the lake with his family. He often baited more hooks and released fish than caught any on his own but loved spending the time with his family.

He loved his family and being with his grandchildren. Rick will be greatly missed by his family but left many wonderful memories for his family to remember and share for a long time.

Rick was a member of the National Society of Certified Public Accountants and The Shriners. He worked as the Treasurer for the Pelican Lakes Conservation Club.

He is survived by his sister Naomi (Earl) Jacobson of Fortuna CA, nieces Gwendolyn (Scott) Larson, Lorelei (Daron) Schreier and a great niece and nephew. As well as numerous cousins from Grygla, MN and in-laws and families throughout the US.

He is preceded in death by his parents and sister Elizabeth Larson (nee Johnson).

In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred to Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 37408 Hamre Rd NW, Grygla, MN 56727.

Condolences may be sent at www.johnsonfuneralservice.com



Obituary for Timothy Whalen Sr.

Heaven was in for one heck of an awakening when Timothy Mark Whalen Sr. showed up suddenly on Sunday, January 24, 2021. He passed away at Sanford Medical Center, Thief River Falls, MN of natural causes. With his sense of humor and gift of storytelling, the angels are sure to be kept on their toes in a constant state of laughter. There will be one very special boy waiting to greet him, his beloved son and constant sidekick, Tommy, oh what a reunion that will be.

Public visitation was from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM on Friday, January 29, 2021 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Oklee. Private Family Mass of Christian Burial followed at 3:00 PM at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church with Father Adam Hamness presiding. Burial at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery. Masks and social distancing were observed. Burial will be held at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery in July 2021.

Timothy Mark Whalen was born September 27, 1950 in Thief River Falls, MN, the son of George and Esther (Bluemke) Whalen. He grew up on the family farm north of Oklee. He was baptized, had first communion, and was confirmed at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. Tim attended school in Oklee, MN graduating in May with the class of 1968. Following high school, Tim worked north of Duluth, MN for 1 year.

On graduation night, he asked his classmate of 12 years, Linda Champagne on their first date. On February 13, 1971, Tim was united in marriage to Linda Champagne at St. Francis Xavier Church in Oklee, MN and to this union seven children were born, Christy (Mouse),

Tiffany (Pooh Bear), Kim (Ralph), Terry (Teige), Katie (Squiggy), Tommy (King Sput/Sir Thomas) and Timmy (Bear). They purchased a home in Equality Township, north of Oklee where they have continued to reside and raise their wonderful children. If you thought, he loved his kids you should see how he loved his grandchildren. He was a very proud grandfather to 17 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. When Tim talked about his family he would say "we may not have much money, but we are very rich indeed." He was the kind of father who would share the writings of Mark Twain and the appreciation of history. Tractor rides, gardening, good home cooked meals and lots of laughter are always going to be favorite memories we all share of Grandpa Tim.

Tim was known for telling a great story or making up a song or limerick quicker than a buckshot. He could crack a joke that could make a grown man blush and mothers run to cover the ears of young children who may be playing within earshot. He was notorious for doing the "pull my finger" trick on unsuspecting children (or adults) it didn't matter! You could always tell he was going to come up with something good when his blue eyes twinkled. He was unapologetically himself and we loved him for it. He was very proud of his Irish heritage, could be stubborn as a Billy goat but he loved with all his heart. Tim was a walking history book. He could tell you who homesteaded most of the farms around the area. He loved to visit with the "old-timers" around town especially Happy Hince, Tom Toulouse, Fritz Thorpe, Tom Melby and Otto Cousins. He always claimed he was born 100 years too late. Tim loved to work on old tractors, was often called for advice and loved collecting toy tractors and implements.

Tim worked 4 years at Arctic Cat, 1 year at Hydro-Mac, Toreq making field scrapers and back to Arctic Cat for 13 years. Tim's favorite job in life was taking care of his son, Tommy. They could often be seen driving the big red pick-up and doing errands around town. When Tom died, Tim missed him greatly.

He was a member of St. Francis Xavier Church, Oklee and a member of the NRA.



Obituary for Catherine Klegstad

Catherine Martha (Layhon) Klegstad, 93, was born on September 30, 1927 and passed away on Sunday, December 20, 2020.

She was the third of twelve children born to Alex and Lena (Krishka) Layhon of Pembina, ND. She attended Pembina school where she learned the English language as a kindergarten and graduated valedictorian of her eighth grade class. At that time, she started working to help out with family needs.

