



Tri County Canary

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



Randy Cook, shown on the left, a major supporter of Freedom Christian Academy (FCA), in Erskine, envisioned the swinging bell as he examined his diverse inventory. Randy enlisted the help of master welder Tony Hedlund who is a creator of unique solutions to crazy ideas.

Tony, shown on the right, adapted the 30" bell and 36" yoke that were cast sometime between 1866 and 1872, probably from surplus munitions left over from the Civil War from both the Confederate and Union Armies, by Blymyer Norton & Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio, according to internet research. Using his country boy engineering skills, Tony adapted the unmatched bell and yoke from a rope-swinging clanger to a swinging bell that strikes the clanger.

Polk County DFL Announces Move to Contactless Precinct Caucuses

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Polk County Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party has made the decision to move to contactless precinct caucuses to protect the health of caucus participants and their communities. The caucus is scheduled for Tuesday, February 1, 2022 from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM.

"The DFL Party's contactless caucuses will protect the health of Minnesotans while preserving the grassroots democracy at the heart of our party which our caucuses embody," said DFL Party Chairman Ken Martin. "Now, everyone from seasoned advocates to Minnesotans new to politics can safely help shape the future of our movement and take the first steps in deciding which candidates our party

endorses."

To participate in contactless caucuses, Minnesotans simply need to:

1. Head to dfl.org/caucus and fill out the Precinct Caucus Non-Attendee Form and, if they choose, a Resolution Form.
- These forms will allow caucus-goers to run to be delegates to future endorsing conventions and submit resolutions to the DFL Party's Action Agenda.
2. While on dfl.org/caucus, use the Caucus Finder to learn where to submit those forms.
3. Send in their forms via email or print their forms and drop them off on caucus night.
- Each local unit will have an in-person drop box for forms that will be open from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM on the evening of

precinct caucuses, February 1st.

Throughout Polk County, DFL caucus participants can submit their forms to Sheila Fontaine at polkcodfl@gmail.com, or drop off their printed forms at East Grand Forks Senior High School or Highland Elementary School in Crookston on February 1, 2022 between 6:30-9:00 p.m.

If anyone has questions about the Polk County DFL's contactless caucus, please contact Sheila Fontaine at polkcodfl@gmail.com.

In most circumstances, there are enough delegate slots available to ensure everyone in a precinct who runs to be a delegate gets elected. In contactless precincts where that is not the case, delegates will be chosen by lot.

UMN Crookston Hosts Well Acclaimed Ag Arama

Story by
Ethan Christopherson

CROOKSTON, Minn. - The University of Minnesota Crookston will host the 46th annual Ag Arama event on the last Saturday of January, as they do every year. An important school tradition since 1975, back when UMN Crookston was a two-year institution, the idea of Ag Arama was to get students to come back to campus for a second semester instead of staying home to work on their respectable farms. Animal Science instructor and Ag Arama coordinator Terrill Giannonatti-Bradford says "We often refer to it as 'homecoming' for the Agriculture students." Giannonatti-Bradford is accompanied by a committee of students involved in agriculture and natural resources to help plan and operate Ag Arama weekend.

Leading up to January 29, 2022, students participating spend weeks training hard with their animals which are eligible

for one of six different categories: horse showmanship, goat, dairy, beef, sheep, and swine showing. Whether the participants are experienced showmen or novices, it is a fantastic display of hard work and accomplishment of showing livestock and other agriculture practices UMN Crookston has to offer. The events will take place in the University Teaching and Outreach Center (UTOC), Charles H. Casey Equine Arena located on the north edge of the campus. Everyone is invited to attend and no parking permits are required.

Contests in agronomy, animal science, horticulture, agricultural business, photography, and natural resources highlight Ag Arama weekend. They serve as an opportunity for students to showcase their knowledge and skills in the agricultural industry and have a chance to interact with alumni and faculty members. Contests begin at 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., and

the public is welcome to watch the competition as it unfolds in both novice and experienced categories in order to give every student an opportunity to showcase their skills and compete for the crown.

Before the contests, there is an agricultural industry show featuring some of the latest in agricultural equipment from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. At 12:30 p.m., the round robin showmanship will begin followed by alumni showmanship at 1 p.m. Coronation of the Ag Arama royalty takes place at 2 p.m. followed by the presentation of specialty awards and the sweepstakes presentation.

An alumni social will take place from 7-9 p.m. at I.C. Muggs, followed by the Ag Arama Dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. featuring the band Silverado! The Ag Arama club welcomes all students at UMN Crookston, including those not in agriculture, and encourages everyone interested to join.

Northwest Technical College Foundation receives \$50,000

Bemidji, Minn. - The Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation has awarded \$50,000 to the Northwest Technical College Foundation to launch a new Delta Dental Equity and Education Scholarship Program.

Ashley Johnson, NTC's Foundation executive director, said the grant will support qualifying under-represented students by offering scholarships and living expense relief for dental assisting students

"The goal is to reduce barriers due to the cost of education, housing, travel costs and childcare expenses for dental assisting students," she said. "Equitable recruitment processes will be implemented to reach diverse populations, particularly students from underrepresented communities."

