



Tri County Canary

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

State parks and trails offer abundant recreational opportunities over Memorial Day weekend

In preparation for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is sharing recreation opportunities across the state parks and trails system.

“We are honored to welcome visitors for a weekend of outdoor recreation and reflection over Memorial Day weekend,” said Ann Pierce, DNR Parks and Trails director. “State parks, recreation areas, trails and water recreation sites serve as sanctuaries for people to connect with nature, pass on a love of the outdoors to younger

generations and create lasting memories. We welcome everyone to come out and enjoy the beauty and healing powers of nature.”

The DNR’s summer activities guide (mndnr.gov/summerguide) is a great place to start planning a Memorial Day weekend outing to a state park or trail. The guide lists warm weather activities for people of all ages and interests.

Bears, bogs, bald eagles and more!

State parks and recreation areas offer events and programs led by interpretive naturalists.

Participants can learn about wildlife, plants, night skies, park history, outdoor skills and more. Most naturalist events are free to attend, but sometimes require reservations. Check the online events calendar (mndnr.gov/ptcalendar) for a full list of programming.

Highlights over the Memorial Day weekend include:

- Bear Necessities Evening Program: Wild River State Park, May 25, 7-8 p.m.
- People visit the park, but black bears live there all the time. Interpretive naturalists

will answer questions at this campfire program and offer information on what to do if people see a bear.

- Guided Glacial Pothole Tours, Interstate State Park, May 25, 26 and 27, noon to 1 p.m. each day
- Visitors will discover the stories hidden within scenic river views and unique geologic features as they explore with a park guide.
- Boglands Uncovered: Exploring Nature’s Mysterious Wetlands, Big Bog State Recreation Area, May 25, 10 a.m. to noon
- Participants can step onto the bog boardwalk and immerse themselves in the serene beauty of one of nature’s most captivating landscapes on a guided tour.
- Bald Eagles: Guardians of the Sky, Lake Bemidji State Park, May 26, 10-11 a.m.
- Visitors will join an exciting journey to uncover the secrets of the mighty bald eagle. From their colossal nests to their incredible fishing talents, get ready for an encounter with these awe-inspiring birds.

Walk, pedal, roll and ride on state trails

Minnesota offers more than 1,300 miles of state trails. Many state trails are paved, making

them a great option for bikers, inline skaters, and people using wheelchairs or strollers. Some state trails are open to motorized use or horseback riding. State trails do not require a vehicle permit for entrance, but equestrians need a horse pass and off-road vehicles need to be registered to use state trails. Find trail maps on the state trails website (mndnr.gov/trails).

Borrow equipment to try a new activity

Most state parks and recreation areas offer free loaner equipment so visitors can try a new activity before purchasing their own gear. Fishing kits, birding kits, kids’ discovery kits and GPS units are available on a first come, first served basis at select park offices. Find where equipment is available to borrow on the DNR’s loaner equipment webpage (mndnr.gov/state_parks/loaner.html).

Thirteen state parks offer all-terrain track chairs that can be checked out at no cost. These devices are electric-powered chairs that can be used on designated trails within the park. These chairs can help visitors explore areas of the state parks in new ways, often on trails that are not suitable for regular

wheelchairs. Details, including information on how to reserve a track chair, are available on the DNR’s track chair webpage (mndnr.gov/track-chairs).

Enjoy the water

Minnesota is known for water recreation, and paddling is a popular activity. To learn about state water trails for a paddling trip, visit the DNR’s water trails webpage (mndnr.gov/canoeing).

For people who don’t have a watercraft, 32 state parks offer rentals, including canoes, kayaks and stand-up paddleboards. Life jackets are included with rentals. In addition, state parks are home to hundreds of lakes and many swimming beaches perfect for a day of play or relaxation. Use the ParkFinder tool (mndnr.gov/parkfinder) to find state parks with swimming beaches and rentals.

Very limited camping reservations available

At this time, 98 percent of available camping and lodging in state parks and recreation areas is booked for the three-day Memorial Day weekend. People looking for a camping reservation will find the most openings in northwestern Minnesota. Locations with 10 or more available campsites include Lake Bronson and Zippel Bay state parks and Red River State Recreation Area. Campers looking for a one- or two-night reservation will find more openings.

Campers who don’t have a reservation can consider state forest campgrounds, where all campsites are available on a first come, first served basis. Find campgrounds on the camping in Minnesota state forests webpage (mndnr.gov/state_forests/camping.html).

Check visitor alerts before leaving home

State park and recreation area websites post visitor alerts to communicate important information related to safety, closures, construction projects and other helpful details. Find visitor alerts on individual park websites (mndnr.gov/parks).

Visitors might notice construction projects underway in some state parks, which means exciting improvements are coming to the Minnesota state parks and trails system. These projects, which will be noted in visitor alerts on park websites, will bring updates that all visitors can enjoy, such as modernized facilities, repaired trails and roads, and additional accessibility to recreational opportunities.

Some of this work is funded with the Get Out MORE (Modernize Outdoor Recreation Experiences) appropriation, a historic, one-time investment of \$149.9 million to help ensure Minnesotans of all abilities and interests enjoy a world-class recreation system, whichever outdoor experience they choose. To learn more about this initiative, head to the Get Out MORE webpage of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/aboutdnr/get-out-more).

For more information about any of the recreational opportunities mentioned, visit the DNR website (mndnr.gov).

Memorial Day Tribute

A Salute to
Their Courage, Service and Sacrifice

The paper will be one day late next week.





Our offices will be closed Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

Bemidji native serves aboard forward-deployed Navy warship in Japan



By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Andrew Hanchar, Navy Office of Community Outreach

YOKOSUKA, Japan- Petty Officer 3rd Class Joseph Braam, a native of Bemidji, Minnesota, serves in Japan aboard a forward-deployed U.S. Navy warship.

Braam graduated from Bemidji High in 2018.

The skills and values needed to succeed in the Navy are similar to those found in Bemidji.

“I was in junior ROTC in high school which helped prepare me for the fleet,” said Braam. “It was an easy transition already having basic military understanding and bearing.”

Braam joined the Navy five years ago. Today, Braam serves as a gunner’s mate.

“I joined the Navy to fol-

low in my family’s steps, serve my country and start a more productive life,” said Braam. “I am the third generation in my family to serve in the Navy and it gives me pride to be part of this history.”

USS John Finn, a guided-missile destroyer, provides a wide range of warfighting capabilities in multi-threat air, surface and subsurface environments.

A Navy destroyer is a multi-mission ship that can operate independently or as part of a larger group of ships at sea. The ship is equipped with tomahawk missiles, torpedoes, guns and a phalanx close-in weapons system.

More than 300 sailors serve aboard John Finn. Their jobs are highly specialized, requiring both dedication and skill. The jobs range from maintaining engines to handling weaponry along with a multitude of other assignments that keep the ship mission-ready at all times, according to Navy officials.

With 90% of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to recruiting and retaining talented people from across the rich fabric of America.

Braam serves in Japan as part of the forward-deployed naval forces. These naval forces operate with allies and partners to preserve a free and open Indo-

Pacific region. Service members in this region are part of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, which has the largest area of responsibility in the world.

“We will earn and reinforce the trust and confidence of the American people every day,” said Adm. Lisa Franchetti, chief of naval operations. “Together we will deliver the Navy the nation needs.”

