



Tri County Canary

A supplement of the:
• Leader-Record • McIntosh Times • Grygla Eagle
• Red Lake County Herald (Oklee, Plummer - Brooks - Red Lake Falls)

Clearwater-Polk Electric holds 77th annual meeting

The gym at the Clearbrook Community Center gym was packed when Clearwater Polk Electric held their annual meeting. The meal started at 4:30 p.m. served by staff from the Clearbrook-Gonvick school. They served a meatball and mashed potato supper, to the many who registered.

The National Anthem and Invocation were done by Stacy Peterson and General Manager Deanna Lefebvre. She also introduced the guests.

Clearwater-Polk Attorney Adam Bothun introduced the board and explained the voting process. There were three positions available with one candidate per position. District 2, Greg Renner for a 3-year term. District 3 has two director positions with Doug Lindgren for a 3-year term and Betty Surdez for a 1-year term.

Angie Schneider the office & finance manager presented the Balance sheets for 2022 and 2023. The assets and equities and liabilities for 2022 was \$22,739,375. For the year 2023 the total was \$22,875,490.

This past summer the cooperative completed their 3-year Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program with the on-site safety inspections. They received a high rating overall.

Board members elected to Clearwater Polk



District 2 (3-yr term)
Greg Renner



District 3 (3-yr term)
Doug Lindgren



District 3 (1-yr term)
Betty Surdez

Clearwater-Polk Electric was ranked #1 in Minnesota and #32 nationally in a report released by the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporations. That was for their 10-year pole testing rotation cycle; Right-of-Way Maintenance; 4-year Construction Work Plan and Reduced Line Losses.

Emory Schmidt, Elvis impersonator entertained the group.

Greg Lanners announced his retirement and he was presented with a cake for his years of service. He was a Advocacy Committee member and then has served as District 3 Director from April 2018 to April 2024.

The round up that Clearwater-Polk members do each month has contributed to over \$682,000 to local non-profit organizations since the program began in 1997.

There were various booths for members to visit after they finished their meal. There also was a find Louie the Lighting Bug scavenger hunt. Jan

Marsh won the \$50 Visa gift card for the game.

Many prizes were drawn at the end of the meeting. Dustin Olson was the Clearwater Polk \$250 energy certificate. Wayne and Darlene Johnson won the Stuart Irby large Arctic cooler. Many \$25 gift cards were given from various business places in the area.

Plants were also given away to a few people.



Emory Schmidt, Elvis impersonator, entertained the group.



Deanna Lefebvre, Clearwater-Polk Electric General Manager and Angie Schneider, Office and Finance Manager were busy at the 77th annual meeting of Clearwater Polk Electric.



Tara Webb, Members Service Representative at Clearwater-Polk Electric, lining up the prize drawing tickets at the annual meeting.



Farm safety was one of the stops at the Clearwater Polk Annual meeting.



Tammie Ehlers and Robin Proffit served over 200 at the Clearwater-Polk meeting.



Meatballs and mashed potatoes were served for the 77th annual meeting.



Registering the many who attended the 77th annual Clearwater-Polk Electric 77th annual meeting were from left to right: Angie Swenson, Accountant; Todd Waggoner, Operations Manager and Teresa Olson, Cashier, Receptionist.



One of the displays the the annual meeting.



Visiting and enjoying the meal at the 77th annual Clearwater-Polk Electric meeting.



From left to right: Stephanie McKnight, Dr. Cheryl White, CALS representative, Nina Bradfield, Gino Defalco, Callen Weispfennig.

Essentia Health-Fosston recognized for quality rural emergency care

Essentia Health-Fosston has been designated by the Comprehensive Advanced Life Support Program (CALS) as a CALS Hospital.

The CALS Hospital designation represents an institutional commitment to quality rural emergency medical care. It recognizes the clinicians who have completed the education and the administrators who provided the infrastructure for this achievement.

Essentia Health-Fosston met the criteria at the highest possible level, with 100% of emergency care team leaders completing the CALS Provider course and the CALS Trauma Module. In addition to leadership, several other clinical staff have completed this education, demonstrating their commitment to the CALS principles.

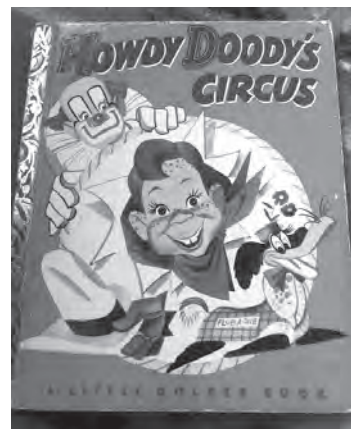
"This designation reflects our long-standing commitment to providing exceptional emergency care for our patients in Fosston and the surrounding

communities," said Tanner Godrich, senior vice president of operations for Essentia's West Market. "By participating in these courses, our staff maintain a high level of competency and are able to hone the skills required to provide expert, compassionate care in often traumatic situations. We want to be here for our patients when they are most vulnerable."

Essentia Health-Fosston has hosted CALS 12 times since 2003.

CALS is a program designed to prepare medical personnel in a team approach to anticipate, recognize and treat life-threatening emergencies. CALS provides a comprehensive, realistic, team-based approach to handling emergency medicine in rural settings. Developed in 1996 because of collaboration among emergency medicine, family physicians, rural practitioners, academic specialists, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and para-

medics, it is now a premier education program for rural health care providers



"It's Howdy Doody time; it's Howdy Doody time, it's time to start the show, so kids, let's go." The Howdy Doody TV show debuted on December 27, 1947, and lasted until September 24, 1960. Elementary kids coming home from school had one objective: tune in at 4:30 to see Buffalo Bob Smith, the host, and his cast of Howdy Doody characters, including Clarabell the Clown, Dilly Dally, Princess Summerfallwinterspring, and others.

The Howdy Doody show pioneered children's programming and was the most popular TV show for the baby boomer generation. For this reason, Hoody Doody, from Doodyville, collectibles, and memorabilia remain, to some extent, popular today. There are still quite a few baby boomers around.

A Hoody Doody tin windup toy band sells for about \$500, and a doll for about \$400, among hundreds of other Hoody Doody items available to collectors. The Little Golden Book pictured sells for \$20.

One of the colorful characters was Clarabell, a clown who never talked. On the last show to air in 1960, his first and only words over the 13-year run of the series were "Goodbye Kids." We are thankful that Howdy Doody still says "Hello" to collectors today. Buffalo Bob Smith died in 1998 from cancer.

What's your Howdy Doody coloring book worth? That all depends.

John Eggers, 218-766-9009, envision@paulbunyan.net



Did you know?

No one is immune to migraine headaches, including children. According to the American Migraine Foundation, approximately 10 percent of children experience migraines. Children may be more likely to experience migraines if a parent or both parents get them. The AMF notes that children with one parent who suffers from migraines have a 50 percent chance of getting them as well, and that increases to 75 percent among children who have two parents that experience migraines. Children may even exhibit signs of migraines as early as infancy, as the AMF reports that colic in infants is a potential early indicator of migraines in youngsters.



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R6C



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Saturday, May 4th, 2024
11:00 a.m.
River Heights
Lutheran Church
2214 10th Ave NW
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
The couple is registered at
Target, Amazon and Louie's
Mercantile in McIntosh

Polk County Sheriff

Cattle Truck Rollover

On 4/19/2024 at approximately 0204 hours, the Polk County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a rollover near the intersection of Polk County Roads 1 and 31, approximately three miles west of the City of Fosston.

Upon arrival, deputies located a Peterbilt semi with an attached trailer loaded with cattle. Both units were on their side in the ditch immediately west of the road, and both sustained significant damage as a result of the crash.

Local community members and the Fosston Fire Department assisted in removing cattle from the trailer. Also responding were Fosston Essentia Ambulance and the Minnesota State Patrol.

The semi driver, Richard Hulleman, 34, of Alton, IA, sustained minor injuries in the crash and was transported to Fosston Essentia by ambulance.

The Polk County Sheriff's Office would like to thank those in the community that responded and assisted.

No further information will be released at this time.

Fosston Police Chief, Jim Juve

State Fire Marshal division determines preliminary cause of April 5 house fire

FOSSTON, Minn. — Improper use of a holiday light cord likely caused a house fire Friday, April 5 in Fosston, according to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshal (SFM) division's preliminary investigation.

Fosston Police Chief Jim Juve reminded residents that holiday light cords should be used for one purpose only — to plug in holiday lights, not other devices. He also urged people not to use extension cords in combination with power (plug-in) strips.

"A house fire is devastating for those involved, which is why our fire department partners always say 'the best fire is one that never starts in the first place,'" said Fosston Police Chief Jim Juve. "Using those cords improperly may not seem like a big deal, but it is."

The home's occupant escaped uninjured from the single-family residence located in the 700 block of 1st Street East.

"This incident could have just as easily ended in tragedy. We're thankful it didn't," Juve said.

**FAX SERVICE at
Richards Publishing
Gonvick**

DINING & entertainment

Smelt Fry

Saturday, April 27th, 2024
2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
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Adults: \$17.00
Children 12 and under: \$10.00

• Smelt • Baked Potato • Coleslaw • Beans • Dinner Roll

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Starting at 58¢s
Progressive Blackout 6pm,
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Friday, April 26th • 80's Party
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Thank You!