The grant extends through 2024 and a total of \$39,000 will be used for scholarship and supportive success dollars. Each

year, three students can apply for a \$6,500 Delta Dental Equity and Education Program scholarship that includes \$4,000 in academic scholarship funds and \$2,500 student success funds that can be used for housing or other needs.

Throughout 2022, NTC's Office of Admissions and American Indian Resource Center

\$50,000 received...
Continued on next page

Colgrove found guilty on 3 counts

A Clearwater County jury found Christopher Colgrove guilty on 3 counts of murder on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 in the 2020 stabbing death of Dawn Swenson.

The charges are for the September 10, 2020 murder after he allegedly stabbed Swenson.

According to a criminal complaint, Colgrove called 911 that evening requesting medical assistance at his Bagley home on 336th Street. However, when a responding officer arrived at the home and made contact with Colgrove, he ran off.

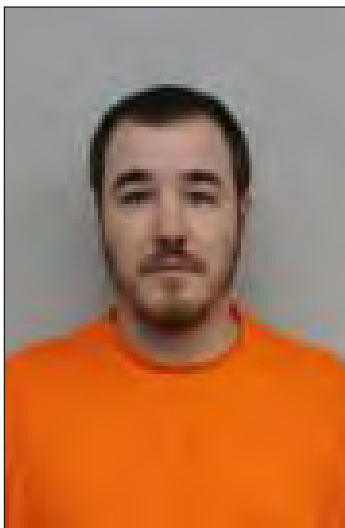
Police tracked Colgrove to a nearby home where they heard a struggle happening inside. Officers broke into the home

and saw Colgrove struggling with his 53-year-old neighbor.

An officer tried to shock Colgrove with a stun gun, but it was ineffective. After, Colgrove stabbed Swenson and she fell down the stairs. Police attempted to address her wounds, but she died shortly after.

An autopsy showed that Swenson was stabbed in the neck and the back. The wound to her back reached her heart. According to investigators, the medical examiner said that both stab wounds were fatal.

Sentencing for Colgrove has been set for February 23, 2022. The maximum sentence is life in prison.



Christopher Colgrove

8th Annual Small Scale Sustainable Sheep Farming Event Saturday February 19, 2022

8th Annual Small Scale Sustainable Sheep Farming Event Saturday February 19, 2022. 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lammers Town Hall in Solway, MN 56678.

Pre-register by February 12, 2022. \$20/adult, \$30/Couple, \$15/SSFC member, Pay at the door, sheepcommunity.com, 218-657-2502

Lunch by Asian Market, Solway

The non-profit Sustainable Farming Association (SFA, not to be confused with the SSFC) has a new director, Lucinda Winter. Lucinda will be explaining what the Sustainable Farming Assn. is and how one of its success stories, the Garlic Directory, could be a model for wool and sheep production in the state. She will also be answering any questions attendees might have about the SFA and the programs it offers to farmers wanting to transition to more sustainable farming.

The SSFC has their annual meeting and nominations for board of directors will be accepted. Please consider joining your board of directors or volunteering to help out in the coming year.

and package and sell food grade product direct from the farm while providing our kids with the ability, skills, and knowledge to meet their primary needs from the farm.



Celia grew up in Northfield, MN where her dad started farming again in 1996. That held her interest and she ended up at NDSU with a B.S. in Ag Systems Management. Following school, she went to southwest North Dakota and worked at a co-op as a sales agronomist for just over a year when she was able to get a remote job working for OCIA, an organic certification agency. This allowed her to go back to Minnesota and live at her parent's farm up by Gonvick. She started farming with her dad on a few small fields by Gonvick while working for OCIA. In 2015 she bought her great-grandparents farm from her dad. She and her husband had their first daughter in 2017 and second in 2020, they are definitely the highlight of each day. Their daughters enjoy the critters and riding along in the tractors when they can, they keep looking forward to the lessons of each season.

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 the fall. At this festival, fiber vendors can promote and sell their products and share and learn about fiber techniques. These events would not be possible without the help of local volunteers. No experience necessary.

Celia Norgaard-Thompson writes:

We are a family farm living on a quarter section that we're slowly taking out of CRP and putting back into production. At this time we are a hobby farm in regard to critters and we farm about 140 acres and work with my dad on another 240 acres. We have been working with small grains and hay while building our family with 2021 being the first year adding a couple of different crops. We are certified organic working to grow food grade product and are transitioning into a regenerative system. Our ultimate goal is to incorporate livestock for production into the system



Theresa Bentz is co-owner of Get Bentz Farm, a 40 acre farm located outside of Northfield MN. Theresa and her husband raise Icelandic sheep for meat and wool, and use sustainable methods to manage their sheep. Theresa is an avid spinner and teaches spinning classes and events on the farm and in her community. In April of 2021, the farm purchased a wool mill to increase access for shepherds to have their fleeces processed. As a handspinner, Theresa wanted to bring the skills she has gained over the years in processing fleeces to her mill, focusing the mill on providing high quality roving for spinners and felters, free from toxic chemicals and milling oils. Theresa has also partnered with Alejandra Sanchez, who is a natural dyer, to create naturally dyed roving for customers and classes. Theresa is the president of the Cannon River SFA chapter, she sits on the board of A Greener Pastures, and is active in the Minnesota Farmers Union, advocating for natural fibers. Theresa is currently working on a research project with Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships to understand Minnesota's wool economy, with a completion date of January 1st, 2022.