Braam has many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during military service.

“I am most proud to say I have been able to serve my country while having an amazing time learning so much and traveling the world,” said Braam. “Being able to help my fellow sailors and teach them skills I have learned is also an amazing feeling.”

Braam can take pride in serving America through military service.

“Serving in the Navy and serving my country means protecting and defending those who can’t,” said Braam. “We go out and defend our allies from enemies who would act up if we didn’t have the presence we did.”

Braam is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

“I would like to thank my mom and dad for raising me to be the man I am today,” added Braam. “Being able to do my part in protecting my country and family gives me immense pride.”



Angie Ness accepts a \$500.00 check from Commander Doug Lindgren, American Legion Irvin Blix Post 16, for the Friends in the Kitchen cooking class.

Bagley Legion donates to Friends of the Kitchen

By Pamela French

“Friends in the Kitchen” is a cooking class that’s geared towards individuals age 55 and older, who are looking for ways to cook and eat better without spending a lot of money.

Friends in the Kitchen meets the second Tuesday of every month for a FREE session on how to create affordable, healthy, easy-to-make meals, AND make new friends! Class time is 12:30pm to 2:00pm. Location? The Bagley American Legion Auditorium!

I had the opportunity to stop by last week (May 14th) and on the menu was Asian Lettuce

Wraps. I would have sworn I just walked into an Asian restaurant! It was so good!

Recipes for the food prepared each month are available to take home. Recipes are easy, straight forward with easy to obtain ingredients.

Upcoming classes and cancellations are updated in the News Byte section of the weekly Farmers Independent.

If you have questions about the program or wish to make a donation, please contact Angie Ness, Educator and Outreach, Friends in the Kitchen 503-200-0494 (cell).



All the 26 piano students of Mavis Finseth who performed last Sunday May 12 at Vernes Lutheran Church McIntosh.



Two graduating seniors, Everett Svendsen from Red Lake County Central and Jake Stoskopf from Clearbrook-Gonvick, were honored at the Sunday church service on May 19, 2024, at Sand Valley Lutheran Church at Trail. They were also presented blankets.



ANTIQUES
By John Eggers

Do you have any of your childhood dolls? I remember when my family was in Georgia, and we made a side trip to Cleveland, Georgia, where Cabbage Patch dolls were made. Remember when every child had to have a Cabbage Patch doll? Dolls have always been popular with children, and guess what? They are also popular with adults who enjoy collecting them. There will always be a market for dolls of all kinds.

Boudoir Dolls or bed dolls of the 1920s are especially desirable and scarce. They are dressed in 19th-century clothes, and many were decorated as flappers. These thin, long dolls have cloth bodies, and their faces have makeup. The Boudoir doll pictured is thirty inches long and has a value of \$300.00. Boudoir dolls were mostly used to decorate beds rather than for play.

Collecting dolls will always be interesting. The prices vary greatly depending on the age, type, and condition of the doll. How much is your Barbie doll worth? That all depends.

John Eggers, envision@paul-bunyan.net, 218-766-9009.



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R10C

80th Birthday Party for Virginia Weber

June 1st
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
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No gifts please.

010-11C

LINDFORS Insurance Agency

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Offices will be closed on Monday, May 27th, 2024.

HONORING THEIR
Service & Sacrifice

R10C

College News

Kaylin Sunderland Named to SNHU President's List

Kaylin Sunderland of Bagley (56621) has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) Winter 2024 President's List. The winter terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Themed Summer Reading Challenge for Youth and Teens

3-2-1 Blast Off! Lake Agassiz Regional Library is bringing an outer space-themed Summer Library Experience to youth and teens in communities in Becker, Clay, Clearwater, Mahanomen, Norman, Polk, and Wilkin counties. Beginning June 1, participants can read to win prizes as well as attend out-of-this world programs at their local library or library LINK Site.

Those interested in participating are encouraged to stop by their local library or LINK Site to pick up a reading log beginning June 1. Information about the program and event lists are available at larl.org/explore.

The program will be offered from June 1-July 31 at libraries and LINK Sites in the following communities: Ada, Bagley, Barnesville, Breckenridge, Climax, Crookston, Detroit Lakes, Fertile, Fosston, Hawley, Mahanomen, McIntosh and Moorhead. LARL's LINK sites are found in Cormorant, Frazee, Gonvick, Halstad, Hendrum, Lake Park, Rothsay, Twin Valley and Ulen. A number of fun programs will be held in connection with the reading challenge, including Magic Shows, theater productions, craft events and much more. All programs are offered free-of-charge. More information is available at larl.org and a full list of programs can be found at larl.org/explore.

DINING & entertainment

Kandi's Kitchen
in Gonvick

CURBSIDE BURGER NIGHT
Friday, May 24th
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Serving Hamburger or Cheeseburger Mac Salad, Potato Salad, or Fries and a Can of Pop

\$10

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R10C

BINGO Starting at 61#5
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Saturday, May 25th, 2024

WING NIGHT WEDNESDAY
Fri. & Sat., May 24th & 25th - Meatballs

SHORTY'S PLACE, 268-4199

R10C

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Friday ONLY - Walleye

John Vincent & the Hillbilly Boys
Saturday, May 25th
7:00-11:00 p.m.
OPEN MEMORIAL DAY
10:00 AM

COMING SOON
CELEBRATE CAROL'S COZY 9TH ANNIVERSARY
Sunday, June 2nd
with Jake Bastyr Band
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
~
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Saturday, June 8th
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CLASSIFIED ADS

SUMMER HELP WANTED

The Clearwater County Highway Department is taking job applications for part-time positions for the summer of 2024. The position may involve the following work: General Road and Culvert Maintenance, Survey/Construction Help, General Labor, and some small equipment operations. Must be 18 years of age and have a valid Driver's License. Preference will be given to applicant's attending college the fall of 2024. Job application forms may be picked up at the Clearwater County Highway Department, 113 7th St. NE, Bagley, MN 56621. (218) 694-6132. Deadline to have applications in is Friday, May 31, 2024.

R10-11C



CLEARWATER COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CORRECTIONS OFFICERS

Clearwater County Sheriff's Office is currently hiring for full and part-time Communication Corrections Officers to fill vacancies within the Jail/Dispatch Center.

JOB DUTIES: Involves the care and control of all inmates in the Clearwater County Correctional Facility. Duties including but not limited to: Booking, fingerprinting, jail reporting forms, computer entries for jail and Sheriff's Office. Receives all incoming 911 calls, takes and transmits pertinent information to appropriate emergency units (Officers, Fire Department, Ambulance, State Patrol, etc).

QUALIFICATIONS: High School graduate or equivalent, preferably with over one-year experience in a wide range of activities which prepares applicant for the pressure of emergency communications and control of inmates incarcerated in the County Jail.

The successful applicant will have to pass the following:

Oral Interview

Background investigation/ criminal history

Medical exam/Drug test

SALARY RANGE: \$21.25 - \$27.69 per 2023 Union Contract. If hired full-time, this union position includes full benefits to include health, dental and vision insurance. Part-time employees working more than 1,040 hours/year are eligible for pro-rated benefits.