In the spring of 1947 she met Ernie and about a year later, without hesitation, she accepted his proposal. On October 18, 1948, Catherine married Levern (Ernie) Klegstad. They lived in Hallock their entire married life and recently celebrated their 72nd anniversary. Together they raised eight children who blessed them with 21 grandchildren and 17 (18 in January) great-grandchildren. Throughout their years together they have been active members of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. In 2013 they received the Bishop's award for a lifetime of selfless giving to benefit others.

Catherine's greatest joy was her time spent with family. Sunday drives to visit relatives were cherished. She also enjoyed many years of curling with Ernie, took a few trips including a motorhome adventure with a sister to the west coast and a few days in Las Vegas.

Catherine worked as a nurse's aide before their first child was born, then worked 18 years at home raising the children. She returned to being a nurse's aide in 1968, then held a job at the Farmer's Store before returning to the nursing home as an aide giving loving care to the residents until she retired in 1988.

Loving care-that was the definition of Catherine. She knew how to listen and everybody who talked with her knew that she cared and that they were special to her. Famous for her "cookie corner", a visit would always include sitting at the kitchen table with

a plateful of homemade cookies and a cup of something to drink. Over the years she gifted a tea cup from her collection to each of her children and grandchildren as a way to remember that delicious cup of hot chocolate or tea they shared. From reading books as a child to playing Aggravation as a teen to a game of 500 as an adult, it was always more fun if mom/grandma was involved. And could she write letters! Everyone who received one from her knew they were in for a good read and a smile. She also shared her handiwork talents of embroidery, cross-stitching, knitting and crocheting with family, friends, and the church bazaar. She enjoyed sharing produce from her enormous garden, cooking her traditional Ukrainian foods and embracing Ernie's Norwegian heritage by learning to prepare his childhood favorites, even lutefisk.

Love. Joy. Peace. Patience. Kindness. Goodness. Faithfulness. Catherine was all of these. How blessed we are that God chose her to help create this family.

Catherine is survived by her loving husband Ernie and her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Merietta (Denny) Johnson: Ben, Jeff, and Maraya (Matt) Sharp; Micheal: Heather (Karl) Johnson: Alex and Anthony; Heidi (Todd) Carlson: Grant and Maddie; Hayley Klegstad: Cooper, and Tucker; Keri (Bryan Ulmer); Tommy; Billy. Thomas (Sharlene); Erin (Nick) Weiler; Ami (Cory) Kochendorfer and Finley. Yvonne (Tom) Lykken: Rachel (Rusty) Bohn. Catherine Peterson: Mikey. Robert (Kim): Katy (Andrew) Johnson: Jaden, Ryan, and Faith; Sean (Lisa): Xavier and Layla; Meghan (Ryan) McGarry: Mason and Mia. Debora (Kirk) Meseck: Nick (Tori): Brodie, Murphie and Landrie; Tony (Kendyl): Violet and baby in January. Keith (Joelle): Leah (Matthew) Green; Dalton (Brianna Schumacher); Sophie. Sisters: Doris (Ray) Heiser, Annie (Frank) Bergh, Helen (Tom) Weleske and Margaret Mattson. And many many loving nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Mike, John, and Alex Layhon; sisters Mary Bordeniuk, Sophie Zaharia, Rose Younggren and Barbara Hagen; brothers-in-law John Bordeniuk, Mike Zaharia and Gordon Klegstad; sisters-in-law Margaret, Vera and Belle Layhon, Marlene Klegstad and Gloria Hackbarth; stillborn daughter Doris, grandson Tyler (Keith and Joelle) Klegstad, and sons-in-law Greg Maloney and Bob Peterson.

Funeral services will be held next spring or summer.

MORE OBITUARIES ON PAGE 8

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Gerald Melin, sophomore for the Red Lake County Mustangs up against the Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears on Thursday, January 28.



Bailey Hince, senior for the Red Lake County Rebels going for a three point shot against the Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears.

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Eric Gieseke for Red Lake County Central Rebels up for the basket against the Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears on Thursday, January 28. Alex Dawson #23 and Logan Westrum #3 for the Bears. Also shown for the Rebels is Brody Moen #10.



This is not a mask, it was a ball coming directly to Kaylee Westrum. She was not hurt with the ball. The Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears hosted Walker-Hackensack-Akeley and won 60-55 last Thursday evening.

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Steve Phillion head coach for the Red Lake County Mustangs giving his players last minute advice. Also shown is Assistant Coach Randy Huie. Phillion was also a coach for the Gonvick Trail Bulldogs and the Clearbrook-Gonvick Bears.

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OBITUARIES



Obituary for Leslie Pederson

Leslie Duane Pederson 91, died on January 20, 2021, at home in Bemidji, MN.