Letter to the Editor

Last fall our son was at Cincinnati children's hospital. The RN who cared for him had just moved from Florida. She moved because the patient care in the hospitals in Florida was awful and the covid rates were the highest in the nation. I felt I had to respond to a letter from December 8 entitled "Tim Walz Failed COVID-19 policies". The article faulted Minnesota's overworked doctors and staff without saying where treated covid patients should be sent or what should be done. It then cited Florida as the state that is doing things right. I disagree with this because Florida has had an 800% increase in COVID-19 cases during a two-week period with 32,925 new cases in a single day. Cars are strung out for miles with a several hours waiting to be tested. Laws were passed outlawing students from wearing masks.

Two weeks ago, The NBC Evening News had a story on Minnesota. They reported the death rate for fully vaccinated Minnesotans under age 50 at 0.00%. No one under age 50 had died at that time if they were fully vaccinated. Minnesota is doing a good job, much better than Florida.

Some view that vaccination should be a personal choice, but do we have the right to spread covid to others potentially leading to their hospitalizations and death? We have no-fault liability car insurance for a reason.

Early on, our national policy ignored the covid threat so America with less than 5% of the world population had 25% of the deaths. Our life expectancy has gone down by almost 2 years. The average covid hospitalization costs \$100,000. I personally know one person hospitalized for four months and another for three months. The cost of these hospitalizations has forced companies to raise health insurance premiums. Can we as a country afford higher premiums? When 20-30 percent of our health care workers get covid, will our healthcare system collapse? Will hospitals have no choice but to triage patients and only accept patients with the greatest chance of surviving? If that's the case the unvaccinated will be low on the survival list and may be turned away. We have a friend who lives outside the cities who was turned away because the hospital had no room.

The national debt reported by USA Today, has grown by \$8.3 trillion from 2016 to 2020. The top 1% with an income averaging \$1.3 million received 83% of the Trump tax cut and the other 99% of Americans who average \$50,000 per year got the other 17%. Older folks won't pay off this debt so our children and grandchildren will pay for it later through increased taxes or through in-

flation. We all need to get vaccinated to save lives and to get our economy back on track or the national debt will keep rising on their tab.

So why doesn't everyone get vaccinated? The problem may be that 53% of Americans get their news from social media. Facebook uses algorithms or mathematical equations that decide what you are shown by what articles you interact with. When Someone watches a video or reads an article on vaccine conspiracies the equation doubles down on showing you more and more conspiracy content. Pretty quickly one can be lead down a rabbit hole where all their feed is consumed by conspiracy content and content that is sourced by nefarious actors like Russia, China or Iran. The content that spreads the fastest online is not that which is factual but that which is the most shocking or emotionally triggering which typically is lacking in facts. When the fight or flight system triggers and emotions take over logic all but disappears.

A couple years ago Cheri and I were on a bus tour of Saint Petersburg, Russia. Our tour guide nonchalantly pointed out the building where the "Troll Farm" is located. This is the building complex where Russian state hackers, computer experts posing as Americans, spread falsehoods which in turn influenced the 2016 General Election. Today the Russians still work to divide us by posing as Americans furthering the development of conspiracy theories, fooling the unwary. These lies then go viral, developing lives of their own undermining our democracy and safety. How many friends and neighbors have to die before we take back control of our own minds?

Before vaccines became available obituaries listed covid as the cause of death. After vaccines became available remorseful relatives now often don't list covid as they realize that death could have been prevented.

I write this to implore my unvaccinated friends to get their shots to save lives and get our economy back on track. Time is running out.

John Gunvalson
Gonvick, MN

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Invitation to Bid

The Board of Education, ISD #162, Bagley, MN is soliciting sealed bids for removal and replacement of the EPDM membrane on select portions of the High School roof. Bid scope can be picked up at the Superintendent's office and site inspection can be arranged by contacting Dan LaVine or Ron McColm at 694-6184. Sealed proposals will be accepted at the district office at 202 Bagley Ave. NW, Bagley, MN 56621 until 12:00 PM CST on Friday, February 25, 2022 at which time they will be opened publicly. The Bagley School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

A look at tax relief, public safety and other top issues for new session

By Rep. Steve Green,

The 2022 legislative session is getting underway with numerous important issues to address, including decisions related to our state's massive budget surplus and efforts to crack down on soaring crime.

Before we get to those and other subjects, it should be noted the House majority has decided to keep the State Office Building, which hosts personal office space for House members in St. Paul, on public lockdown over COVID-19 concerns. This will continue to pose a barrier for citizens seeking to meet with State Representatives. Alternative meeting arrangements may be provided but, at the very least, this situation will continue compromising the open-door policy typically extended to constituents.