The jail is staffed 24 hours a day so working nights, weekends and holidays is required. Employees are normally scheduled for 12-hour shifts. Normal schedule is five days on, five days off, two days on and two days off with every other weekend off. Employees earn vacation/sick/comp time hours.

Application forms may be obtained from the Clearwater County Sheriff's Office, Clearwater County Courthouse, 213 Main Avenue N, Dept. 102, Bagley, Minnesota or by going to www.co.clearwater.mn.us and downloading an application. Job description available upon request. Please send completed job applications to the attention of Jail Administrator Candace Coulter. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.

R10-12C



The Red Lake County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for a **Part-time Dispatcher**. This is a scheduled position, and the applicant will be expected to work 32 hours every pay period (every two weeks). Applicants will also be given the opportunity to fill other shifts that open up due to vacation or sick leave taken by other employees. The applicant will also be expected to work nights and weekends. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a background in the use of computers and be able to communicate effectively. Starting salary for this position is \$21.77 per hour. Further job description is available upon request.

Applications can be found at the Red Lake County Sheriff's Office in Red Lake Falls. All persons interested in this position must submit their application to Sheriff, Mitch Bernstein by 4:00pm on Thursday, May 30, 2024. Any applicants selected for oral interviews will be contacted after that date. Applicants must be available to begin working in this position by mid-June of 2024.

Red Lake County is an equal opportunity employer.

O10C

EARLY CHILDHOOD POSITIONS OPEN



Would you like an opportunity to work with our youngest learners? Are you passionate about making a difference in your community? Would you like to work in a family friendly environment? Are you looking for a career with great benefits? Inter-County Community Council is accepting applications for openings in our Head Start program to begin mid-August 2024.

Home Visitor: Position works with one-on-one with families of children, providing in home child & parent education visits on a weekly basis. Office location TBD – potentially Oklee, Bagley, or McIntosh, based on the caseload. Must be able to pass a background check. Position requires minimum of Child Development Associate or willingness to obtain within the first year of employment. Experience with children preferred, additional training will be provided.

2 openings in our Head Start program – 10 months a year with a summer layoff. Works primarily with families ages 3-5 years.

1 opening in our Early Head Start program – year round position. Works primarily with families of children ages birth-3 years.

Classroom Assistant Teacher: 40 hours a week, 10 month position – with a summer layoff, classroom located in Bagley, MN. Work with a team to provide care and education to 3-4 years olds in a classroom setting; primary duties include assisting the teacher in the classroom with group activities, cleaning, assisting children with handwashing/toothbrushing, and transporting meals. Must be able to pass a background check. Position requires Child Development Associate or willingness to obtain within the first year of employment. Experience with children preferred, additional training will be provided.

For much more information on the position duties, qualifications and benefits visit our website at www.intercountycouncil.org/careers/. Application is available on the website. **Application deadline: Thursday, May 30 at 4:00 pm.** Send completed application and resume to Inter-County Community Council, attn.: Human Resources, PO Box 189, Oklee, MN 56742 or hr@intercountycouncil.org. Call 218-796-5144 x. 1028 for more information about the positions and information on salary.

ICCC is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.

R9-11C

RED LAKE COUNTY LEGAL ASSISTANT

Position is responsible for providing clerical and paralegal support to the County Attorney in the administrative and support functions of the office. Position is full-time, 35 hrs./wk.; wage DOE, benefit package is available.

Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent; a minimum of an AA degree as Paralegal, Legal Secretary, Legal Assistant or closely related area AND a minimum of 1-3 years related experience in a legal setting and/or evidence of equivalent education and experience necessary to perform the requirement of the work. Computer experience and Microsoft Office is required. Must be proficient in computer skills and willing to learn various software applications.

Applications and more information are available at www.co.red-lake.mn.us/employment. Questions call the HR office at 218-253-2590 or email hr@co.red-lake.mn.us. Position is open until filled. EOE

O10-11C

Polk County Full-Time Employment Opportunities:

Clerk Typist Cashier III – Public Health

\$19.20 - \$24.33/hr. Position

Closes May 22, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

Assistant County Attorney I – Attorney's Office:

\$40.18 – \$50.90/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Deputy Sheriff Patrol I - II – Sheriff's Office:

\$30.03 – \$40.32/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Environmental Technician – Environmental Services:

\$25.69 – \$32.55/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

GIS Specialist – Highway:

\$28.60 – \$36.23/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Mechanical Maintenance Technician I – Fosston:

\$26.49 – \$32.55/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Sort Line Operator I - II – Fosston:

\$19.99 - \$24.33/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

For a full job description, application, and general job openings information go to www.co.polk.mn.us and click on "Careers" or call 218-281-5408 Polk County Administrator's Office. EOE

SCIENCE TEACHER

Clearbrook-Gonvick School District has an opening for a full-time Science Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. The Clearbrook-Gonvick Science Department is a two person department with one instructor teaching the following courses for the 2024-2025 school year: Physical Science 8 & 9, Advanced Physical Science, and Chemistry. The other instructor would teach Life Science 7, Biology 10, Environmental Science, and STEAM 7. Teaching assignment would be based on candidates' licensure area(s) and experience.

A Minnesota Teaching License in conjunction with the Science courses listed above is required for the position. Individuals who are interested in extra-curricular or coaching activities are also encouraged to apply. Position is open until filled.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, credentials, and three references to:



Clearbrook-Gonvick School
16770 Clearwater Lake Rd
Clearbrook, MN 56634
Attn: Melissa Weems, HR
Phone: 218-776-3112 Ext. 105
Or email the materials to:
mweems@clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us

Clearbrook-Gonvick School District ISD #2311 is an equal opportunity employer.

R7-11C

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- Assisting customers with banking needs
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- Additional duties include administrative support and other related duties as assigned.

Individual must be organized, able to multi-task and be proficient in computer skills. Banking experience not required; we're willing to train the right candidate. Full time position with competitive wage package and benefits.

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RENTALS

Brookfield Apartments

Brookfield Apts in Clearbrook, MN is accepting applications for **FUTURE 1 Bd openings for all elderly and all handicapped/disabled persons. Rent is based on 30% of your monthly adjusted gross income.** Laundry room facilities available & off-street parking. **Resident Manager** onsite. Locked Entry system. Active Community Room. Applications and qualifications, contact Nicole at 218-751-6881 or Laura at 218-407-7681. Applications online @ bemidjimanagementinc.com AN EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY.

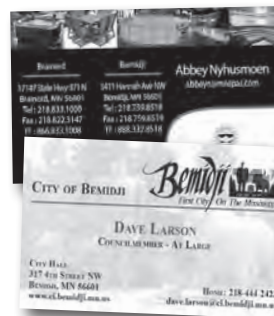
R10-13C

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Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Win-E-Mac School Auditorium - Erskine

Registration: 9:30am | Meeting: 10:30am

2023 Operation reports will be presented

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R10-11C

Minnesota's Native Cacti

Sunday, March 17, 2024

I'm writing this article for you today to talk about our native cacti here in MN. I know what your thinking.. What? Cactus, native to our cold and snowy state. Yes, we actually have 3 native species here and they are probably more prevalent than you would think. We have 2 opuntia species "prickly pears", the most common of these in our state is opuntia fragilis or the fragile prickly pear, while its larger cousin

4 festive facts about the month of May

May is a festive month in many ways. Warm weather characterizes much, if not all, of May in many regions, compelling people to spend more time outdoors. And the spirit of summer starts to seep in as May flowers bloom. In fact, many people in the United States feel Memorial Day, an American holiday celebrated annually on the last Monday in May, marks the unofficial beginning of summer. That's not all there is to know about the often festive fifth month of the year.

