



Tri County Canary

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

Six area veterans honored with Quilt of Valor at Bagley

By Pamela French
 Veterans Day 2024 six Veterans were honored and presented their own Quilt of Valor during programs held at the Bagley Elementary School and Bagley High School.

Veteran Douglas Moe enlisted in the United States Army after graduating from Bemidji High School in 2006. Moe knew the military was going to be his life path as his grandfather

(Korean-Vietnam era Vet) and father served our country. More completed basic and infantry training at Ft. Beijing, Georgia. After his initial training and prior to being deployed a tornado came through and leveled their barracks. With a quick reaction he grabbed his buddy and covered themselves with a mattress that saved their lives. He received an accommodation ribbon for this brave act.

Three months after the special training he was deployed to Camp Victory Iraq as combat infantry in 2007 for one year. He received a medal for serving in Iraq. After serving 6 years with the army infantry, he joined the Army Corp. of Engineers. In 2017 Moe was deployed to Iraq as part of a support team.

While serving in the National Guard he was in Mena Arkansas. Part of his continued training that of a plumber. He was called out several times for various weather related situation like when the Mississippi river flooded.

Moe had intended to make the military a life time career, however in 2018 a back injury and subsequent surgery abruptly ended his time in the service.

Moe is a member of VFW Post 1260 (Bemidji). Bagley Elementary is fortunate to have him as their special education teacher. According to his stepdaughter, who nominated him for a quilt, says he wants to teach his students that they are important, ways to handle situations, and celebrate exciting times.

Doug is involved in the community with the summer recreation, being a football and baseball coach, and a new scout leader.

Specialist E-4, Douglas Moe Jr was presented his QOV from Linda Gulbranson, Headwaters Quilt Guild member.

Veteran James “Butch” Boe, Lifelong Bagley resident and graduate of Bagley High School 1970, James Boe enlisted in the Army January 1973, making him a Vietnam Veteran. He completed his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood Missouri. His specialized training in Communications (MOS) was completed at Fort Carson Colorado, where he was stationed for 18 months. From there he was sent to Germany for artillery and communications.

Upon Boe’s return to the United States he was discharged from service at Fort Dix New Jersey January 1976 with a rank of Specialist E-4. He then went on to join the National Guard for 7 additional years.

After his military service Boe was employed by Garden Valley Telephone for 37 years, installing phone and internet services, skills he learned in the military.

Butch gives great credit to his wife Kathy who was with him at his duty stations and held the home together. They have 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

Butch has been a member of the American Legion Irvin Blix Post 16 for 50 years. He served as Commander in 1983 and 2001. He is very active with the Honor and Color Guard as well as having served on many committees.

Music one of Boe’s real passions as he plays in a band many weekends, shares his talent in churches and nursing care centers whenever asked. He has had the privilege of playing his guitar and singing at and/or leading memorial services

for community veterans. He is always willing to share his music and sense of patriotism when called upon to do so.

James Allen Boe, Specialist E4, was presented with his QOV by Mary Ann Erickson, Headwaters Quilt Guild member.

Veteran Mindy Ferrie Broden with her QOV.

Mindy grew up in the Bagley area graduating with the class of 1999. Military was not foreign to Mindy as she had a grandpa that served during the Korean war, and 3 uncles, one of which served in Vietnam.

Unsure of her life path, Mindy enlisted in the United States Army on April 11, 2001 and discharged 3 ½ years later on November 11, 2004 with a rank of E-3. The day Mindy received her QOV, was the 20th anniversary of her military date of discharge. A fitting tribute to receive her QOV in front of fellow veterans.

Mindy began her career with basic training in Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Her MOS training for 77 fuel specialist was completed at Fort Lee Virginia. She did an add on training of truck drivers at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Her first duty station was Fort Hood, Texas for one year before going to Germany. From there she deployed with her unit to Kuwait for Operation Enduring Freedom. She refueled and reloaded Apache helicopters to continue on with missions.

Due to a medical condition, she missed the initial invasion into Iraq in March of 2003. She met up with her troop back in Germany where she met her husband Adam Broden, who was the guest speaker during the program.

Among her medals she earned one for Global War on Terrorism and the Army Commendation Medal.

She has been a member of the American Legion Irvin Blix Post 16 for 18 years and serves on the board of the Clearwater County Veteran Memorial. She was the main speaker for the 4th of July 2024 ceremony where they honored fallen military personnel.

Mindy is employed by Sanford Health as one of the managers in behavioral health. As a mental health therapist, she serves many veterans that struggle with mental health. Her son who nominated her said “she carries the Army values of integrity and loyalty in every aspect of her life”.

Mindy Broden E-3, accepted her Quilt of Valor from Louise Walker, member of the Headwaters Quilt Guild.

Marine Veteran Chris Fletcher honored with his own QOV.

Chris had no immediate family that served in the military, but recalled that his Great Grandfather, Raymond TeHenepene was a WWII veteran.