On behalf of Immanuel and Redeemer Lutheran Churches of Plummer, we would like to extend a special Thank You to all who came and participated in any way to make our sidewalk replacement project such a wonderful success.

Special Thanks goes to the Plummer Lions and Lions Too clubs and Thrivent Insurance for making our fund raiser a overwhelming success. We are so grateful to be part of such a wonderful community.

**CLEARWATER COUNTY LAND
COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE OF
INTERMEDIATE ORAL BID**

Notice is hereby given that under the provisions of Chapter 355, Laws of 1941, as amended, tracts of timber will be offered for sale without the sale of land at **9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, May 7th** in the third floor room of the Courthouse, 213 Main Avenue North, Bagley, Minnesota. **All bidders must have completed a Contractor Application prior to 4:30 P.M. on Friday, May 3, 2024.** Information regarding the sale is available at the Land Commissioner's office, Clearwater County Courthouse, 213 Main Ave N, Bagley, MN or on the County website, www.co.clearwater.mn.us.

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Address: 18345 390th Ave SE, Trail, MN 56684
Phone: 218-556-0736

R2-9C

**RLCC COACHING POSITIONS
AVAILABLE 2024-25:**

Volleyball Head Coach & Assistant Volleyball Coach
*Positions open until filled. Letter of Application and Resume to:

Kate Moll
Activities Director
RLCC High School
PO Box 100
Oklee, MN 56742
(List prior volleyball coaching experience in resume)



051in



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Ultima Bank Minnesota is seeking a Customer Service Representative for its Fosston location.

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- Answering inbound calls.
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To apply, email resume to: rebecca@ultimabank.com

R6-7C

**RUMMAGE
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Gonvick Community Center
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R6C

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R5-6C

CUSTODIAL HELP WANTED

The Clearbrook-Gonvick School has openings for 2 full-time custodial cleaners or part-time custodial cleaners. Job requirements include the ability to thoroughly clean while paying attention to detail with some lifting and bending required.

These are 12 month positions which include the following benefits: PERA retirement plan, paid holidays, sick time, personal time, and vacation time after 1 year. Wage range is \$15.27-\$17.36 per hour dependent on years of previous experience. Must be able to pass a background check. Applications can be found on our school website or call Melissa Weems at 218-776-3112 Ext. 105 with any questions or to have an application emailed to you.

Please submit application, resume, and letter of interest to:

Melissa Weems, HR
16770 Clearwater Lake Rd
Clearbrook, MN 56634
mweems@clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us



R5-9C

ENERGY AUDITOR

Inter-County Community Council is accepting applications for an opening in our Weatherization Department:

Energy Auditor: Responsible for assessing energy efficiency and health and safety conditions in client's homes, prescribing cost effective remedies and providing clients with energy conservation and health and safety education. Experience in carpentry, home rehabilitation, heating systems or related fields. Full time/40 Hours per week working out of our Oklee 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 ICCC, attn.: Human Resources, PO Box 189, Oklee, MN 56742 or hr@intercountycouncil.org. Applications must be received by 4:30PM on Monday, April 22. Call 218-796-5144 x1016 for more information about the position.

ICCC is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.



R4-6C

Clearwater County
Auditor-Treasurer Clerk/Board Coordinator

Applications are being accepted for an Auditor-Treasurer Clerk/ Board Coordinator position, under the general supervision of the Clearwater County Auditor-Treasurer. This position is responsible for providing clerical, secretarial, customer support services, and recordkeeping activities within the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office. Also, servers as County Boards coordinator, compiles, assembles and distribute agenda items and supporting documentation. Responsible for keeping accurate Board minutes and processing deeds and property tax and passport applications.

Desired education requirements are a Degree in business, finance or related field or a minimum of two years' experience directly involving clerical, secretarial and general office administrative procedures. Essential knowledge of computer operations and the use of business productivity software and applications.

Applications may be obtained from the Clearwater County Service Center located on the second floor of the Clearwater County Courthouse or the website at www.co.clearwater.mn.us.

Salary range is \$19.38-25.34 an hour with full time benefits. Applications must be submitted to Allen Paulson, Clearwater County Auditor-Treasurer by May 10th, 2024.

R6C

**SUBMIT YOUR
EMPLOYMENT ADS
to richards@gvtel.com**

Richards Publishing
Gonvick 487-5225

**CLEARWATER COUNTY
DEPUTY ASSESSOR**

Applications are being accepted for a Deputy Assessor position, under the general supervision of the County Assessor. This position performs a variety of property appraisal tasks including: viewing, inspection, valuation, and classification of property for tax purposes, updating department records pertaining to current assessments and property data and responding to information requests regarding property value, classification, and taxes. This position is also responsible for responding to concerns regarding assessments and interpreting regulations and statutes to seek and resolve disagreements and disputes, reviewing and analyzing Clearwater County property sales data as a resource for determine assessments and utilizing maps and other technologies to complete assessment work.

Applicant must have a high school diploma or equivalent and minimum of 2 years additional education; be a Certified Minnesota Assessor (CMA) or have a minimum 2 year's assessment, real estate or appraiser experience preferred but not required. Must have a valid driver's license. Experience using a computer and Microsoft Office is required. Must be proficient in computer skills and willing to learn various software applications.

Starting salary is \$23.42-30.60 an hour with full time benefits. Applications must be submitted to Allen Paulson, Clearwater County Auditor-Treasurer no later than May 10th, 2024

Applications may be obtained from the Clearwater County Service Center located on the 2nd floor of the Courthouse or on the website at www.co.clearwater.mn.us.

R6-7C



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Wednesday, April 24, 2024

TRI-COUNTY CANARY 3



AREA OWNERS ONLINE AUCTION

Bidding Opens Thursday, April 25th

Bidding Starts to Close Thurs., May 2nd - 6 PM

For Online Bidding Go To: mcmullensales.hibid.com

Items to Include: 14 Cat 279D Track Loader, 2020 Bobcat CT2540 w/Loader, 2-Motor homes, 4 Bumper pull Campers, Pickup Camper, Tractors, Equipment, Boats, Pontoon, Jet Ski, Dump Truck, Trucks, Cars, SUV, Polaris Rangers, Arctic Cat Prowler, ATV's, Motorcycles, Dirt Bike, Lawn & Garden, Golf Cart, Skid Steer Attachments, 3 pt. Equipment, Shop Equipment, 150+ Firearms, WWII Collectibles, Ammo, Hunting & Fishing Items, Bear Traps, Tools, Antiques & Collectibles, Restaurant Equipment, Outdoor Items, Plus Many More Items over 1000 Lots Selling

Items Located at
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Thief River Falls, MN



McMULLEN Auctioneers

218-681-3960 or mcmullensales@mncable.net

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Open a checking account with us and start receiving the great benefits our account-holders enjoy.

Call or stop in and let me explain what we have to offer!



Kaitlyn Ringeisen

Security STATE BANK
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Phone
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SALEM CEMETERY FUND



The Salem Lutheran Church remains committed to the respectful preservation, enhancement, and beautification of the sacred resting grounds for our cherished family members and loved ones.

Our ability to fulfill this mission relies greatly on the generous contributions of dedicated individuals within our community and beyond. Your support is essential in ensuring the continual upkeep, beautification efforts, and the meeting of operational needs for the cemetery.

We kindly invite you to consider how you can contribute to financing the ongoing maintenance, beautification projects, and the rising costs of these sacred grounds. Please complete the form below and accompany it with your generous donation, sending it to:

Salem Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund
PO Box 56, Oklee, MN 56742

Name: _____ This gift in the amount of \$ _____ is given
In Memory of: _____
Address: _____ In Honor of: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Grandpa at Niagara Falls

By Eric Mickelson

I am one lucky guy! My son and daughter-in-law asked me to travel cross country with them as they head for Bangor, Maine, where she will have her next traveling nurse contract. What do you think I said... .."YES!" We left from Minneapolis/St. Paul and spent our first night near Racine, Wisconsin. The next night we made it to the Toledo, Ohio area. From there we stopped in Cleveland, Ohio, and crossed the corner of Pennsylvania into New York. We headed for Niagara Falls and crossed into Canada to catch the better view of the falls. What a sight for the grandpa who had never seen them before. It got me to thinking.....

Niagara Falls is a group of three waterfalls at the southern end of Niagara Gorge. It is on the border between the province of Ontario in Canada and the state of New York in the United States. The largest of the falls is Horseshoe Falls, which straddles the international border of the two countries. It is also known as the Canadian Falls. The smaller American Falls and Bridal Veil Falls lie within the US.

Formed by the Niagara River, which drains Lake Erie into Lake Ontario before going out to the Atlantic by the Saint Lawrence River. The combined falls have the highest flow rate of any waterfall in North America that has a vertical drop of more than 160 ft. During peak daytime tourist hours, more than 5.9 million cu. ft. of water goes over the crest of the falls every minute! Yes, EVERY MINUTE! Horseshoe Falls is the most powerful waterfall in North America, as measured by the rate of the flow. Niagara Falls is famed for its beauty and is also a valuable source of hydroelectric power. Balancing recreational, commercial, and industrial uses has been a challenge!