1. Historians believe May is named after Maia, the goddess who embodied the concept of growth in ancient Roman religion and mythology. That makes sense, as May is the month when flowers and plants begin to blossom anew, inspiring a spirit of rejuvenation among individuals who are ready for warm weather and all the benefits it brings. The name "May" has evolved from the Latin word "Maius," which is short for "mensis," a word that Dictionary.com reports meant "Maia's month."

2. "The fastest two minutes in sports" occurs each May. The Kentucky Derby, sometimes characterized as "The most exciting two minutes in sports," is held annually on the first Saturday in May at Churchill Downs in Louisville. The Kentucky Derby is the first leg of the Triple Crown, and the atmosphere at Churchill Downs embodies the festive spirit of May. The Kentucky Derby also is known as "The Run for the Roses," as the winner of the race is draped in roses in the winner's circle.

3. One of the more beloved May holidays in North America, or at least the United States, is Cinco de Mayo. Though Cinco de Mayo is a regional Mexican holiday celebrating the Mexican army's improbable defeat of the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862, the day has been co-opted in the U.S., where it has become a celebration of Mexican culture and cuisine. It's not uncommon for bars and restaurants across the United States to offer special menus and discounted beverages on Cinco de Mayo.

4. Though the Kentucky Derby and Cinco de Mayo are festive occasions, Memorial Day weekend is when many people up the celebratory ante in the fifth month of the year. Memorial Day is a solemn American holiday day that honors the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the Armed Forces, and many communities host parades on the morning of Memorial Day to honor those sacrifices and the country fallen soldiers fought to protect. But Memorial Day weekend also has gained a reputation as a festive weekend to spend with family and friends. In fact, a recent survey from WalletHub found that 44 percent of Americans planned to barbecue over Memorial Day weekend.

Opuntia Macrorhiza is a little harder to find. Its larger yellow flowers make the search for them in the wild and cultivation at home worthwhile. And the rarest and most beautiful of the bunch. In my opinion of course, is escobaria vivipara, which is a species of ball cactus that only lives in a few square mile area near the boarder with South Dakota

Opuntia fragilis only grows to about 8 in tall and like to spread out into a large mat. In the wild, one of its most effective means of propagation is through clones. The small pads of the prickly pear are extremely brittle at the joints where they attach. When an animal, or human happens to brush against it or step on it. A pad will break off an stick to whatever disturbed it. Eventually the pad will fall off and it will root into the ground to form a new plant. I should also add that yes, it's a cactus and the spines are something to look out for because they are very sharp, and the smaller spines called glochids are barbed making them even worse when stuck in your hand. While its definitely not the only cactus species to spread this way. This particular species of prickly pear doesn't seem to flower near as reliably as our other two cacti species. Making that particular method of propagation especially important to its survival and spread.

Opuntia Macrorhiza is the larger of the two prickly pear species we have in our state. It is considerably taller growing than O fragilis, and doesn't have the same tendency to break off and stick to everything that touches it. However its spines are larger, and it also has lots of tiny barbed glochids. Macrorhiza grows to a Height of about 12 inches tall, and like its smaller cousin tends to form a mat of pads sometimes up to 5ft across. This plant is a bit harder to find in out state, so if you happen across one in bloom, consider yourself lucky.

Escobaria Vivapara is the rarest and most beautiful out of native cacti. It grows to a max of about 5 inches tall. And unlike any other native species this one tends to grow individually or in small clumps. While this species is endangered in our state, it actually has a very large distribution across North America. From Canada all the way down to Mexico. Its flowers are showy and funnel shaped. With a magenta/hot pink petals and fluorescent orange stamens. Certainly one of my favorite flowers, and one I look forward to in my garden every year.

If you ever happen to be in

areas where they grow, from late May to early July most of these species are blooming or about too. And it is certainly worth a little adventure to see these plants blooming and thriving in their natural habitat. Not to mention observing plants in nature can really give us the best ideas of how to grow them ourselves.

While most all of these species live in the southern part of our state. With the proper care you can even get them to survive up here in our zone 3 climate. All you need is a sunny location that gets some protection from the strong winter winds. And to make sure your planting location is one that will provide the cacti with adequate drainage. Most of these plants live in areas with hardly any topsoil on top of bedrock. Some notable examples in our state would be the quarries in the St. Cloud area, and the exposed bedrock areas near the Jeffers petroglyphs in southern MN. And I should add that these areas also have other native plant species that are rarely found elsewhere. These native prairie areas really have some fascinating biodiversity going on. Another thing to keep in mind when choosing a location to grow cacti here is, How much snow cover will it get? I know it seems odd but the snow cover does a lot to insulate plants against our brutal winters. An our cacti species here in MN are no an exception to this. I've noticed on my own plants how big of a difference snow cover can make for cacti in our region. I have even thought about covering them with straw in late fall to help insure they pull through. However, no matter how rough my cacti looked in spring they have always bounced back with minimal care. If you or anyone you know would like to try growing cacti in our great white northwoods. There are a few different vendors online where you can find our native species. I would also suggest joining some of our Minnesota based plant groups on Facebook, where a lot of people gladly share cuttings/pads of plants they have growing in their gardens.

I hope you enjoyed my article about some of our native plants, and hopefully learned a little something about cacti in our great state. Hope you all have a succesfull gardening season. And as always, Happy Gardening!!!

Jeramiha Englund

U of MN Master Gardener

If you have any garden questions you may call our Master Gardener Hotline at (218) 444-7916.

Minnesota's Legislative Session Ends in Chaos

Jim Schultz Slams Extreme One-Party Rule

MINNETONKA, Minn. — Jim Schultz, President of the Minnesota Private Business Council, issued the following statement condemning the dysfunctional 2024 legislative session and the weird priorities of the state's DFL majorities.

"The 2023 legislative session was the most far-left in Minnesota history, with Democrats prioritizing bizarre policies of all kinds, including wasting \$730 million on the State Of-

fice Building, kicking police out of our schools, and giving free health care and college to illegal immigrants. This session was marked by chaos, ultimately culminating in the midnight passage of 1400 pages of unread legislation. This is all just plain weird. Minnesota must return to normalcy and prioritize the needs of everyday Minnesotans rather than the crazies on the far left."

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Talking to the Steigers

By Auctioneer Eric W. Mickelson

I have been retired from education since November 3rd, 2023. Yes, like they say when you are retired you sometimes are more busy than when you were working. May 9th was one of those busy days!

The Red Lake Falls first grade class had signed up to come on a field trip to the Tri River Pioneers Museum in Plummer, MN. With the help of 3 other members of the club, the students rotated from place to place and then concluded by shaking cream into butter and tasted them on crackers. A few songs were sung and they were off to the park to enjoy their bag lunches and play for a while. The Tri River Pioneers enjoy the opportunity to share their museum with school classes. The kids were great and this visit was no exception, it was a great time!