As for the actual legislative issues at hand, many of this session's headlines will center on the state's record budget surplus of \$7.7 billion and rising. This represents the greatest opportunity for tax relief our state has ever seen and we need to take full advantage of it.

People are paying higher prices on pretty much everything these days with the inflation we are suffering under the Biden administration and we should do all we can to ease the burden. For example, House Republicans made progress on reducing Social Security taxes on our seniors a few years ago. Now it's time to finish the job and end Minnesota's status as one of several states that still taxes Social Security.

We also should use surplus dollars to prevent Minnesota businesses from tax increases they are suffering on unemployment insurance. We have the money and should not force businesses to pay more because people were out of work, largely over restrictions the state itself – namely, Gov. Tim Walz – placed upon them. It would

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Notice to Operate Aeration System
An aeration system creating thin ice and open water shall be in operation on the Northeast portion of Pine Lake near the public access. This site is located in the SW¼ Section 22, Pine Lake Township, Clearwater County.
Please use caution as open water and thin ice conditions can fluctuate greatly. Stay clear of marked area!
If you have any questions, please contact Sportsman's Club member Larry Peterson at 218-791-5577 or the Red Lake Watershed District office at 218-681-5800.

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\$50,000 received...

Continued from page 1
staff will recruit high school students from the area, including Bemidji's neighboring Tribal Nations – The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, and the Red Lake and White Earth Nations.

"We will work closely with high school counselors to identify prospective students who may be interested in our dental assisting program, while statewide recruitment efforts will also be ongoing," Johnson said.

The Foundation will reserve \$10,000 to establish an endowed Delta Dental Foundation & Partner Fund to extend the scholarship program into the future. The remaining \$1,000 will be used for recruitment and marketing efforts.

"By building an endowment fund we can continue promoting scholarship dollars to underserved populations indefinitely. The goal is to continually provide better access to the dental assisting program at Northwest Technical College."

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Inter-County Community Council is accepting applications for an opening in our Family Services department:

Case Manager: The Case manager will recruit, coach, and provide comprehensive coordination of services to homeless and at risk of becoming homeless youth, individuals, and families. The position is full time/40 hours a week working out of our Thief River Falls Office.

Application and position specific information, including job duties, salary and educational requirements are available on our website at www.intercountycouncil.org. Send completed application and resume to Inter-County Community Council, Human Resources, PO Box 189, Oklee, MN 56742 or hr@intercountycouncil.org. Applications must be received by **4:30PM on Friday, February 11th**. Call 218-796-5144 x1017 for more information.

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is accepting applications for

2 Agency Social Worker Positions

These positions will provide waiver case management to vulnerable adults with physical and/or developmental disabilities. Other duties may include, but are not limited to, adult general case management, intake, assessments and investigations. Applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on 1/31/2022.

Salary range is \$24.33-\$31.87/hour as of the current union contract for 2021. There will be an increase in the wage when the union contract is finalized. To see the position description and to apply go online to <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/mnmeritsystem>

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Early Childhood & Head Start Management Positions Available



Inter-County Community Council is accepting applications for openings in our Head Start program. **Health Coordinator:** 40 hours a week, year round, office in Thief River Falls, MN with travel to satellite offices, the first 4 weeks will be located in Oklee for training. Position supports staff serving families of children ages birth to 5 years to meet Head Start health requirements focusing on data monitoring, referrals, and staff training; minimum of Bachelor Degree in health/related field; preference for nursing license or other health credentials/certifications. Experience in health field and with young children preferred. Additional training will be provided. Must be able to pass a background check. **Open until filled.**

Home Visitor: 2 positions, 1 in Early Head Start (year round position); 1 in Head Start (10 month position); 40 hours a week, office location to be determined by caseload. Position works with families of children ages birth to 5 years, providing in home education visits on a weekly basis. Minimum of a Child Development Associate, AA degree preferred; experience with children preferred, additional training will be provided. Must be able to pass a background check. **Open until filled.**

Program Assistant: 40 hours a week, office in Oklee, MN with limited travel to satellite offices. Position supports staff serving families of children ages birth to 5 years. Primary duties include data entry, scanning, copying, organizing, etc. Minimum of high school diploma / GED. Additional training will be provided. Must be able to pass a background check. **Applications due by Monday February 7, 2022.**

Application and position specific information, including job duties, salary and educational requirements are available on our website at www.intercountycouncil.org. Send completed application and resume to Inter-County Community Council, Human Resources, PO Box 189, Oklee, MN 56742 or hr@intercountycouncil.org. Call 218-796-5144 x1028 for more information.

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R43-46C

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BAGLEY SCHOOLS CURRENT OPENINGS

Substitute Teacher positions. Substitute teaching opportunities are available at Bagley Public Schools. Applicants should send a cover letter, resume, teaching license or substitute licensure with a 4 year degree, transcripts and three letters of reference to Nichole Ekre at 202 Bagley Ave NW, Bagley MN 56621 or nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us.