Many of us have heard the stories of those who went over the falls in a barrel, or walked the high wire across them. On October 24, 1901, a 63-year-old schoolteacher named Annie Edson Taylor becomes the first person to successfully take the plunge over Niagara Falls in a barrel.

After her husband had died in the Civil War, Taylor who was born in New York moved all over the U. S. before settling in Bay City, Michigan, around 1898. In July 1901, while reading an article about the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, she learned of the growing popularity of the falls located on the border of upstate New York and Canada. She was in need of cash and seeking fame, she came up with an attention-getting idea: She would go over Niagara Falls in a barrel!

Taylor chose to take the plunge on her birthday, October 24. With the help of two assistants, Taylor strapped herself into a harness inside a custom made wooden barrel that was five feet high and three feet in diameter. With cushions lining the barrel to break her fall, Taylor was towed by a small boat into the middle of the fast-flowing Niagara River and cut loose.

She was shaken violently from side to side by the rapidly flowing water and then thrown over the edge of Horseshoe Falls! She reached the shore alive, although a bit battered. After a brief flurry of photo-ops and speaking engagements, Taylor's fame subsided, and she



was unable to make the fortune she had hoped for. She did, however, inspire several copy-cat daredevils. Between 1901 and 1995. In that time about 15 people went over the falls with 10 of them surviving. Among those who died were Jesse Sharp, who took the plunge in a kayak in 1990, and Robert Overcracker, who used a jet ski in 1995. No matter the method, going over Niagara Falls is NOT LEGAL, and survivors face charges and stiff fines on either side of the border!

Well, I did not attempt to



go over the falls! I simply took some pictures and enjoyed the company of my son, Nick, daughter in law, Nicole, and grandchildren Archer and Juniper! May I add the views were spectacular but the company I shared the experience with was awesome!

I may have to arrange a trip back again, then my dear wife, Patty, can also attend. But, as for now I am simply enjoying the trip of a lifetime with my family. Did I mention being a grandpa is AWESOME!

Starting Seeds in Zone 3

By Master Gardener Rebecca Snyder's

Zone 3 is the place to be for gardening! Once you get used to the challenges (frigid winter temperatures and a short growing season), there is a lot of opportunity to grow many types of vegetables and flowers. When you come to the County Fair in August, make sure to stop by the Horticulture building and see the amazing produce grown in our area. If you are willing to put in planning time and work, you can grow your own vegetables from seed.

If you look at the Growing Zone map, you will see that our area is in the coldest growing zone in the lower 48 states. When I moved to the area in 2000, Bemidji was in Zone 2a/2b, so maybe global warming has some upsides (haha). While our season for growing may be short, our long hours of summer sun give plants the extra energy they need so they can be competitive with Minneapolis and Iowa by the end of the growing season.

Starting plants from seeds

at home can save you money, but not right away. It will take a few years to earn back your investment.

Creating the Indoor Environment

There are a lot of possibilities for growing containers, from biodegradable pots to peat pellets and more. I have had the best success with black plastic containers. After selecting your container, set up a dedicated indoor seed starting area. Use grow lights to supplement sunlight and maintain a consistent soil temperature between 65-75°F. To accomplish this, you will need a heating mat which comes with a sensor you can put in the soil to maintain the temperature. You will also need to keep the soil evenly moist but not waterlogged.

The next step is to plant the seeds into the containers. Before you get the fun part (planting the seeds), make sure you read the directions on the seed pack for best results. You will also want to make sure you label the pots so that you know what you

planted!

Transplanting your seedlings

There are some seeds (like spinach, carrots, radishes, and more) that you can plant directly into the ground as soon as the soil is workable and get a harvest within a month or two depending on the vegetable. But if you want vegetables such as tomatoes, peppers or eggplants, you will need to start them from seed indoors 6-10 weeks before the last average frost date.

A week before you plan to put the seedlings in the ground, you will need to harden them off (this is true for the seedlings you grew as well as any you buy from the greenhouse). This is done over the course of a week by placing them outdoors in the sun and wind for increasing amounts of time. The first day you do this, start with 20 minutes leaving them outside, and then increase the time 30 minutes each day after that. If seedlings are not hardened off, they will not be acclimated to direct sunlight and wind be-

fore they are planted outside, which will result in sun burn and stress for the plants which will weaken their health.

Typically, the last frost date happens in the last couple of weeks of May. Many local gardeners plant their frost-sensitive plants over Memorial Day weekend. This year the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend is May 25, which is earlier than usual. Make sure to check the weather forecast to see that there are no temperatures below 40 degrees in the long-term forecast. I choose 40 degrees because if the prediction is lower than that, some local areas will get

frost due to variability in temperatures. And be ready to cover these plants with frost blankets or row covers if the forecast changes and frost becomes a possibility.

Water your new seedlings deeply, making sure the moisture gets down into the soil a few inches. Mulching around your plants can help regulate soil temperature and retain moisture, promoting healthy growth throughout the season.

Finally, take time to sit back and admire your work and dream of the bountiful harvest to come.

Happy gardening!

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Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol

Question: I know it has been extremely dry but with the anticipation of “April showers” can you talk about hydroplaning?

Answer: At speeds of 35 mph or less, most tires will “wipe” water off the road surface to keep tires in contact with the road. At higher speeds, water can collect under tires and lift them off the surface of the road — this is called “hydroplaning.”

When your tires hydroplane, they lose all contact with the

road. If this occurs, you will be unable to brake, accelerate, or change direction. If your tires begin to hydroplane, take your foot off the gas pedal.

Hydroplaning is less likely to occur at normal highway speeds if your vehicle is equipped with good tires that have deep treads, which will allow water to escape. But hydroplaning can occur at any speed if the depth of the water on the road is greater than the depth of the tire treads. In heavy rain, standard cars may begin to hydroplane at 35 mph.

To prevent hydroplaning,

keep your tires in good condition and reduce speed when driving on wet roads.

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).



Theology in the Trenches

By Kathleen Kjolhaug

There’s No Place Like Home

The worn letters upon the pillow must have held many a head. After all, the tiny cloth hearts which had once held fast, were now curling at the edges, but readable yet, were the words stitched on the small rectangular pillow. “There’s no place like home.”

The homey plaids quilting the border of it were reminiscent of days at G and G’s (grandpa and grandma’s) house on the hill. When the final sale of their home took place, whatever was left behind was up for grabs and thus, I grabbed it.

Within our cabin it had remained for years. Now, someone else was going to be renting it for a season or two and as we closed the door behind our final walk through, I grabbed the small pillow.

Why? Because we were off to see grandma. As Grandpa was now gone, perhaps the pillow could comfort by conjuring up

any memory or two.

As we entered grandma’s space with the pillow in hand, waiting for the right time to bring it out, her reaction did not disappoint. The light in her eyes twinkled. When it was lifted within eye range, a smile formed and the delight from the light within soon made its way out into the room for all to see. With a nod of recognition, she tenderly touched the fabric and the words came.

“Do you recognize this?” I gently prodded.

“Why yes, I sure do!” Her voice catching as evidence of the memories it held while she now held it.

Full circle that pillow went from the hill to the cabin to her home now in a town far away. The hands which made it, to those who held fast the softness offered—offered rest for the soul with comfort—which was no doubt the intention of the craftsman who’d sewn it long ago.