My only problem was the fact that I had also been invited by a friend of mine and the RLF elementary principal, Chris Bjerklie, to attend a presentation at their school by the Steiger Family. Unfortunately with the field trip I was unable to attend. Darn it! But wait, I got another call from Principal Bjerklie informing me that the presentation would be done again at the High School. Hallelujah! In the afternoon-I could attend!

So after the conclusion of the field trip I hustled from Plummer to Red Lake Falls!(With a smile on my face!) When I arrived at the High School I was met by Mr. Bjerklie and he led me to the classroom where the presentation was to be held.

President of the Steiger Heritage club did the presentation, MaJeana Hallstrom, daughter of Doug and Kay Steiger. I was listening with both ears! I have always found it kind of amazing to have the beginnings of a great tractor manufacturing company in our backyard. Let's look at a little of the back story!

John and Ella Steiger moved 8 miles west of St. Hilaire in the 1920s where they raised three children. Maurice was born in 1928, Douglass, born in 1933, and Geraldine, born in 1935. They ran a successful family farm. As the story unfolded MaJeana shared that in the mid to late fifties the Steiger's were looking to make extra income by doing some custom farming. In order to do that they would need a bigger tractor. They looked into purchasing a 4 Wheel Drive. One of the models available was the Wagner. The price was about \$20,000 at the time, a lot of money for a tractor. The Steigers decided that they could build a tractor cheaper. Thanks to a banker in Thief River Falls that believed that they could do just that, so a loan was approved for \$10,000 and they went to work.

With John's blacksmithing ability, Douglas' ability to draw plans, and Maurice's diesel mechanics, welding, and steel fabricating talents, they had a formula well suited for the job ahead of them. Their dairy barn was converted to a shop and during the winter of 1957-58 they "hand built" the first Steiger tractor! A lot was made from used parts of mining equipment. The motor was a 6-71 Detroit diesel.

Built in their shop (a converted dairy barn) on the Steiger farm during the winter of 1957-58, the first Steiger tractor weighed 24,000 pounds. The tractor was hand-built, mostly out of used parts they had salvaged from mining equipment from northeast Minnesota's Iron Range. With only a cutting torch, arc welder, small turning lathe, and the miscellaneous tools usually found around a farm shop, they constructed their tractor. Powered by a 6-71 Detroit diesel engine. One of the most unique features was a transfer case that the Steigers designed themselves. Eventually they received a patent on the transfer case design. The tractor was painted lime green and hit the fields for the Steigers in the spring of 1958.

This tractor, now called Steiger #1 was used until 1973, but was restored in 1975 by Maurice Steiger and his son Bryan. Steiger #1 is on display at Bonanza-ville in West Fargo, ND, where it is on display. It is transported every Labor Day weekend for display in the Steiger Heritage Hall, created by Mark Yaggie and the Yaggie family.

A couple of years later, seeing a need for a possibly a smaller tractor they developed the Model 105. Some neighbors were impressed by the 105 so two more were built. The 105 was only about half as large



2200 Steiger on display at the RLF Elementary School.



Bryan (Maurice's son), MaJeana, Kay, and Doug.



I had to get in on a picture! Back: Myself and Bryan. Front: Kay and Doug.

as Steiger #1. The 105 was powered by a 118 hp 3-71 Detroit Diesel engine. Once again the Steiger transfer case was used along with modified Allis Chalmers WC rear ends. The first three 105s were purchased by Edgar Napkin og RLF, Henry Skala of RLF, and Lloyd Pierce of Crookston.

After these first 4 tractors were built a dealer from Elbow Lake, MN, named Earl Christianson said he would sell them if they would build them from new parts. Doug drew up the blueprints and in the spring of 1964 the 1700 and 2200 models were born. Doug drew up plans for two more models, the 1250 and the biggest model, the 3300. Two models were also built for loggers, the 850 and the 1250. 126 Steiger tractors were built at the farm by 20 employees!

In 1969 two new tractors were designed-the 2250 and the 1300. The Detroit diesel engines were replaced by a Caterpillar engine in the model 1300 and a Cummins in the 2250. That same year the Steigers sold 52% to a group of investors in Fargo, ND, and manufacturing was moved to Fargo.

With the influence of the Melroe Family (*Melroe Made the Bobcat skid steer!), the names were changed from the number series to "cat" names. The 2250 was renamed the Tiger and the 1300 was renamed the Wildcat. Other "cat" names were added as more models were built. In 1974 a new factory was built in Fargo. In the early 80s a poor farm economy did cause problems in the agricultural industry. In 1986 the company was sold to Case IH.

The tractors remained green until 1989. In 1992 the Steiger name was dropped but in 2000 Case IH brought back the Steiger name.

In 2023 a customer ordered 2 custom painted, lime green, tractors. Doug Steiger was there and he was able to simultane-

ously celebrate his 90th birthday. It was a great "Steiger" celebration!

I certainly enjoyed my invitation to the great presentation about the History of Steiger. If you would like to learn more you can join the Steiger Heritage Club or on Labor Day weekend head to Rollag, MN, for the Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion. This year Rollag is featuring John Deere so, oh yes, I'll be there! But I will also stop by the Mark Yaggie Steiger Heritage Hall. The building was dedicated in 2019 and houses many of the original Steiger models. Stop by and take a look! Oh, and thank you MaJeana, Doug, Kay, and Bryan for the great presentation! So you see, days are busy when you are retired, busy with tractors!

How about a little tractor trivia!

1. T or F In 1973 the Hungarian firm, Raba, produces Raba-Steiger tractors based on Steiger Series II Wildcat
2. T or F In 1975 The Van De Velde company builds Vandel tractors based on the Steiger Series III Bearcat and Cougar tractors for distribution in Europe and North Africa.
3. T or F In 1976 an Australian Steiger subsidiary with 50 selling dealers is established.
4. T or F In 1979: The Steiger Tractor, Inc. plant turns out its 10,000th tractor.
5. T or F In 1990 the Steiger tractor was chosen as North Dakota's first entry into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

Answers: All these items are True. They are all just another tribute to the success of Steiger.



Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol

Q u e s - t i o n: While traveling I see a lot of vehicles pulled over on the side of the road with either steam or smoke coming from the vehicle. Can you talk about what a person should do in these situations?

Answer: When dealing with a vehicle that is overheating, most vehicles have dashboard gauges or lights that indicate the engine temperature. Activities such as driving in stop-and-go traffic on a hot day, driving on steep inclines, and towing a trailer can cause your engine to run hotter than normal. When

your engine becomes hot, turn off any unnecessary vehicle equipment, such as air conditioning. If the temperature is still too high, turning on the heater will help draw hot air away from the engine. If these techniques do not work and engine temperature suddenly increases or steam rises from the engine, pull over to the side of the road, stop the vehicle, and turn off the ignition immediately.

If you notice smoke rising from beneath the hood of your vehicle, pull off the road, turn off the ignition, and exit the vehicle immediately. Do not use water to put out the fire — this

will actually spread the blaze. In both situations, be careful when exiting your vehicle and get to a place of safety so you are not hit by other traffic. Call 911 and provide the information the dispatcher requests.

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

Fifty-Two Card Pick Up

W h a t w a s t h e q u e s t i o n posed? It was a question offered to the lot of us sitting in circle formation. "Do you want to play Fifty-Two Card Pick Up?"

Trusting the one asking—how could I not respond with a resounding "YES!" The others were mute and all eyes upon me. Not a word was whispered that would give away that which was about to happen.