Paraeducator positions. Paraeducator position openings in the Elementary, 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. Application forms may be downloaded, picked up in the District Office or you may email nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us.

Substitute Para positions. Substitute para opportunities are available at Bagley Public Schools. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Application forms may be downloaded, picked up in the District Office or you may email nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us.

Food Service Support Staff - a high school diploma or GED is preferred but not required. Currently accepting applications for Food Service Support Staff at the High School and Elementary. Application forms may be downloaded, picked up in the District Office or you may email nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us.

Substitute Food Service Support Staff - a high school diploma or GED is preferred but not required. Currently accepting applications for substitute food service support staff.

Native American Home School Liaison positions. Full-time positions open for the 2021-2022 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. Application forms may be downloaded, picked up in the District Office or you may email nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us.

Special Ed Native American Home School Liaison. opening in the High School. 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. A type 3 and valid driver's license is required to assist with student transportation/IEP transportation.

For more information, please call Nichole Ekre at 694-6184.

Full-Time Route Bus Drivers and Substitute Bus Drivers positions. Applicants 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 nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us. For more information, please call Stuart Dukek at 694-6122.

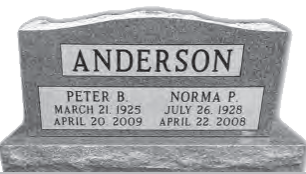
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R32-31C

OBITUARIES



Obituary for Elaine Olson

Elaine N. Olsen, age 92 of Anoka was received into the arms of Jesus on Monday, December 27, 2021. Elaine was preceded in death by husband Enock, parents Albert & Lauretta Zellmar, two sisters and five brothers-in-law Bernice (Wally) Affolter, Kathleen (Albert) Hendricks, Gene Furry, Richard Henzel and Bill Dietrich. She is survived by children Mel (Mary) Olsen, Sue (Warren) Hegstrom and Donna (Bob) Simpson, 9 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, sisters Betty Furry Henzel and Ruth (Dan) Michaelson, many nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

Celebration of Life was Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 12 noon at Riverdale Church, 3210 Bunker Lake Boulevard, NW, Andover with visitation beginning at 11 am. Private interment Morningside Memorial Gardens, Coon Rapids.

Elaine was born on October 7, 1929. She often told how she was so small that her bed was a drawer that sat close to the stove to keep her warm. She was not a healthy child and was carried on pillows by her mother. At the age of two, even though prayed for many times, her father decided she needed to see a doctor; how-

ever, said “before we do we will pray one more time”. As he finished the prayer, Elaine looked to her mother who was holding her and asked if she could get down and play. God wonderfully reached down and healed her. It was the beginning of many miracles God granted to Elaine and her family! Elaine worked on the farm alongside her father developing a strong work ethic. As a young woman, she decided to move to the Twin Cities into an apartment owned by a church later named Hope Temple. It was there she met her soul mate, Enock Olsen. He had come from the northern town of Grygla to be in his brother's wedding. She was a bridesmaid in the same wedding. Shortly, thereafter, they were married on April 26, 1948 and moved to Grygla where they started their family. Within a couple of years the decision was made to return to the Twin Cities. Elaine held a variety of jobs but her first love was Jesus, family, music and gardening. In that order! She would share about Jesus and her family . Give away the abundance of garden produce to others, but oh how she loved music. She did not read music, playing several instruments only by ear! She was the pianist or organist in several churches she attended. She allowed God's gift to be used for His glory.

In their golden years, Elaine and Enock returned to Grygla buying Motel 89. They entertained many friends and again, she was pianist for the small country church. Due to health concerns, Elaine and Enock returned to the Twin Cities to be near family. Elaine loved Jesus, telling everyone she met about Him! Gospel music was an expression from her soul! She lived for God and her family. Her life was full and blessed!



Obituary for Rudy Larson

Rudy Larson, age 90, of Fosston, MN, passed away on Sunday, January 9th, at Essentia Health Hospital in Fosston. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, January 14th, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lengby, MN with the Rev. Gene Lilienthal officiating. Interment was in Cross Lake Cemetery, rural Fosston. Visitation was held for one hour prior to the service on Friday at the church. Military honors were provided by the Naval Honors Team. Arrangements with Carlin Family Funeral Service of Fosston and messages of condolence may be shared at www.carlinfuneral.com.

Rudolph Alvin Larson was born on September 14, 1931, in Columbia Township, Minnesota to parents Adolph and Inga (Ingberg) Larson. He was baptized and confirmed at Cross Lake Lutheran Church and graduated from Fosston High School in 1950. After high school, Rudy entered the United States Navy during the Korean War. He received his honorable discharge in 1954 and returned home.

Rudy was united in marriage to Alice Yvonne Hagen at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on July 17, 1955 in McIntosh, Minnesota. After their marriage, they lived in

Fosston where they raised their four children, Randy, Michael, Lorri Ann, and Scott. During his working years, Rudy worked in sales for Gilgosh and Kane of Minneapolis, KEHG Radio in Fosston, and The Shopper out of Halstad, Minnesota until his retirement in 2001. Yvonne passed away on December 3, 2011. Rudy has continued to live in Fosston, most recently at Cornerstone Assisted Living.