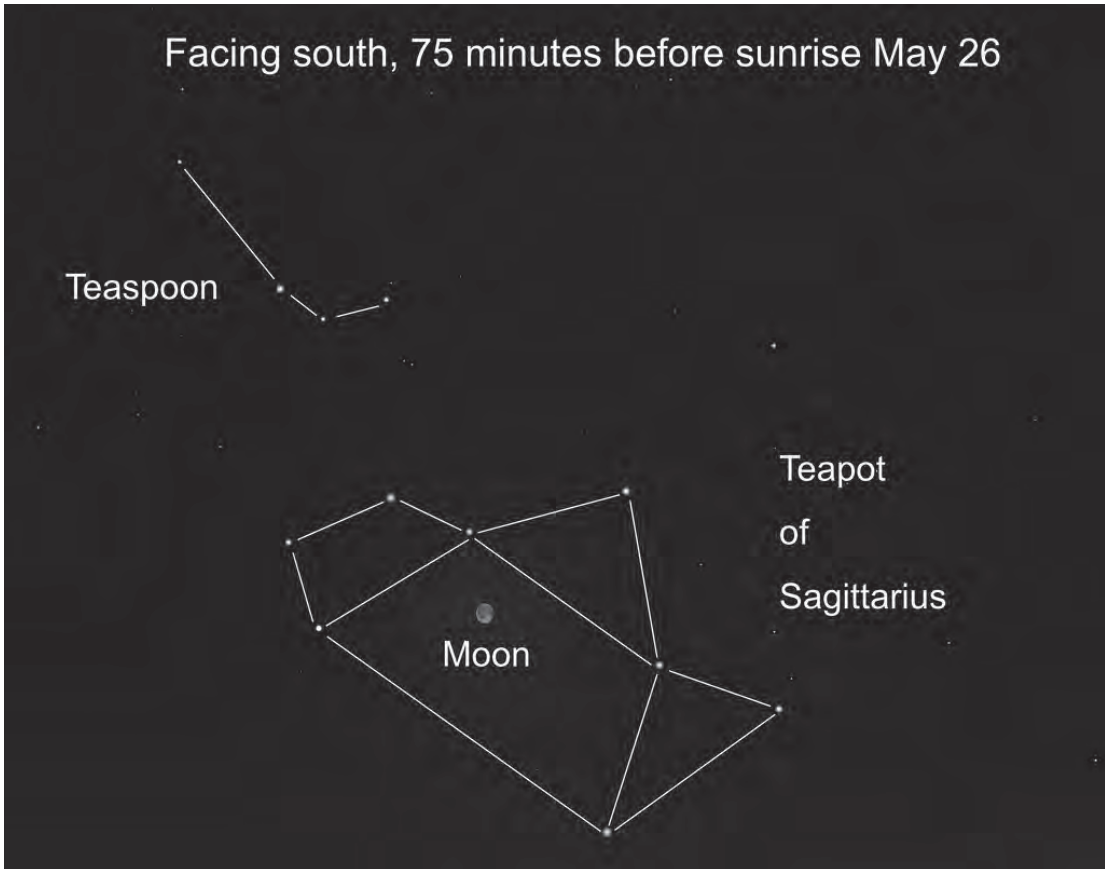
I suppose so much of life is

like that. We cling not to things so much as the memories those things bring. The seasons of life, the growth spurts, the visitors, the scents and smells of what pockets of love look like are all pocketed within and come out when we least expect it.

Stepping into the familiar erupts with candles lit, a burning fire, a taste of the morsels of food offered and the playing of games. The sights and smells of the pines linger and resurrect that which lies dormant deep within.

So good for the soul it is to make memories and to hold them, each one—as they are, you know—sacred above the din of the white noise covering.

Lest we forget—may we remember Hebrews3:4. “For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.” May the memories being built by our things be as unto the Lord. Amen.



Minnesota Starwatch May 2024

By Deane Morrison

In May the evening sky ushers out the bright winter stars and nudges Leo, the lion—the most prominent spring constellation—toward the western exit. Nightfall comes late, but when it does it reveals the sec-

ond and third brightest stars in our night sky.

High in the southeast blazes Arcturus, the brightest star in the northern hemisphere of sky. Only marginally dimmer, brilliant Vega shines lower in the northeast to east. Both stars

climb throughout the month, along with their constellations. At 37 light-years distant, Arcturus anchors kite-shaped Bootes, the herdsman, while Vega, at 25 light-years, dominates the small constellation Lyra, the lyre.

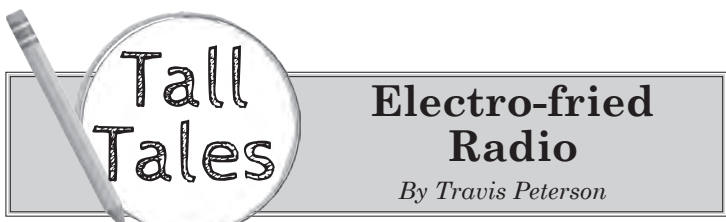
In the second half of May, Spica—the only bright star in Virgo, the maiden—will be almost due south at nightfall, below and slightly west of Arcturus. Spica contains two stars, both larger than the sun, separated by just 11 million miles, or 12 percent of Earth’s distance from the sun. These stars orbit their common center of mass in just four days. It’s thought that their intense mutual gravity deforms both stars into an egg-like shape.

The moon begins the month in the morning sky. Just before dawn on the 3rd, it appears close above the eastern horizon, to the right of Saturn. After beginning a new cycle on the 7th, it visits the Gemini twin stars on the 12th; Regulus, in Leo, on the 15th; and Spica on the 19th. The night of the 22nd to 23rd, May’s full moon traces a low arc across the sky.

The waning moon appears in the middle of the Teapot of Sagittarius in the predawn hours of the 26th. On the 31st it shines below Saturn, which is rapidly moving up and westward through the morning sky. Far to the lower left of the ringed planet, a barely visible Mars is slowly climbing as Earth gains on it in the orbital race.

pulse of energy,” the man grins with mischievous delight. “An electromagnetic pulse of energy to be exact. A surge like that permanently disables anything electronic. We’re talking irreversible damage to a wide range of electrical and electronic equipment. Two-way radios, CB radios, your cheap CD player. They wanted to make sure you couldn’t communicate what you weren’t supposed to be seeing.”

This informative fellow looks as if he’s been struck by lightning at least once, maybe even twice, and now chooses to live underground in the sewers. But yet, for some reason, I believe every word he says.



Back in the late 1900s, a friend and I were cruising home after seeing a movie at the drive-in theater in Warren, MN. The road north was empty, long, and dark and being the teenagers that we were, we decided to drive a little slower so we could enjoy our freedom if just for a couple songs longer.

We had started a band that summer and our current conversation consisted of fantasizing about how awesome it would be to cover some Black Sabbath songs. Luckily, I had their greatest hits CD in my glove box.

Just as I insert the CD and turn up the volume, a low-flying, jet-powered aircraft roars over the top of my 1990 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme. This bird is full throttle, down and dirty, well below 200 hundred feet, blowing a raunchy blue flame out of its tail cone.

I instinctively stomp on the accelerator to chase this thing down, redlining it in every gear trying to catch up to this, to this... UFO?

My buddy and I are beside ourselves in speculation on what exactly it is we are chasing. We can’t take our eyes off of it. Then, only a few short miles ahead of us, this thing makes a surprise landing and four pairs of automobile headlights flip on and start driving towards the aircraft from a variety of different directions. Unidentified flying object to us, yes, but not to the agents out here lurking around at 1 a.m. waiting for this thing to land.

At this point, my friend and I determined it’s probably some sort of covert, zero-hour test flight taking place out here in

the unlit, vacant vast expanse of the northern Red River Valley. Nevertheless, we charge towards the vehicle lights, not once considering the potential repercussions of approaching and pestering those in charge of this midnight maneuver.

Getting closer and closer to the lights, within a mile, then boomp, all the lights go out. All dark, no trace. We drive around for an hour. We find nothing. We see nothing. No headlights, taillights, or even brake lights. Anywhere.

It was about the time we decided to give up looking for the supersonic space plane that we realized my radio wasn’t working. I push the power button, no response, no display. I push the eject button, no noises, no nothing. It was a reasonably priced aftermarket CD player/radio, so maybe, coincidentally, its time was up.

The following weekend I popped the radio out of the dash and brought it into the electronics store where I bought it. When I returned a few hours later, the service technician was eager to speak to me. He told me he doesn’t understand why or how, but the entire device, CD player and radio, appear to be fried. He asked me to tell him again what I figured could have caused this mystifying malfunction.

I begin giving the technician a deeply detailed description about the middle-of-the-night close encounter out on the moonless back road when a scraggly-looking man wearing a tattered trench coat loudly interrupts from across the store.

“They zapped you with a



I didn’t know too much about the Schwartz Company. My first real contact was when I bought an old U Minneapolis Moline at Selmer and Sis Christianson’s auction sale, several years ago. The U MM ran but was kind of a fixer upper, although we used it to pull wagons around the farm from time to time. I remember one time my dad’s brother, Ralph, came out to visit one fall. He would often come and stay for a few days. A few evenings when Ralph was there he and I would go bale a little straw. It usually happened at around milking time. Dad would milk and Ralph and I would bale. He drove the 4010 and I would ride the rack. We usually had time to knock out a load but it was often getting dark as we finished. We’d unhook the 4010 and baler from the rack and I would hook the U MM onto the load and haul it to the stack. The thing I remember most was my uncle Ralph. By the third night he asked me, “Is it dark enough to bale yet?” We often laugh at Ralph’s joke.....it was quite true! Well that story also reminded me of driving that U MM. You see that U had a Schwartz wide front.

Schwartz Manufacturing, a Minnesota company, opened for business in Dec. 8, 1941. Of course most of you would recognize that was the day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. The company was started by Elmer Schwartz and his brother Norman. It was quite a natural thing for the brothers to open their new business. They had a welding shop and had built a lot of custom equipment for their neighbors. During the war they were very creative, as many farmers had to be, using parts from other vehicles and equipment to make repairs and build their inventions.

In 1945, Elmer bought out Norman’s share of the business and began mass producing loaders for farm tractors. After that Schwartz added other products to its list including wide front ends for tractors. I found an advertisement in

July 1965 Successful Farming magazine. It said, “Load Faster with this Schwartz BIG FARM LOADER!” and “Turn Tighter on Schwarz WIDE FRONT AXLES!” By the 1970’s Schwartz was a subsidiary of Chromalloy American Corporation. By 2005 the original Minnesota office was closed.

I am glad I picked up that old Successful Farming magazine to take a look. Schwartz.....another interesting story of a Minnesota entrepreneur!

How about a little tractor trivia!