As soon as the word "YES" was out of my mouth, the cards were quickly stacked. Within seconds, they were flung helter-skelter into the air.

"Okay," said the orchestrator of this game. "There are fifty-two cards. Now, pick em up!" And until these words were spoken, I hadn't a clue as to what was going on.

Laughter ensued all around, and I knew I'd been hoodwinked.

Some days life seems more like a game of "Fifty-Two Card Pick Up." Out of nowhere, a wind funnel appears—sending the hand delt flying here and there and all around. As things come tumbling down, who knows where the fallout will land. Some days it's not so funny and rather than joining in with laughter, curling up to have a good cry seems like a better plan. As we become temporarily blinded by the storm swirling round, it stops us in our tracks.

If we have the presence of mind to pause in the midst of the storm, we might recall what it is we are supposed to remember. What is it we remember? We remember that He created and we did not. And if He created, we need not fear. We need merely cling to the truth of the matter and what's the matter with that? Answer: Nothing is the matter with that lest we forget to remember.

As I walked in the woods today, I noticed many a fallen tree. Bent and broken branches

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Breakfast BBs

By Travis Peterson

Years ago, living in St. Paul...

Ah, what a relaxing morning. The aromas of French toast and dark roast coffee snuggle my senses and comfort my thoughts. At the counter I leisurely peck at my breakfast and skim the paper. My canine companion snoozes at my feet.

A noise. A tiny scratch. Then another. My pup perks up. Scratch-scratch, scrape, scratch. Scratch-scratch! My dog is now on all fours and growling at the ceiling. An outburst of manic clawing erupts from somewhere above my head. I drop my fork and run out the front door. From the patio I can see a squirrel gnawing at a weak spot on my roof. "You!"

I dart into the house and within seconds I am back outside with my trusted Daisy Powerline 880 BB gun. By this time, the squirrel has vanished. I pace back and forth scanning the perimeter for the little bugger until I realize I am wearing nothing but my hot-pink, pineapple-patterned boxer shorts.

Back in the house, I return the BB gun to the closet and start in on a pile of dirty dishes. Out my kitchen window I see two police cars approaching from down the street, moving fast, lights on, no sirens. The squad cars aren't even fully stopped before the doors fling open.

Three officers, guns drawn, make haste through my front yard while another officer behind a car door barks into a

megaphone, "You, with the gun! Come out with your hands where we can see them! You are surrounded!"

I rush outside to explain the situation. The responding officers did not dig that move.

"Whoa, whoa, whoa," the officer with the 9mm in my face yelps, "On the ground! Now! Face down, hands behind your head! Lie down! All the way down! Now!"

Before I can say anything, I am pounced, pummeled, and wrangled to the ground.

"Is there anyone else in the house?" the officer loudly interrogates from atop my back.

"My dog," I quickly answer.

"Don't get smart! Anybody else?" The officer is not amused. "No," I wince.

Just then, the two officers who ran into my house to search the premises for any more naked assailants emerged shaking their heads and smirking with my BB gun in hand. "It's just a pea shooter," one of them exclaimed.

I was up on my feet and free from restraint. The officer with my Daisy hands her back to me and lectures, "One of your neighbors called you in. See, now, you know this is only a BB gun, but to someone looking out their window, all they see is a grown man running around in his underwear with an assault rifle. Ok? You can't be doing that. I mean, come on, man. Are you from up North or something?"

HONOR AND PRIDE WORD SEARCH

C I H V E H S I Y T R R B F Y U I B R M
Y A S S E L R A E F U S I A T U S N K L
P E P D E T L I D C O U M V U A F F L O
U B G R G C P O O E T H N K D U P B A S
R U D E B E E D G M K M C R F E L H R V
M S V B B P V D G E L G C B C N R S K B
P O D M P S K L E T A N E L L A F L S V
L L Y O N E V C R E H E Y T C G H O C D
A D U S U R I E M R Y R A T I L I M S K
T I D M E F B G N Y H I T L S K N A H T
O E A U I M M B L D E V R E S B O H U U
O R G R E A A N T A E C V F F D O O A K
N N C M R F O H F Y I B I H E G A E M O
L A E O M V V B A N B R K V P Y N N G R
S R N B E E P R R N P K O O R M R L I U
G O U D M T C A D V F H E M F E M I E M
H A B U O E C N C O R K N I E Y S S A M
P T B I R R G C Y S E V U U O M V T U N
N O L C Y A I H K E M S E O R E H O F A
L R D C E N C N G A L F C V T I E M O F

HONOR AND PRIDE WORD SEARCH

Answers on page 6

BRANCH
CEMETERY
DRAFT
DUTY
ENLIST
FALLEN

FEARLESS
FLAG
HEROES
HONOR
MEMORIAL
MEMORY

MILITARY
OBSERVED
PLATOON
REMEMBER
RESPECT
SACRIFICE

SERVICE
SOLDIER
SOMBER
THANKS
TOUR
VETERAN

NORTH COUNTRY HEALTH NUGGETS
(Clearwater, Hubbard and Lake of the Woods Counties)

May is Blood Pressure Awareness Month

Use these resources from The Heart Truth® to learn about blood pressure and how to control it if it's high. Find tools to help track your numbers, learn tips to accurately measure blood pressure, and take steps to keep your numbers in a healthy range. Share these resources to inspire others to know and control their blood pressure too.

What do your blood pressure numbers mean?

Normal Range 120/80
Elevated Range 120-129/
over 80

High Blood Pressure range 130 or higher/80 or higher

How to accurately check your blood pressure:

Before-Avoid exercise, Drinking caffeine, or Smoking for 30 minutes prior, Go the bathroom beforehand,

Uncover your arm for the cuff and Sit and relax for at least 5 minutes prior to checking.

During-Put your feet flat on the floor, Don't talk, Rest your arm on a table so it is supported and at the level of your heart.

High Blood Pressure - What Is High Blood Pressure | NHLBI, NIH

Half of all Americans have high blood pressure, also known as hypertension, and many don't even know they have it. High blood pressure develops when blood flows through your arteries at higher-than-normal pressures. Your blood pressure is made up of two numbers: systolic and diastolic. Systolic pressure is the pressure when the ventricles pump blood out of the heart. Diastolic pressure is the pressure between heartbeats when the heart is filling with blood.

It is important to have regular blood pressure readings taken and to know your numbers, because high blood pressure usually does not cause symptoms until it has caused serious problems.

For most people with high blood pressure, a healthcare provider will develop a treatment plan that may include heart-healthy lifestyle changes alone or with medicines. A risk calculator can help estimate your risk of complications and choose the right treatment. Your provider and a team of experts can help you best manage your blood pressure and prevent complications. This team may include your typical doctor or provider, a nutritionist, a pharmacist, and specialists for any conditions you may have, including those related to your heart.

If your high blood pressure is caused by another medical condition or medicine, it may improve once the cause is treated or removed.

If you have high blood pressure, your provider may recommend that you adopt a heart-healthy lifestyle to help lower and control high blood pressure.

• Choose heart-healthy foods such as those in the DASH eating plan. NHLBI-funded research has shown that DASH combined with a low-salt eating plan can be as effective as medicines in lowering high blood pressure. Living With the DASH Eating Plan and Tips to Reduce Salt and Sodium offer more information.