He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lengby and the V.F.W. and American Legion Clubs.

Rudy loved to visit, reminisce, and share a good joke. Most of all, he loved getting together with his children and grandchildren. He was always very thankful for his life and family. Rudy always said, “When the bell rings it's over and I have lived a good life.”

Survivors include three children, Mike (Jeannie) of Elko, MN, Lorri Ann (Dean) Hartel of Red Lake Falls, MN, and Scott (Patty) of Lakeville, MN; seven grandchildren, Jeremy (Jen) Larson, Amanda Woolen, Travis (Jenny) Larson, Trevor Larson, Shawna (Tedd) Nelson, Joe (Becca) Hartel, Rachael Larson; step grandchildren, Lisa (Steve) Snow, Kari Truh, and Kenny Truh.

Also surviving are brothers and sisters-in-law, Judy Hagen of McIntosh, Richard (Karen) Hagen of Minnetonka, MN, Mars (Pam) Hagen of Apple Valley, MN, Deanne Benson of Thief River Falls, MN, and Karen (Pat) Rolf of McIntosh. Nieces, nephews, and cousins also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife Yvonne; son, Randy; grandson, Jeffrey Larson; brother, Lawrence Larson, sisters, Bertha Kittelson and Helen Guldberg; and brothers-in-laws, Clarence Brustad, Godfred Guldberg, Ronald Hagen, Gordy Benson, David Hagen and sister-in-law Joanne Carver.

Submit Obituaries to richards@gvtel.com

Obituary for Jerome Strand

Jerome Strand, age 66, of Erskine, MN, passed away on Monday, January 24th, at his home. Arrangements are with Carlin Family Funeral Service of Erskine. Messages of condolence may be shared at www.carlinfuneral.com.

Obituary for Levine Jasperson

Levine Jasperson, 78, of Bagley, Minnesota died Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at Cornerstone Nursing and rehabilitation Center in Bagley, MN.

Graveside services were held on Monday, December 27, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at the Bagley City Cemetery in Bagley, Minnesota, where the interment was also be held. The Cease Family Funeral Home of Bagley assisted the family with arrangements.

Levine was born on June 1, 1943 to Tilda and Arthur Jasperson. He was their second son and was soon joined by two sisters. Levine attended grades one through twelve in the Bagley School system graduating in 1961. In 1962, he joined the United States Army and was stationed in Germany. While he was there, he had a reoccurrence of rheumatic fever, and was given an early release from the Army in 1964 because of his health issues. Soon after his return to the United States, he moved to Arizona where he had a lawn service business for many years. While he was there, he met Evelyn Schwartz, and they were married on June 9, 1985. A few years later, they moved back to Bagley, Minnesota. Levine was a quiet gentle man who was a care giver to both his wife and his mother. When they were both in the nursing home, he never missed a day without going to see them. His devotion to them went on until they both passed away.

Levine is survived by his brother – Dennis of New Prague, MN; his sister – June Young of Alexandria, MN; and daughter- Kandi Jasperson of Oregon.

Levine was preceded in death by his parents, his sister - Julie and his wife – Evelyn.

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

Submit Obituaries & Memorials to Richards Publishing at richards@gvtel.com

AgCountry Members to Receive \$76 Million in Cash Dividends

Fargo, N.D. – Member-owners of AgCountry Farm Credit Services will soon discover the cooperative advantage as the farmer-owned lending institution announces a record \$76 million cash dividend. For the third consecutive year, AgCountry has achieved its patronage goal of a one percent dividend on all eligible business.

With rising input costs, supply chain disruptions, and inflationary pressure, AgCountry member-owners will be receiving some welcomed news as dividend payments arrive in March of 2022 for business conducted in 2021.

“It truly pays to do business with AgCountry Farm Credit Services,” states Board Chair Ed Hegland. “As a farmer myself, I can confidently say that AgCountry's dividend program sets us apart from other lenders.”

Of the \$76 million, \$67 million comes from AgCountry while \$9 million comes from Farm Credit Services of North Dakota, who merged together on January 1, 2022. Since the cooperative's patronage program launched in 2014, over \$335 million has been paid out to AgCountry patrons.

“We work hard every day to fulfill our mission of service to agriculture and rural America,” said CEO Marc Knisely. “It is a pleasure assisting over 25,000 farm families, agribusinesses, and rural residents in achieving their financial goals.”

AgCountry's patronage program grants the Board of Directors the ability to distribute a portion of the association's net income to its member-owners when financial conditions allow for it.

About AgCountry Farm Credit Services: Headquartered in Fargo, N.D., AgCountry has managed assets in excess of \$10 billion and over 700 employees. They are a member-owned, locally-governed lending institution that provides credit and financial services to more than 25,000 farmers and ranchers in portions of Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. They also provide agribusiness loans and leases nationwide. AgCountry is a part of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of cooperative financial services institutions that serves rural America.