1. What Minnesota town is home to The Schwartz Company?
A) St. Cloud B) Dodge

Center C) Lester Prairie D) Eden Prairie

2. True or False: The Schwartz Company also manufactured truck hoists.

3. How many counties are there in the state of Minnesota?
A) 36 B) 52 C) 87 D) 99

4. What county is Lester Prairie, MN located in?
A) Stearns B) McLeod C) St. Louis D) Kandiyohi

5. What is the name of the “yellow” paint color on a Minneapolis Moline tractor?

Answers: 1. C. Lester Prairie 2. True 3. C. 87 4. B. McLeod 5. Prairie Gold

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LAWN & GARDEN WORD SEARCH				Answers on page 6
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BLOOMING	EDGE	LANDSCAPING	SCENT	
BORDER	FERTILIZE	LAWN	SHRUBS	
COMPOST	GARDEN	MOSSY	SUNLIGHT	
CUT	GREEN	MULCH	TRIMMING	
DRAINAGE	HEALTHY	POLLINATOR	WEEDS	

DNR offers tips for staying safe this off-highway vehicle season

Off-highway vehicles have been common sights across the state for weeks now, and they'll become more prevalent going forward, as trails open for use as conditions allow.

With what could be an unusually long riding season on tap, and the continued surge in the number of all-terrain vehicles registered in the state, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources urges all riders to make safety their top priority. During the past decade, an average of 19 people each year have been involved in fatal OHV crashes. In that same period, the number of registered machines has risen from about 377,000 to more than 520,500. While even one fatality is too many, the number of fatalities per registered ATV has been trending downward in recent years.

DNR safety officials said actively supervising young riders and making sure they properly fit the machine they're riding, wearing a DOT-approved helmet, using the seatbelt on machines equipped with them,

and completing a safety education course are among the top ways to ensure a safe ride.

"More and more people are figuring out what others have known a long time – riding an OHV is a good way to connect with the outdoors and enjoy our state's natural resources," said Capt. Jon Paurus, safety training education manager for the DNR Enforcement Division. "Whatever their experience level, we encourage all riders to take some time to refresh themselves on safety and help ensure they keep making positive memories for years to come."

Minnesota law requires anyone born after July 1, 1987, and who is 12 years or older, to complete safety certification before operating ATVs on public lands or waters, public road rights-of-way, and state or grant-in-aid trails. However, safety officials encourage all riders to complete safety training, as people who do so are less likely to be involved in serious crash.

Other ways riders can

help ensure a safe ride include:

- Wear a DOT-approved helmet. While only those under 18 are required to do so, it's recommended for all riders.
- Ride only on designated trails. Stay to the right and travel at a safe speed.
- Ride sober.
- Remember riders under age 15 are not allowed to operate Class 2 ATVs, except on private property. The DNR advises against riders under 15 operating Class 2 ATVs in any location.
- Wear a seatbelt if the machine is equipped.
- Wear protective gear including goggles, long sleeves, long pants, over-the-ankle boots, gloves and a DOT-approved helmet when riding all types of OHVs.
- Avoid riding on paved roads except to cross. Do it safely and ensure it's permitted by law.
- Actively supervise young riders. OHVs aren't toys.
- Complete a safety education course.

DFL Senate District 2 Endorsing Convention Held, Candidates Chosen

The Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota Senate District 2 held its Endorsing Convention on Tuesday, April 9, at the Bemidji Eagles Club in Bemidji, MN. There were 31 delegates representing district 2A and 26 delegates representing 2B, for a total of 57 delegates participating.

DFL Delegates from House District 2A endorsed Reed Olson of Bemidji as their candidate for MN House District 2A. Reed Olson, 48, is a small business owner, who has co-owned the Wild Hare Bistro, in Bemidji, since 2005. During the last five years, he has been a silent partner in the business while working as the Executive Director for the Nameless Coalition for the Homeless. This organization operates two shelters in Bemidji: an emergency overnight shelter and a drop-in day center. Reed Olson previously served on the Bemidji City Council for four years, and as a Beltrami County Commissioner for 6 years. Olson, originally from Litchfield, MN, has a Bachelor's Degree in history from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He moved to Bemidji in 1994.

DFL Delegates from House District 2B endorsed Michael Reyes of Cass Lake as their



Reed Olson, District 2A Candidate, and Michael Reyes, District 2B Candidate.

candidate for MN House District 2B. Michael Reyes, 40, of Cass Lake, works for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in Planning and Development. He writes grants and does strategic planning. He previously worked in law enforcement for 16 years, as a chief dispatcher, drug prevention officer and BIA data clerk. He is a volunteer Fire Fighter who has served for over ten years with the Cass Lake Fire Department. Michael Reyes is married with 5 children. He is

currently an elected official for the Pike Bay Township in Cass County.

The Senate District 2 DFL organization also elected officers for two-year terms. They elected new officers Curtiss Hunt as chair, Barbara Keinath as vice-chair, Sue Kraft as secretary, and two alternates to the State Central Committee, Jennifer O'Neil and Mike Simpkins. The organization re-elected Christian Taylor-Johnson as outreach officer and Mike Albrecht as treasurer.

Ohman to present two programs

By Pamela French

On Wednesday May 1st, 2024 Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning(NELL) is excited to be a part of a collaboration to bring you not one, but two amazing programs, with featured speaker Doug Ohman. Both programs will be at the Fosston Library & Arts Center. Programs one begins at 9:30 am. Doors open at 9:00am. Light refreshments will be served.

Doug Ohman is a well known speaker, historian, author, and storyteller, as well as an accomplished photographer of Minnesota's historic barns, churches, schoolhouses, libraries, cabins, prairies, lakes, and forests. He enjoys sharing the stories of the people who lived and worked within the buildings and on the land.

"Name That Minnesota Town" is the first program.



Doug will journey throughout the state of Minnesota, exploring various towns and villages. He will focus on the rich history of various locations with fun and interesting stories related to the town names. This program brought to you by Lake

Agassiz Regional Library with collaboration with Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning.

Following a short intermission the second program will begin; sometime between 11am and 11:15am. Light refreshments will be served.

"Going to Work - The New Deal in Minnesota": The 1930's was an interesting time in our nation's history. President Roosevelt helped to create a series of economic programs to respond to the Great Depression. Historians have called it the "3 Rs": Relief, Recovery, and Reform. Explore the back roads of Minnesota, State Parks, and urban settings with historian and photographer Doug Ohman as he discovers and shares the legacy foot print that remains from the WPA, PWA, CCC, NYA and the VCC. This program brought to you by East Polk Heritage Center.

NDSCS Diesel graduate selected by SkillsUSA for WorldSkills 2024

WAHPETON, N.D. — April 19, 2024 — SkillsUSA has selected NDSCS graduate Cale Mouser as the official competitor for Heavy Vehicle Technology at the 2024 WorldSkills Competition. Mouser will represent the United States at the 2024 WorldSkills Competition, which will be held September 10-15, 2024 in Lyon, France.

During his time as a student at NDSCS, Mouser, originally from Tenstrike, Minn., represented the state of North Dakota at the Skill-sUSA Championships in 2022 and 2023 and won a national bronze medal in 2022 and a national gold medal in 2023 in Diesel Equipment Technology.

Mouser credits his success in learning Diesel Equipment Technology to having a mentality that is driven and a mind that is open to learning. "Without my instructors and my employers not only teaching me but allowing me to work at my own pace to under-

stand the systems, I wouldn't have been successful."

Mouser says what he likes best about working in the trades is the variety, complexity, and the troubleshooting that each day brings. "There is no one day that is exactly like another."

"The 2024 WorldSkills USA team will have an amazing opportunity to represent Skill-sUSA and our nation while undergoing incredibly rigorous training in their craft," said SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis. "These team members are making a serious commitment to both their skill development and personal growth that will foster their drive, passion and life's purpose."

The 2024 WorldSkills Competition, the 47th annual worldwide event, will showcase dozens of trade skills from construction and building technology, manufacturing and engineering, transportation, and more. Over

1500 competitors from over 65 countries and regions will demonstrate their abilities in 62 skill competitions.

About being selected as part of the WorldSkills USA team, Mouser says, "It is impossible to put into words what an honor it is to represent the United States on a global level."

Follow Cale Mouser and the rest of the 2024 WorldSkills USA team online at www.worldskillsusa.org.

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Conservatives Rally Behind Duran and Bliss for MN House District Seats

Bemidji, Minnesota – Over the weekend, Republican delegates unanimously endorsed Bidal Duran Jr. for MN-House 2A and Representative Matt Bliss for 2B.

Duran, a Marine Corps Veteran with 11 years of service in law enforcement, was endorsed with a completely unanimous vote of confidence by the House 2A Delegates. As a proud graduate of BSU, Duran's commitment to public service is matched only by his academic pursuits; he holds a Master's degree in Criminal Justice Leadership and is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Public Management and Leadership. Bidal and his college sweetheart, Rebecca, have been married for 16 years, have 3 daughters and have called Bemidji home since 2011. Duran's deep-rooted connection to Northern Minnesota is evident in his passion for the outdoors; he can often be found hunting with his bird-dog, Boomer. To learn more about Bidal Duran, visit: www.duranforhouse.com.

Representative Matt Bliss, a Northern Minnesota business owner, secured the Republican endorsement for his 4th term as Minnesota's House District 2B candidate with a completely unanimous vote of confidence by the House 2B Delegates. Bliss, a Navy veteran, holds a significant role as the Republican Lead on the Veterans and Military Affairs Finance and Policy Committee, a member of the Elections Committee, and the Natural Resources Committee at the House of Representatives. Rep. Bliss and his wife are proud parents to four children and eight grandchildren. To learn more about Rep. Bliss, visit: www.mattbliss.us.