• Avoid or limit alcohol. Talk to your provider about how much alcohol you drink. You may need to limit it or stop drinking. Resources and support are available at the Alcohol Treatment Navigator from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

• Get regular physical activity. Many health benefits result from getting the recommended amount of physical activity each week. Studies have shown that physical activity can help lower and control high blood pressure levels. Even modest amounts of physical activity may help. Before starting any exercise program, ask your healthcare

provider what level of activity is right for you

• Aim for a healthy weight. If you are an adult who is living with overweight or obesity, losing 5% to 10% of your initial weight over 6 months can improve your health. Even losing just 3% to 5% of your weight can improve blood pressure.

• Quit smoking. Both Smoking and Your Heart and Your Guide to a Healthy Heart focus on heart health and include basic information about how to quit smoking. For free help and support to quit smoking, you can call the National Cancer Institute's Smoking Quitline at 1-877-44U-QUIT (1-877-448-7848).

• Manage stress. Learning how to manage stress and cope with problems can improve your mental and physical health. Learning relaxation techniques, talking to a counselor, and finding a support group can all help.

• Get enough good-quality sleep. The recommended amount for adults is 7 to 9 hours of sleep per day. Develop healthy sleep habits by going to sleep and getting up at regular times, following a calming bedtime routine, and keeping your bedroom cool and dark.

Changing habits can be hard. To help make lifelong heart-healthy changes, try making one change at a time. Add another change when you feel comfortable with the previous one. You're more likely to manage your blood pressure when you practice several of these healthy lifestyle habits together and can keep them up over time.

When healthy lifestyle changes alone do not control or lower high blood pressure, your healthcare provider may prescribe blood pressure medicines. These medicines act in different ways to lower blood pressure. When prescribing medicines, your provider also considers their effect on other conditions you have, such as heart disease or kidney disease.

Keep up your healthy lifestyle changes while taking these medicines. The combination of medicines and heart-healthy lifestyle changes can help control and lower your high blood pressure and prevent heart disease.

Talk to your healthcare provider if you have any concerns about side effects from the medicines. They may change the dose or prescribe a new medicine. To manage high blood pressure, many people need to take two or more medicines. This is more likely in African American adults.

• There are several very common possible high blood pressure medicines your provider may prescribe. Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors keep your blood vessels from narrowing as much.

• Angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARBs) keep blood vessels from narrowing.

• Calcium channel blockers prevent calcium from entering the muscle cells of your heart and blood vessels. This allows blood vessels to relax.

• Diuretics remove extra water and sodium (salt) from your body, reducing the amount of fluid in your blood. The main diuretic for high blood pressure treatment is thiazide. Diuretics are often used with other high blood pressure medicines, sometimes in one combined pill.

• Beta blockers help your heart beat slower and with less force. As a result, your heart pumps less blood through your blood vessels. Beta blockers are typically used only as a backup option or if you have other conditions.

National Heart, Blood and Lung Institute 5/2024

*Submitted by: North Country Community Health Services-
www.nccbh.org*

Minnesota DNR News

Opportunities available to hunt elk in Minnesota

License applications now open

Hunters have through Saturday, June 15, to apply for one of the 10 elk licenses offered this year by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Licenses offered this year include two landowner permits, two 10-year history permits, and six general lottery permits.

Hunters can apply for:

• One of three available licenses to harvest either a bull or antlerless elk in zone 20's season A.

• One of two available licenses to harvest an antlerless elk, which can be a female or a young male, in zone 20's season B.

• One of five available licenses to harvest either a bull or antlerless elk in zone 30's season C.

All three seasons will be conducted from Saturday, Sept. 21, through Sunday, Sept. 29.

There are currently three recognized herds in northwestern Minnesota: Grygla, Kittson Central and Caribou-Vita. The Grygla area zone remains closed to state-licensed elk hunters.

The DNR is committed to managing elk for specific population goals set in the most recent elk management plan. The reduction in harvestable elk by state hunters reflects our desire to move toward population goals while considering potential harvest by Red Lake Nation Band members.

The reduction also accounts for uncertainty in elk numbers since lack of snow prevented

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DNR from conducting its aerial elk population survey in 2024.

"We know there are concerns related to crop and fence damage," said Kelsie LaSharr, DNR elk coordinator. "The DNR will continue to work with tribal nations, local landowners, agricultural producers, legislators, local government officials and state agencies to address those concerns and manage Minnesota's elk sustainably."

Hunters must select a season and can apply individually or in parties of two at any license agent, online (mndnr.gov/buy-alicense) or by telephone at 888-665-4236. There is a non-refundable application fee of \$5 per hunter.

Two licenses, one in zone 20 and one in zone 30, are reserved for individuals who meet landowner requirements (mndnr.gov/hunting/elk/landowner-elk-hunting.html) and apply for a license.

Successful hunters must present the animal within 24 hours of harvest for registration and collection of biological samples to screen for diseases or other health-related issues.

More information is available on the DNR's elk hunting webpage (mndnr.gov/hunting/elk). For more on Minnesota's elk, visit the DNR's elk management webpage (mndnr.gov/elk).

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Bemidji Speedway Car Show

5/18/2024
By Dennis Peterson
Bemidji Speedway opened the new season on Saturday with the annual car show. More than 40 bright and shiny new race cars were on hand at

Roth RV for fans, crews and drivers to view. The excitement for the new season of racing was evident with a new season ahead and the hopes of picking up a checkered flag or a championship in each driver's dreams.

Car show winners were Cody Bush in the mini stocks, Jayme Gordon in the Wissota Hornets, Kade Leeper in the Wissota Pure Stocks, Jayden Bahr in the Wissota Mod Fours, Devyn Weleski in the Wissota Midwest

Modifieds, Faye Lewis in the Wissota Super Stocks, and Jeff Reed in the Wissota Modifieds. Many new drivers will be racing and some changes in classes for others including Jayden Bahr in the Mod 4, Kevin Bahr in a Mod 4, Brooke Vernlund in a Mod 4, Alex Berg in Pure Stock, Karen Puschinsky in a Pure Stock, Tim Jackson in a Midwest Modified, Faye Lewis in a Super Stock, Cody Bush in a Mini Stock, Kalin Honer in the Midwest Modified and Skyler Smith in the Midwest Modified.

The season kicks of Memorial Day weekend with the "Chicken Shack Nationals and Jack Sparby Memorial Races" on Sunday May 26th and Monday May 27th. All classes will be running. Sunday's races will start at 4:PM with Memorial Monday set for a 2:PM start. Looking ahead the track will host "Young Guns Night" on June 2nd with all drivers under 20 introduced to the fans. On June 9th the mighty Late Models will invade the track. "Babes Border Battle" sponsored by Visit Bemidji will take over the show on June 16th and on June 23rd it's the always popular "Meet the Drivers" and kids night with all kids 12 and under receiving free admission.



Safety tips ahead of your Memorial Day barbecue

Memorial Day weekend marks the unofficial start of summer for millions of people across the country. Backyard barbecues are a staple of Memorial Day weekend, and such informal gatherings contribute much to the laid back vibe of this beloved three-day weekend. Backyard barbecues may be all about food and fun, but it's important that hosts take measures to ensure such soirees are safe as well. By employing the following measures, hosts can ensure their Memorial Day barbecues are safe for all in attendance.