He was born during a cold and challenging time in U.S. history, on December 19, 1929. His young parents, Margaret (Torgerson) Pederson, and Helmer "Kingfish" Pederson surely suffered economic hardship and concern as they welcomed the first of six children into their tiny home in Gonvick, MN. Leslie's siblings, Richard, Beverly Harris, (who still lives in CA) Deloris "Lolly" Johnson, Darleen Nygaard, and baby sister Gloria Norsteun were all quite close throughout most of their lives.

Leslie attended school in Gonvick but left his education behind to work on surrounding farms to help support his parent's growing family. It would not be until 1999 that he would obtain his high school diploma at the age of 70!

Les, as he would be known by friends and family, loved anything with a motor--he was especially fond of driving large farm equipment. As soon as he was old enough, he had his father take him to the local recruiter's office and he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. Although a mem-

ber of the U.S. Armed Forces for four years, Dad never "made it to sea." Saddened by this, but not deterred, he took the first opportunity and accepted a job in Iceland. Over the coming years, Les would "travel the world," going to places like Thailand, Iraq, and Libya. After his journeys, he returned to Gonvick for a short time, but eventually took up residence in the Minneapolis area. There he met and wed Ella Timmons. They adopted two children and remained married for close to 25 years. Les was a member of the Local 49 Operators Union, an avid (yet often frustrated) Viking fan, proud Democrat, and member of the American Legion and Color Guard. At his core, he was a shy and tender boy, but on the exterior, he was strong and could be fierce to defend and protect those people and issues he loved most. He returned to Northern Minnesota in the 1990s when he became engaged to a woman who had stolen his heart as a boy--Arlyss Torgerson. Dad spent the final quarter-century of his life working on farms in North Dakota, making maple syrup, picking strawberries, making lefsa, grooming cross country ski trails, fishing in the summer and winter, cooking, baking, gardening, caring for his property on Lake Julia & helping neighbors with theirs, and spending time with friends at Slim's! It is not surprising that he took his final breath on Inauguration Day, and once again left this earth in a "cold and challenging time for our nation."

There will not be an immediate service, due to COVID-19, however, we hope to celebrate and commemorate his life (when it is safe to do so) at Slim's in Bemidji. Leslie will be laid to rest in the family plot at Samhold Lutheran Church in Gonvick.



Obituary for Carolyn George

Carolyn Ann George, 67 of Bagley passed away on Saturday, January 30, 2021 at her home surrounded by her family. A visitation will be held Friday, February 5th from 5-7pm at the Cease Family Home in Bagley. A celebration of her life will take place Saturday, February 6th at 11 am with visitation 1 hour prior to the service with Pastor Bob Kirchner officiating. Interment will be at Norway Lake Cemetery in Leonard. Reception will follow at Alexis Ballard residence: 43373 141st Avenue Clearbrook, MN.

Carolyn was born December 11, 1953 in Bagley, MN. She was the daughter of Clarence Sr. and Birdie (Tenneson) George. Her family lived in the Leonard area where she attended District 52 Country School in Leonard, then Bagley High School and later received her GED. On April 18th, 1973, her daughter Priscilla was born, and two years later on June 10th, 1975 her daughter Cindi was born. Carolyn raised her two daughters in the Leonard area.

Over the years she worked various job up until she re-

tired and worked part time as a paraprofessional at the Red Lake High School.

Her children, grandchildren, and great grandchild meant the world to her. She never missed a game event, or special occasion when it came to them. She also enjoyed attending numerous concerts with her family. She always looked forward to the yearly fourth of July camping weekend at the lake, playing games, boating, and the "fun" antics around the campfire. She was a natural caretaker, she always put everyone else first, whether it was a family member or a friend, you could always count on her to be there for them. She will be missed by all who knew her. We would like to say thank you mom and grandma for your endless love and support through the years. We love you and will forever miss you.

She is survived by her two daughters, Priscilla (Dan) Johnson of Gonvick and Cindi (Steve) Ballard of Leonard. Her five grandchildren, Alison (Austin) Kindem, Alexis (Trevor) Ballard, Aliyah Ballard, Skylar Ballard, and Carter Ballard. Her two great grandchildren, Ryder Kindem and baby Rogstad. Her sisters, Beverly (Ted) Lundmark, Marilyn Emery, Joan Thalman, Donna Wendland. Her numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and great great nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Clarence Sr., and Birdie George. Her Siblings: Tony George, Clarence George Jr., Milton George, Adeline Nelson, George George, James George, Helen Mathison, Irene Kimbrell, Jean Bennett, Betty Jagalo, Merle Thalman and Robert George.

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