Northland Community Band and Northern Jazz Hosts Spring Band Concert

The Northland Community Band and Northern Jazz will perform a Spring Band Concert on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, inviting the community to enjoy an evening of musical performances starting at 7 p.m. in the Northland Community & Technical College Theater in Thief River Falls. The concert will feature a variety of musical selections showcasing the talents of community instrumentalists.

The Northern Jazz will kick off the performance with four distinct pieces. They will begin with a blues-inspired shuffle featuring a saxophone solo titled "Groovin' Hard." The tempo will then slow down for a chorale-like rendition of "America the Beautiful." Next, the band will perform the well-known theme song from the classic cartoon "Pink Panther." Finally, they will close their set with "Birdland," a jazz rock group Weather Report's original recording.

The Northland Community Band is set to perform a range of musical pieces, including "Abbey Road: A Symphonic Portrait," "The Phantom Regiment" and "Fiddle-Faddle" by Leroy Anderson. They will also play "Lights Out," a piece with a pre-recorded soundscape, as well as the familiar "Flower Duet" from Lakmé. The performance will conclude with "Quad City Stomp."

General Admission seating for the concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$5.00, and the concert is free of charge for Northland employees and students. For more information, contact Linda Samuelson, Music Instructor, at 218-683-8717 or by email at linda.samuelson@northlandcollege.edu.

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Word Search Answers for this week

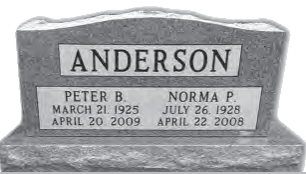
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OBITUARIES



Obituary for Cleta Ralph

Cleta Anna Ralph of Oklee, MN passed away on Sunday, April 14, 2024 at Thief River Care Center in Thief River Falls, MN.

Memorial service for Cleta will be held 2 PM on Saturday May 4, 2024 at Salem Lutheran Church near Oklee, MN with Reverend Linda Molitor officiating. Burial will be held at Clearwater Cemetery rural Oklee, MN. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church.

Cleta Anna Ralph was born September 5, 1936 in Red Rock, OK daughter of James Franklin and Mary Margaret (Warren) Raney. She was raised in Oklahoma where she graduated from Billings High School class of 1954.

On May 28, 1954, she was united in marriage to Robert Lee Ralph at Ceres Baptist Church in Red Rock, OK. The couple moved to Grafton, Iowa where daughters Debra and Jean and son Gary were born. The family moved to Rushford, MN where they farmed. In the fall of 1976, they moved to Oklee, MN where they farmed. Cleta worked at Third Base in Brooks for several years.

Cleta enjoyed painting, music and decorating cakes.

Cleta is survived by her daughters Debra (Jeff) Lansdowne of Elgin, MN and Jean Healy of Red Lake Falls, MN; daughter-in-law Sherry Ralph of Thief River Falls, MN; grandchildren Blair (Alicia) Jameson, James (Judson) Lansdowne, Jessica Lansdowne, Allison Healy, Megan (Brennan) Theisen Healy, Joshua (Joni) Kappes, Sydney Ralph; great-grandchildren Logan Jameson, Elizabeth Jameson, Noelle Lansdowne, McKenna Fradet, Jack Theisen, Jaden Kappes, Jude Kappes; brother Tom (Dee) Raney in Oklahoma; along with several nieces and nephews.

Cleta is preceded in death by her husband Robert Ralph, son Gary Ralph, son-in-law Alan Healy, siblings Olive Hellar, James Raney, Mildred Shearer, John Raney, and Guy Raney.



Obituary for Julie Paquin

Julie Ann Paquin, 72, of Brooks, MN, passed away on April 16, 2024, peacefully at home after a courageous battle with cancer, which she fought valiantly and without complaint.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 PM Friday, April 26, 2024, and a Prayer Service at 6:30 PM at Johnson Funeral Service in Thief River Falls, MN.

Memorial Service will be at 11 AM Saturday, April 27, 2024, at Johnson Funeral Service in Thief River Falls, MN.

Burial will be at a later date at Asphult Cemetery in rural McIntosh, MN.

Julie, the third child and oldest daughter of eight, was born on June 29, 1951, to Stanley Robert ("Bobby") and Phyllis Verona (née Reichenbach) Strom in Crookston, Minnesota. Julie was baptized at Kingo Lutheran Church, Fosston, MN, and confirmed at Asphult Lutheran Church, rural McIntosh, MN.

She grew up on a farm in Hill River Township, where she spent her childhood playing with her siblings and the neighborhood kids. This included doing things that all farm kids do, which consisted of chores (hauling wood was her least favorite), but they also built forts in the woods, made mud pies, went fishing, swimming, and enjoyed numerous family picnics. In her young life, she experienced a great deal of tragedy as she lost her father at the age of 15 as a result of a work accident and her brother, David, just over a year later due to a car-train accident. She then moved with her family to McIntosh and graduated from McIntosh High School in 1969.

Julie met Michael Paquin, and they were married on April 24, 1971, in Kole, Minnesota. They lived in the area for their entire lives, living on a small hobby farm for 50 years. To this union, three children were born: Michelle, Dusty, and Bekki.

Julie was an extremely dedicated, hard, and loyal

worker in every job she held. She created life long friendships from her time at Arctic Cat, Moran's Supper Club, as a home health aide, and at Digi Key. However, the work she cherished most was her role as a creator and purveyor of handmade crafts, from delicate baby bonnets to cozy wool mittens. This was her true passion, and her legacy of hard work and creativity will forever inspire those who were fortunate enough to know her.

Julie found joy in the company of others, relishing coffee dates with friends and often making new acquaintances. She immersed herself in numerous hobbies, teaching herself the art of knitting and crocheting from the pages of a book, as well as embroidery and gardening. You could often find her searching for treasures at garage sales, and even the simple act of cleaning brought her contentment. Her adventurous spirit led her to the local casino and extended to her love for travel cherishing the memories made on family trips, most recently her unforgettable journey to Hawaii. She was a proud member of the Olea American Legion Auxiliary as well as the Funeral Guild at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

Julie was a very proud mother and grandmother, and she enjoyed nothing more than spending time with her children and grandchildren, talking to them on the phone, via FaceTime, or attending their many events whenever possible.

Survivors include her husband of just shy of 53 years, Michael, of Brooks; three children, Michelle (Steve) of Waconia, MN, Dusty (significant other Jen Kline) of Annandale, MN, and Bekki (Tracy) of Queen Creek, AZ; grandchildren, McKenzie Mack and Liam Brandt; significant other's children, Ty (Linnea) Kline and Taylor Kline; furry grandchildren, Minnie, Murphy and Axl.

Also surviving are five siblings, Joel (Connie) Strom of McIntosh, Dean (Gail) of McIntosh, Mary (Mark) Schmidt of Crookston, MN, Beth (Tim) Fortin of Golden Valley, and Terry (Heidi) Strom of Erskine. Sister-in-law, Vicki Strom of McIntosh. Numerous brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, stepfather, Chester Jordev, brothers, Wayne and David, and niece, Natasha Strom.

The family suggests donations to be given to the Asphult Cemetery Association or Trails to Treatments.



Obituary for Steven Johnson

Steven Max Johnson, October 18, 1964 – February 15th, 2024.

The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his names sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. Psalm 23

Steve was born in Minnot, North Dakota and attended school in Clearbrook, MN graduating high school in 1983. He enlisted in the United States Navy and attended submarine training in Charleston, SC and was assigned on a 646 Sturgeon Class Fast Attack Submarine. Steve served from 1994-2002



as a Navy Corpsman attached to Marine Echo Company 4th Reconnaissance Battalion.

Steve moved to Alaska in 1988. Later he started working as a hunting guide. His son Spencer was born in May of 1989 in Soldotna, Alaska. Steve met Emily, his wife of 20 years, in Anchorage. Steve and Emily were married in 2004 and resided in Anchorage, AK. Steve and Emily welcomed their son Steven in 2008 and their daughter Gabi was born in 2012.

Steve loved hunting and the great outdoors and became a master hunting guide. He and Emily began their own business, Ultimate Alaskan Adventures which is in operation today.

Steve will be missed by his wife Emily, son Steven 15 and Gabriella 11 of Sweet, Idaho. Also, son Spencer (Josie) and their children; Wynona 7 and Joseph 3 of Kenai, Alaska. His parents Edward and Regina Johnson, of Peoria AZ. Brother, John Johnson (Carol) Pine Lake, MN. Sister, Christina Masters (Dan) Lenuxa, KS. He is also survived by his mother in law, Phyllis Rhodes (Pam) of Anchorage, AK, Saje (Katie) of Peoria, AZ. He also has several nieces and nephews, Mile Johnson (Kate) Leonard, MN, and their daughter Makenzie 6 months, Aaron Master, Lenexa, KS, Alex Narveson (Tyler) Leonard, MN, and their children, Ashtyn 6, Trevyn 5, and many treasured friends.

Steve was a faithful man of God and devoted husband and father. He was respected and admired by all who knew him.