- Place the grill in a safe location. The National Fire Protection Association urges hosts to place their grills a safe distance away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves or overhanging branches. The NFPA also notes no grill should be placed within 10 feet of any structure, including a home.
- Check propane tanks for leaks prior to using the grill. Memorial Day may be the first time many people use their grill since the previous summer or fall. The NFPA recommends propane grill users check their tanks for leaks prior to using the grill for the first time. This inspection is simple. Apply a light solution of soap and water to the hose. The NFPA notes a propane leak will release bubbles. The smell test also can reveal a leak, as a strong odor of gas can indicate a leak. In such instances, close the tank valve and turn off the grill. If the leak stops, have the grill serviced by a professional. If

the leak persists, call the fire department. The NFPA urges hosts who detect an odor of gas while cooking to get away from the grill immediately and call the fire department. Do not move the grill in such instances. · Man the grill at all times. An unattended grill poses a significant safety hazard. Whether you're using a propane grill, a charcoal grill, a smoker, or a hybrid, make sure an adult is keeping an eye on the grill at all times.

Purchase long-handled cooking tools. The American Red Cross notes that long-handled cooking tools are designed to keep chefs safe. Such tools ensure cooks' hands and arms do not have to be directly over flames, which can periodically flare up and pose a safety hazard.

· Ensure children are supervised when swimming. The grill is not the only safety threat that may be present at Memorial Day barbecues. Hosts who will open their pools or provide inflatable pools for children should make sure kids are supervised when in or around the water at all times. Before allowing kids in a pool, hosts should confirm their swimming abilities and insist kids who cannot swim or only recently learned to swim wear inflatables or life jackets to reduce drowning risk.

Memorial Day weekend is a festive time at many households. By emphasizing backyard barbecue safety strategies, hosts can ensure everyone has a great time and gets home safe this Memorial Day weekend.



More than 40 cars lined up to view at the Roth RV Bemidji Speedway car show on Saturday, May 18th.



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2024 Northwest Diamond Conference Standings 5/15							
TEAM	Win	Loss	Points	Overall			
Sacred Heart	7	0	14	12-2			
Ada-Borup-West	7	1	14	11-3			
Red Lake County	4	2	8	7-5			
Northern Freeze	5	5	8	6-7			
Fosston	4	2	8	9-4			
Win-E-Mac	4	3	8	8-3			
Fertile-Beltrami	4	5	8	5-5			
West Marshall	6	3	8	6-3			
BGMR	1	9	2	1-9			
NCE/UH	0	7	0	2-12			
Kittson County Central	0	8	0	0-8			
2024 Northwest Diamond Conference Offensive Statistics							
NAME	Team	AVG	2B	3B	HR	RBI	R
Cameron Spaeth	ABW	.523	0	0	0	11	19
Baron Odden	ABW	.500	3	2	0	12	10
Austin McCraven	ABW	.487	2	3	1	17	19
Parker Erickson	SH	.462	3	0	0	15	12
Dylan Widner	WMAR	.452	3	0	0	10	8
Bryer Stern	FB	.448	6	1	0	6	12
Hudson Boushee	FOSS	.447	6	1	0	14	10
Aiden Wolfe	FOSS	.400	3	1	0	5	14
Elliot Amtson	SH	.400	3	0	0	8	18
Will Christen	FOSS	.395	2	0	1	7	8
Will Gieseke	RLC	.394	1	0	0	6	13
Caleb Sather	FB	.389	5	0	0	8	2
Ryne Duppong	FOSS	.389	2	0	0	4	13
Brock Seeger	RLC	.387	2	0	0	10	8
Ian Jacobson	NCE/UH	.385	1	0	0	10	15
Cannon Anderson	ABW	.372	2	0	0	14	10
Lance Kritzberger	ABW	.368	6	1	0	15	15
Ames Fassino	ABW	.366	4	1	0	17	10
Wyatt Davis	WEM	.353	5	1	1	12	10
Kolby Hemmah	FB	.344	0	0	0	9	7
Braylon Hamre	WEM	.344	4	3	0	10	14
Blaine Smith	WMAR	.344	1	0	0	7	10
Brennen Fetting	ABW	.339	2	0	0	6	21
Wyatt Larson	ABW	.333	1	0	0	8	12
Cade Bentley	NCE/UH	.333	1	1	0	5	7
Owen Strom	WEM	.333	1	0	1	9	11
Braylon Hamre	WEM	.318	3	1	0	7	7
Josiah Sundby	SH	.317	1	1	0	10	12
Clay Below	WEM	.314	3	0	0	13	2
Cameron Bergman	WEM	.310	2	1	1	7	15

2024 Pine-to-Prairie Conference Standings 5/15							
TEAM	Win	Loss	Points	Overall			
Ada-Borup-West	6	0	12	11-3			
Win-E-Mac	4	1	8	8-3			
Fosston	3	1	6	9-4			
NCE/UH	2	5	4	2-12			
Fertile-Beltrami	2	3	4	5-5			
Mahnomen/Waubun	2	2	4	4-7			
Lake Park-Audubon	1	3	2	3-10			
Bagley	1	5	2	5-8			
2024 Pine-to-Prairie Conference Offensive Statistics							
NAME	Team	AVG	2B	3B	HR	RBI	R
Gage Gunderson	BGLY	.528	3	0	0	5	7
Cameron Spaeth	ABW	.523	0	0	0	11	19
Baron Odden	ABW	.500	3	2	0	12	10
Austin McCraven	ABW	.487	2	3	1	17	19
Bryer Stem	FB	.448	6	1	0	6	12
Hudson Boushee	FOSS	.447	6	1	0	14	10
Gunnar Nolan	BGLY	.436	3	0	0	11	10
Jameson Donner	MW	.412	1	2	0	9	7
Aiden Wolfe	FOSS	.400	3	1	0	5	14
Will Christen	FOSS	.395	2	0	1	7	8
Caleb Sather	FB	.389	5	0	0	8	2
Ryne Duppong	FOSS	.389	2	0	0	4	13
Ian Jacobson	NCE/UH	.385	1	0	0	10	15
Treyton Broden	BGLY	.379	1	0	0	6	3
Mason Erickson	BGLY	.375	2	1	0	3	7
Cannon Anderson	ABW	.372	2	0	0	14	10
Lance Kritzberger	ABW	.368	6	1	0	15	15
Ames Fassino	ABW	.366	4	1	0	17	10
Wyatt Davis	WEM	.353	5	1	1	12	10
Kolby Hemmah	FB	.344	0	0	0	9	7
Braylon Hamre	WEM	.344	4	3	0	10	14
Brennen Fetting	ABW	.339	2	0	0	6	21
Wyatt Larson	ABW	.333	1	0	0	8	12
Cade Bentley	NCE/UH	.333	1	1	0	5	7
Owen Strom	WEM	.333	1	0	1	9	11
Easton Bevins	MW	.333	0	0	1	2	5
Hayden Hood	BGLY	.324	0	0	0	2	7
Clay Below	WEM	.314	3	0	0	13	2
Cameron Bergman	WEM	.310	2	1	1	7	15
Jayden Haugen	WEM	.308	0	0	0	2	10
Aiden Flaten	NCE/UH	.294	1	0	0	7	11