2021 \$76M

Patronage Program

AgCountry FCS

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In accordance with Federal civil rights law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulation and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, officers, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs (including Garden Valley Telephone Company) are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint> and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Garden Valley agrees with, and has fully complied with, all nondiscrimination and equal employment requirements. The Company has not received any complaints in regard to these provisions.

Garden Valley Telephone Company is an equal opportunity provider and employer. All employment is decided on the basis of qualifications, merit, and business needs.

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I am thirty-nine. Thirty-nine weeks old. Hey, Mom... can you do more pelvic floor lifts today? I like swinging! It's so fun! Whee! It's like being in my own hammock. I bet it feels good for your low back too. Plus, then I don't squash your bladder, right? Because let's just state the fact: the toilet is flushing a lot more lately. I admit, I have been starting to feel like I'm going to be in here forever. But I think we'll get to see each other before we know it. I will be easy to spot because now I'm as big as a pumpkin! Are you starting a countdown? -a.m.opdahl www.speaklife139.com

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Minnesota Starwatch for Feb. 2022

By Deane Morrison

All month long, the knot of bright winter constellations occupies center stage in the south during the prime early evening viewing hours. This grouping boasts five stars that rank among the top ten brightest in the night sky: Sirius (No. 1), Capella (No. 6), Rigel (No. 7), Procyon (No. 8) and Betelgeuse (No. 10).

At nightfall Sirius shines from Canis Major, the big dog, while above and slightly to the east twinkles Procyon, in Canis Minor, the little dog. Both are near neighbors of the sun, so no wonder they appear so bright. Sitting atop the stellar panoply, Capella, in Auriga, the charioteer, is four times more distant than either Sirius or Procyon. But the two stars in Orion—Betelgeuse, at his right shoulder, and Rigel, at his left foot—hold their own against the others despite being more than 10 times farther away than even Capella.

A waxing moon passes between the horns of Taurus, the bull, on the night of the 10th and between the bodies of the Gemini twins on the night of the 12th. On the 13th, the “head” stars of the twins—Pollux (the brighter) and Castor—form a nearly straight line with the

Garfield Lake Ice Races

1/23/2022
By Dennis Peterson

The Garfield Lake Ice Races were back on the ice track in Laporte, Mn. for week two of the season on Sunday with 27 ice racers ready to race in the A and B class. The heat races went smoothly and the track conditions were good. But as the day wore on track conditions became worse as the “snow dust” made visibility near impossible to race. Track officials made the call to suspend the races and resume with the features next Sunday January 30th. The heat races in both



#4 Bryan Karl, #38 Nate Zanter, #B2 Josh Sautbine and #T26 Nick Lewis charge to the starting line in Class A action.



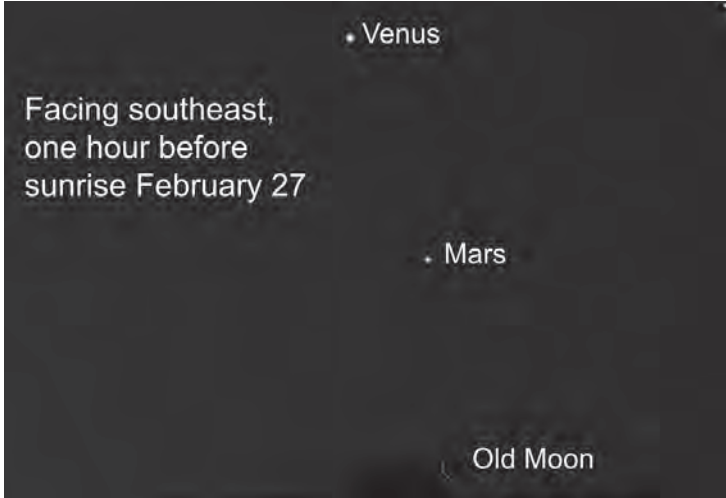
#34 Dan Riggs and #1 Bob Pawlitschek race down the front straight in the B class Sunday.



Nic Lewis carried the flag to open Sunday's races.



Husband and Wife race team of John #40 and Bonnie #89 Farrington race side by side in A class heat action.



moon. February's full moon shines from the jaws of Leo, the lion, the night of the 15th and will still be gorgeous when it rises on the evening of the 16th.

In the morning sky, brilliant Venus, in the southeast, spends much of the month climbing toward much dimmer Mars. A waning moon passes Spica, the brightest star in Virgo, the maiden, between the 20th and 21st and visits Antares, the heart of Scorpius, on the 24th. On the 27th, Venus, Mars and an old crescent moon stack up with Mars in the middle. To see all three, look to the southeast just as dawn starts to break.

the A and B classes will count when racing resumes at noon.

Set 1 B class heats
Heat 1: 1. Josh Bitker; 2. Abe Forseman; 3. Zach Tolman; 4. Reed Watson; 5. Joel Harvey
Heat 2: 1. Sam Delaney; 2. Bob Pawlitschek; 3. Dan Riggs; 4. Skyler Smith; 5. Zach Tilberry
Set 1 A Class heats
Heat 1: 1. Bonnie Farrington; 2. John Farrington; 3. Kalin Honer; 4. Jon Geschwill; 5. Zach Tilberry
Heat 2: 1. Josh Sautbine; 2. Nate Zanter; 3. Nick Lewis; 4. Bryan Karl



"I'm going to say three words, and I want you to try to remember them. I'll ask you to repeat each one in a little while."