Obituary for Mavis Syverson

On August 24, 1931, in a little log house on their farm, Mavis Anne was born to parents Gust and Mabel Foldoe. She was welcomed by sister Audrey and later little sister Linda joined the family. Mavis delighted in all things farm and country living; she learned early and well how to care for animals, milk the cows, garden, cook, bake and sew. She delighted her children with stories she told about those years; riding on the backs of work horses as they went out to the fields, accidentally starting the chicken coop on fire while playing house with her sister Audrey, and singing in the barn with her sister when they milked the cows by hand before heading off to school.

Mavis and her family attended Salem Lutheran church a few miles from their home. She went to school just down the road at Willowridge Country School until 8th grade. During her school years she enjoyed participating in 4-H, school activities, Sunday school and Luther League. She graduated from Plummer High School in 1948, and then went on to Teachers training in Red Lake Falls. Mavis stayed with her aunt and uncle on weekdays while she was there. In the early 1950's, she taught at various country schools in the area, Sunnyside School north of McIntosh, Oakland and Erickson schools north of Fosston. She loved teaching, and to the end of her life had a special place in her heart for her former students. Her children and grandchildren enjoyed hearing the stories of her country-school teaching days. It was at Lindsay school, just northwest of Vernes Church, that she was practice teaching under her sister Audrey, where she met Edwin Syverson. They married in 1954 and first rented a farm north of Fosston. In 1959 they bought the farm where she lived for 65 years. There they raised their children, farmed, and planted many trees on their land. Mavis had many interests and skills. She taught and cared for her family well, and also served others by teaching Bible school, Sunday school and serving for many church events. She had

a servant's heart, and always helped out others in need when she could.

Mavis put her trust and faith in Jesus at an early age. Her faith was strong and steady, and her life-long desire was to honor God to the best of her ability throughout her life. Even as her body began to fail, and dementia took its toll, she would often have moments of clarity when she would exclaim "God has been so good to me" and "I'm so thankful to have Jesus". Many of her last moments of conscious interaction were conversations about heaven, and the joy on her face was apparent. It was her deepest desire that all her loved ones and those around her would come to know and love Jesus. Mavis passed away at the age of 92 at her home on April 5th, 2024. According to her wishes, she was buried in the Syverson family cemetery next to her beloved Edwin, under the trees they had planted many years earlier.

Mavis was preceded in death by her husband Edwin, her parents Gust and Mabel, her mother and father in law Rudolph and Clara, her sister Audrey and brother in law Dennis Brinkman, her sisters and brothers in law Alvira and Archie Knudson, Clara and Roy Quam, Ardith Syverson, Francis Syverson, Doris Syverson, Anola and Laurie Finseth, Alan Syverson, Walter Syverson, Mary and Richard Loing, Norris Syverson, Rupert Syverson, Gordon and Christine Syverson, Elaine Syverson, her great grandson Stevie and other precious little pre-born ones in heaven. Also preceding her in death is Lance Anderson, a nephew who spent much time at the farm and had a special place in her heart.

Mavis is survived by her sister Linda Anderson, her sisters in law Faith Hanson and Eleanor Syverson, children Mark (Betty) Syverson, Dale (Audrey) Syverson, Dawn (Jeff) Carpenter, Joel (Lila) Syverson, Faye (Pat) Riegert, Ronn (Janna) Syverson, Rose (Ray) Burpo. Grandchildren: Erin, Alaina, Matthew (Adrienne), Heidi (Tim), Daniel (Hannah), Micah (Katie), Jonathan (Heidi), Meg, Ryan, Augusta, Grant, Hannah (Dylan), Emily (Conrad), Isaiah, Elijah, Luke, Ross, Jack, Justin, Adam, Kathryn and Emma.

Great-grandchildren: Andrew, Annalise, Tyler, Freddie, Valerie, Jimmie, Davie, Tommie, Christopher, Charlotte, Levi, Caleb, Aurora, William, Faithful, Edmund, Arlo, Opie, Ella, baby Kramer (due any day now) and baby Carpenter (due in September).

She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service of Mavis' life will be held at Vernes Lutheran Church, rural McIntosh, on April 27th, 2024 at 11:00am. All are welcome.



Death Notice for Larry Solberg

Larry Solberg, age 86, of Winger, MN, died on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at his home. As per Larry's wishes, no services are being held at this time.

Please feel free to sign the guestbook, send condolences and view other opportunities which may be available on the website.

Arrangements entrusted to Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnommen. www.andersonfamilyfh.com

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Obituary for Samantha Gilbertson-South

Samantha Carol Gilbertson-South: 10/03/1995 - 04/11/2024

Sam was born in Roseau County Hospital in 1995, to Krista Carol Walton (Peterson) and Joseph Lucas Walton.

From the day she was born, she was fiercely loved and cared for by anyone and everyone whose life she touched. Although she was an introvert by nature, she had an uncanny ability to bring people together. People seemed to gravitate to her personality, not knowing that their lives would be forever changed and enriched for the better having gotten to know such a wholesome and genuine spirit. Sam always left an impression on friends, family, coworkers and even people she had just met.

Sam was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and accepted Jesus Christ as her savior, continuing that love and faith as she transitioned to Eaglebrook Church in Lino Lakes Minnesota. There, she was born again in her faith and rebaptized with her husband Thomas.

She received her education at Red Lake County Central in Oklee-Plummer, Minnesota and graduated with honors, earning her high school diploma alongside her best friend Alysa Porter.

After school, she began her career at DigiKey Electronics working for their Inbound Sales team where she contin-

ued to make lifelong friends and would eventually meet her future husband Thomas Gilbertson-South. They became friends quickly and for the next few years, learned about each other's fun quirks and goofy personalities: odd qualities like Sam keeping a gallon of Purell at her desk or Thomas having a cardboard cutout of a videogame character attached to his cubicle. The two eventually fell for one another and began dating in the year 2016. Sam moved to Coon Rapids, Minnesota, to be closer to the love of her life and start building the foundation of their forever future together. The two tied the knot and were wed October 20th, 2019.

Sam had many passions and interests that were as unique as she was. She loved to crochet, spin yarn, garden, and landscape the backyard with various plants, flowers, gnomes, and mushrooms to suit the grandma-core side of her personality. Alternatively, she enjoyed dressing up for the renaissance festival as her favorite Scottish character from the show Outlander. Sam also enjoyed interior decorating and always made the effort to make their house feel like a home to whomever came to visit.

Sam is preceded in death by her grandparents Olive "Ann" Gordon and Durward "Sonny" Peterson, Thad "Hank" Walton and Claudine "Mamie" Walton (Smith).

She is survived by her husband Thomas Gilbertson-South, pets Tucker and Garbage, mother Krista Peterson, father Joseph Walton. Sisters Kjersten "Kiki" Walton, Guedra "Dede" (Andrew) Guadalupe, and Abigail "Abby" (Luke) Benson and nephews Walton Guadalupe and Thaddeus Guadalupe.

Services were held April 19, 2024 at Eaglebrook Church Spring Lake Park Campus. Visitation at 12:00pm - Ceremony at 1:00pm. 8498 Sunset Rd NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

Reception after service was located at Servion, Inc.

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Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibit Winners Announced

The Northwest Minnesota Arts Council is excited to announce the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibit Winners. Student and adult artists residing in a seven-county region including Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Polk, Pennington, Roseau and Red Lake recently entered the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibit and competed for \$2,300 in cash awards. The winners were recognized at the Northwest Minnesota Artist Reception in Lake Bronson on April 21.

Danielson has been an active, well known visual artist for decades and is a member of the River Forks Watercolor Society and of Arts for Vets. She has a B.S. in Education from the University of Missouri in Columbia. Of the exhibit, she said, "What a pleasure it was to see the rich display of art at NWMAC's show at Lake Bronson! As this year's juror, I viewed each piece several times. While technique is important, I looked for art that surprised with its original idea, showed clear intention, was well executed and presented, and especially that drew me back to learn more about it."

This exhibit showed a wide variety of media — paintings, ceramics, fiber arts, sculpture, photography, fused glass, mosaic, assemblages, digital art — in many sizes and many shapes! Some of the treasures offered were small works and made no less impact than large ones. Congratulations to all the artists who entered this exhibit. Art is a community where everyone can participate. I hope you will continue to show your work, learn from one another, and support each other. You all win — with or without prizes awarded."

Walk through the exhibit at https://youtu.be/EeSvf3_tVVg.

Exhibit Awards include:

Adults:

1st \$500 Andy Hall of Climax for photography "Backlit Milkweed"

2nd \$300 Irene Bertils of Crookston for watercolor painting "Warm Summer Evening"

3rd \$200 Aliza Novacek-Olson of Roseau for folk/traditional wool "Solitary Qoshmas"
Merit \$100 Michael McColl of Lengby in drawing "You're Getting Very Sleepy"

Merit \$100 Betsy Saurdoff of Grygla for folk/ traditional porcelain "Pitcher"

Merit \$100 Elizabeth Kitchell-Rockstad of Ada in mixed media "No Constraints"

Merit \$100 Sara Jo Trangsrud of Thief River Falls in sculpture "Bursting Out"

Merit \$100 Gail Ose of Thief River Falls for fused glass "The Dreams We Hold Sacred"

People's Choice \$100 Debbie Aune of Gatzke

Students:

1st \$300 Brigitta Novacek of Roseau in acrylic painting "Valorous"

2nd \$150 Anita Foster of Thief River Falls for mixed media "Ruth"

3rd \$100 Mary Jane Crane of Red Lake Falls for drawing "Beauty in Self-Image"

Merit \$50 Kyleigh Halvorson of Fosston for drawing "Iris"

Merit \$50 Kaytlyn Krutson of Red Lake Falls for digital art "Orion"

Merit \$50 Mason Grivno of Felton for sculpture "German Wirehaired Pointer"

Merit \$50 Mahli Holter of Red Lake Falls for mixed media "Almagations"

Merit \$50 Izzy Swenson of Lancaster for painting "Purple Iris"

People's Choice \$50 Dana Brown of Lancaster

Fourteen exhibit pieces of student and adult art were chosen to be included in the Traveling Art Exhibit, which will travel this next year to area libraries. Watch for the schedule to be announced and for it to arrive in your community. Five exhibit pieces of student art were also chosen to be hung in the hallway of Senator Mark Johnson's office in St. Paul. These students and their work include Lydia Christianson of Fertile "Omaha Jellyfish," Kyleigh Halvorson of Fosston "Iris," Carter Lee Johnsrud of Goodridge "A Broken Heart," Dana Brown of Lancaster, (Kittson Central) "Jesse and Walt," and

Melody Voeltz, of Lancaster "Barred Owl."



"Backlit Milkweed" by Andy Hall won 1st Place in the Adult Category. Pictured is Andy with the art.



Juror Pat Danielson at the NW Art Exhibit in Lake Bronson.



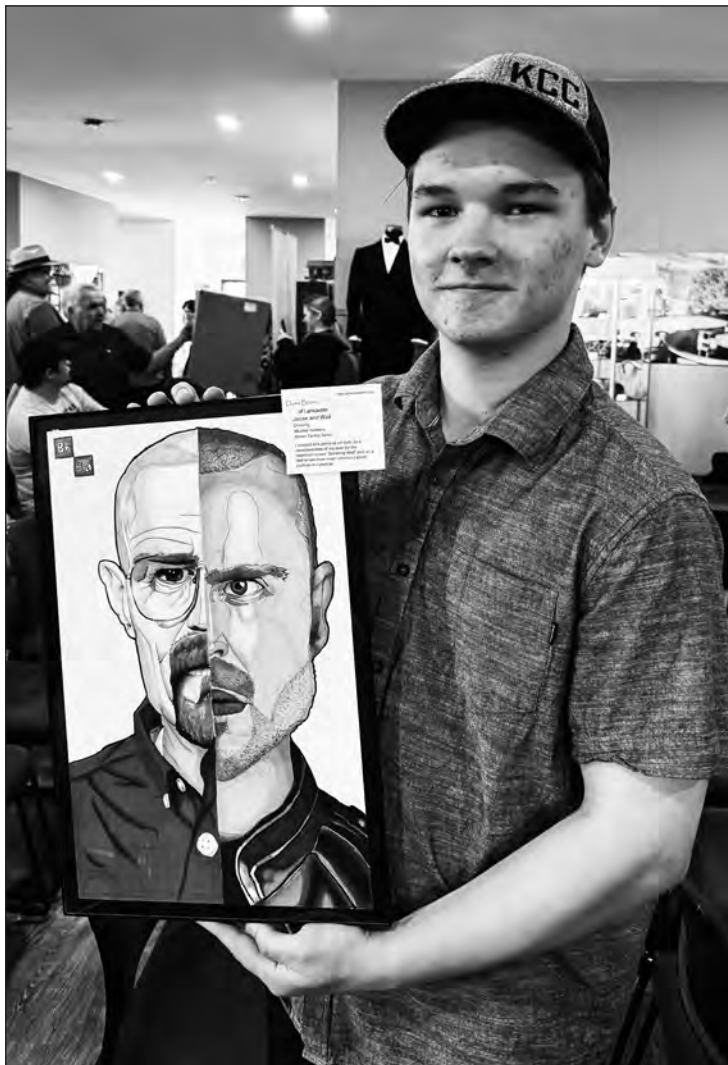
Debbie Aune received People's Choice in the Adult Category.



Irene Bertils of Crookston with her 2nd place winning watercolor painting.



Student 1st place winning art by Brigitta Novacek of Roseau.



Kittson Central Student Dana Brown with his art "Jesse and Walt." This will hang in Senator Mark Johnson's office. Brown also received the People's Choice Award in the student category.

Firearms safety is key to a successful turkey hunt

With tens of thousands of hunters set to hunt wild turkeys between now and the end of May, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources encourages them all to prioritize safety and remember a safe hunt is a successful hunt.

Hunting overall is a safe activity, and the DNR generally sees few firearms-related incidents specific to turkey hunting. However, even one injury — let alone a fatality — is one too many. Following are a few tips to help ensure a safe turkey hunt:

- Treat every firearm/crossbow as if it is loaded.
- Control the muzzle.
- Be sure of the target and what's beyond.
- Hunters should keep their finger off the trigger until they are ready to shoot.
- If hunting from a ground blind on public land, remember the blind must have a blaze orange safety covering on top of the blind that is visible from all directions or a patch made of blaze orange material that is at least 144 square inches on each side of the blind.

"Turkey hunting is a great way to get youth involved in the outdoors and for parents or mentors to reinforce the importance of always practicing safety in the field," said Capt. Jon Paurus, safety training education manager for the DNR Enforcement Division.

Paurus also said firearms safety education is a key reason why the number of hunting incidents in recent years is far below historical averages. DNR volunteer instructors put on firearms safety classes and field days throughout the state. People should plan well in advance, as these trainings tend to fill quickly. See the DNR safety training calendar (mndnr.gov/events/safety_training.html) for a list of classes and field days, and to sign up to receive notifications as soon as new ones are added.



Free entrance to Minnesota state parks on April 27

Minnesotans are encouraged to explore outdoors with friends and family

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is waiving vehicle permit fees at all 74 state parks and recreation areas on Saturday, April 27.

This "Free Park Day" is one of four days each year on which the DNR waives the requirement for a vehicle permit at state parks and recreation areas. The four fee-free days are spread out over the year, giving folks an opportunity to visit a state park for free in each season of the year.

"Minnesota state parks and recreation areas are great places to make memories with loved ones," said Ann Pierce, director of the DNR Parks and Trails Division. "Spring is an ideal time to reconnect with the natural world and enjoy the beauty of Minnesota's state parks and recreation areas. I encourage visitors to look for signs of spring like early-blooming wildflowers, migrating birds, and the opening of green leaves on trees. Our goal is for those who visit on Free Park Day to be inspired to come back again soon."

Each spring, Free Park Day is held on the Saturday after Earth Day. Earth Day is a great time to remind visitors to always recreate responsibly to protect natural resources. For example:

- Spring is a time of increased wildlife activity; respect wildlife by observing from a distance.
- Please stay on trails when hiking or biking to avoid erosion and damage to sensitive plants and wildlife habitat.
- Love the blooming spring wildflowers? Resist the urge to pick — take a photo instead. Leave flowers, rocks and other natural objects as they were

found.

Interpretive naturalists at some park locations have planned programming for the Free Park Day. There is no cost to participate in these events. Find more details about these highlighted events or see the full state park events calendar online (mndnr.gov/ptcalendar).

- EarthFest 2024: Wild River State Park, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- o Join in a day of nature walks, speakers, live music and service projects centered around the theme of prairies and why we care about them. The event will highlight the almost 500 acres of restored prairie at Wild River State Park. A variety of experts will lead sessions, including naturalists, cultural teachers and musicians. All ages are welcome, though this event is geared toward ages eight and up. Pick and choose from activities or come for the full day.

- Invasive Naturalist Tent: Fort Snelling State Park, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

- o Visit a park naturalist at the tent to see non-native species of plants and animals in the park and learn how these invasive species are changing native landscapes and habitats. Drop by for a few minutes or stay for the hour.

- Signs of Spring Hike: Itasca State Park, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

- o Explore signs of spring. Put on walking shoes and head down the trail with a naturalist looking for interesting plants and animals that are starting to make their spring appearance. The hike will be 1 to 2 miles in length.

- Spring Awakening: Ephemeral Wildflower Hike:

Minneopa State Park, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- o Join a park naturalist to explore the exciting wildflowers that are some of the first signs of spring and how they reveal a landscape that awakens with life each year. The hike will be approximately 2.7 miles long and follow the Minnesota River Bluff Trail, which consists of mostly flat gravel trails.

Visitors looking for specific recreational opportunities or amenities can use the Park-Finder tool (mndnr.gov/park-finder) to find the best parks for them.

The DNR recommends visitors wear clothing appropriate for the weather and bring water and snacks. Spring brings a variety of weather conditions, and trails could be muddy. Check for updates in the visitor alerts on park websites (mndnr.gov/parks).

While a vehicle permit is not needed for park admission on Free Park Days, additional fees for things like camping reservations and equipment rentals still apply.

For more information, visit the DNR's Free Park Days webpage (mndnr.gov/freepark-days).

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