Apparently, this was routine for the visit I'd signed up for and knowing full well I do get distracted from time-to-time, I tried desperately to score well on the testing of my memory skills. Come on!

"The three words are cantaloupe, swing, and apartment." (Names have been changed... not to protect the innocent but truth-be-told, I can't remember them.) Anyway, you get the picture.

I repeated them over in my mind as she launched into a topic completely off topic. However, I remained focused on my three words. I knew I'd forget one or two without notes and soon, before she had a chance to ask me, I blurted out, "cantaloupe, swing, apartment!"

She smiled and said she was not yet ready to ask me what they were, and on she rambled.



ing about getting one of those fuzzy steering wheel covers. I think they will help keep my hands warm while driving. But my question is, are they legal?

Answer: Steering wheel covers are legal. A quick reminder

Theology in the Trenches

By Kathleen Kjolhaug

Three Words

Soon, she turned and asked me what the three words were. I immediately provided her with the answer and to my delight, got them all correct!

It was obvious the goal was to make this short and simple during this initial welcome visit to this phase of life, and honestly, I was just fine with that. If they could document my memory as being A-Okay, I was A-Okay with that!

Days later I could not recall the three words, but I could recall details of another conversation we had. When body language speaks louder than words, when opinions ramp up and voice intonations reflect deeply held convictions, when we listen instead of speaking, it's easier to remember. When fear rises in the eyes of the one speaking, the mind's eye remembers and this practitioner who had been pinch hitting from the floor above, had spoken plenty.

She rambled willy-nilly about her opinions, giving advice where none had been solicited.

When she left the room,

Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol

though - it's always the driver's responsibility to keep control of the vehicle at all times, even if the steering wheel cover becomes loose. Every driver is responsible for knowing the actual and potential hazards on the highway and using due care in operating a vehicle. This includes on snow, ice, slush, frost, wet roads or any type of conditions.

I could have done one of two things. I could have spoken with her supervisor and most likely she would have been reprimanded. Or, I could forget all about it. I chose the latter.

On the other hand, I was thrilled with the amount of information I actually could remember weeks after the three words in question had been forgotten. And I'm still feeling better than A-Okay about that.

In case I've already written an article about this particular day I'm referencing, please forgive me because I truly don't remember.

Phil. 3:12-14 is a favorite. "Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on...because Christ Jesus has made me His own...this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus."

It's perfectly A-Okay to forget that which lies behind and strain to what lies ahead. Press on. Amen.

Cold Weather and Hard Work

By Auctioneer Eric W. Mickelson

Cold weather causes trouble for everyone. Cars that don't start and so on. But, on the farm it seems there are many instances where cold weather causes even more problems. Yes, car or pickup won't start, tractor won't start, water freezes, animals in distress..... it seems when it gets frigid is when the problems occur.

But we have it pretty easy, if you think back to the "good old days!" I was visiting with dad and I asked him to give me a rundown of a day after they had moved to Oklee. Often my grandfather, Ames Mickelson, would go work in the woods for a few months in the winter. That would leave dad and grandma at home. Over the summer they had done some haying north of the Trail/Gully area. So that winter this was what a day was frequently like.....

Get up early, milk the cows and clean the barn, probably before breakfast. After breakfast start the 1949 B John Deere and hook it to the hayrack and head to Oklee. Once in Oklee put on a couple dollars of gas on the tractor. Then off to the loose hay stack north of Trail. He would meet his brother-in-law, Alvin Stroh, at the field. Alvin was driving a U Minneapolis Moline and came from his farm between Oklee and Trail. There they would each load a rack full of loose hay by hand. When they were done loading dad said often the school bus would be coming by. Then back home again. Dad was a bit jealous of Alvin. His U MM could really cruise in road gear and he also

had a canvas Heat-Houser on the Moline. Dad would head back through Oklee where he said it was about getting dark. Finally back home again it was once again milking time. Probably some of the hay would be needed to be unloaded for the evening feeding!

Next time I complain about having to start the tractor on a cold day and haul out a round bale....I am just going to shut up! We pretty much have it made! Those of you who spent many days like this like my dad, or my grandpas, you definitely have my respect. This is the background and some of the history of farming and I salute everyone who spent their days like this in order to make a living and show the rest of us what hard work is about!

How about a little tractor trivia!

- What year did the model B John Deere come out?
A) 1935 B) 1938 C) 1939 D) 1941
- What Farmall model was the model B John Deere somewhat in competition with, when it was released?
A) F-20 B) F-30 C) F-12 D) Model H
- T or F More John Deere B's were produced than any other John Deere model.
- The BR and BO were standard tread versions of the model B. What did BO stand for?
- What is the official name

of the "yellow paint" color used on MM tractors?

Answers: 1. A) 1935 2. C) F-12 3. True 4. Model B Orchard 5. Prairie Gold

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