Chris graduated high school in 2008, then enlisted into the United States Marines that same year, completing his basic training at the San Diego Marine base. He completed his MOS or military occupational specialty at Camp Pendelton in Infantry Training. His duty station was Camp Lejeune, North Carolina from where he was deployed in 2009 to Afghanistan and in 2011 was deployed on an emergency tour to Africa. Upon his active-duty discharge in 2012 he continued to be on the Marine reserve list until 2016.

He has been a member of the American Legion Irvin Blix Post 16 for nine years and has a paver stone at the Clearwater Veteran Memorial Site.

Chris’s son Gamble, named after a friend who lost his life in Afghanistan, was proud to nominate his dad to receive a Quilt of Valor. Gamble said, “My dad continues to serve our community and keeping it safe as a Minnesota Highway Patrol Officer”. Chris has held the position of Bagley Highway 2 Patrolmen since 2019. We thank him for continuing to be in harms way for our safety.

Linda McPherson, member of the Headwaters Quilt Guild presented Chris with his QOV.

Cody Nelson was raised in Bagley graduating with the

class of 2005. Cody paid tribute and thanks to his parents, wife, and children. Todd and Bridget Nelson along with Debra and Guy Rolfson, wife Olivia Nelson, and 3 daughters Isabella, Hattie and Abigail who have all joined in giving him great support on this journey.

Cody had a great role model with a great grandfather Eugene Sundsrud who served in WWII, who too was honored with a QOV in the days festivities. Cody recalls stories that he heard, saw the uniforms and medals and how proud he is of great grandfather.

Cody enlisted in the US Army in 2009 completing his basic and MOS infantry training as well as Airborne training at Fort Benning GA. He was deployed in 2010 to Ramadi Iraq to participate in Operation Iraqi Freedom and later deployed in 2012 to Ghazni, Afghanistan while stationed at Fort Bragg with the 82nd Airborne.

After his active service Cody joined the MN National Guard in 2013. In the national guard he served as a sniper, eventually achieving the position of Sniper platoon sergeant, after attending and graduating designated marksmanship and sniper school at Camp Robinson Arkansas (only 1 of 2 in the state).

Cody is now an instructor for the regional training institution with the National Guard and teaches the Advanced Leaders Course as well as Maneuver Senior Leaders course.

Cody has earned many medals and accommodations during his career including the Iraq Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Combat Infantry badge, 3 army commendation medals, and 3 army achievement medals. Stories that he too will pass on to his children and grandchildren.

He is a member of the American Legion Irvin Blix Post 16 and looks forward to being more active in this organization in the future. Cody is hard-working man, is busy raising three young girls, employed with Gordon Construction company, serves as a Bagley volunteer fireman along with his responsibilities in the National Guard unit. Quoting his daughter that nominated him “he is deserving to receive a QOV for all his sacrifices and hard work”.

Eugene Sandberg age 100, WWII veteran and Great-Grandfather of Cody Nelson honored with his own QOV.

Mr. Sandberg comes from what is known as the “greatest generation”, coined by NBC news journalist Tom Brokaw in 1988. The greatest generation is known for their patriotism, strong work ethic, and commitment to family. The term refers to Americans born between 1901 and 1927 who came of age during the great depression and WWII.

Patriotism – Many members of the greatest generation fought in WWII

Work Ethic- The great depression and WWII taught the greatest generation to work hard and be frugal.

Family commitment-The greatest generation are often the parents of the baby boomer generation.

Bravery and sacrifice – The greatest generation is remembered for their bravery and sacrifice during WWII and going off to serve our country just like Eugene did leaving behind everything he held dear.

Eugene fits into this generation like a well fit glove. He was born in 1924 and is our oldest living WWII veteran in Clearwater County at 100 years old. His great granddaughter Ava Rolfson said, “He lived through the great depression, served in WWII, witnessed the civil rights movement, the AIDS epidemic, 9/11, and the advancement of technology. He has witnessed the world going from railroads and telegraph, to planes, space travel and cell phones. He is a walking piece of history and embodies every valued trait of a veteran”

Eugene is one of four siblings who all attended school in a one room school house. He was attending Hibbing High School, where he graduated from, when Pearl Harbor was bombed. He was drafted into the United States Army the spring of 1943. When he left for basic training, there were three busloads of boys that went to Fort Snelling for physicals and then trained in New Orleans. He had further training at Camp McCoy.

When discussing “leaving everything that is dear to defend our country”, Eugene left his finance and didn’t see any family for the three years he was in the military. Having left California on a ship with 6,000 soldiers Eugene arrived January 11th 1944 in India at the China-Burma-India Theater. From there soldiers took a train to Calcutta, paddle boats upriver, then a 3-mile walk to another camp.

He had spent two years overseas when he arrived back in the states on November 24, 1945 to Fort Dix New Jersey. He received the Good Conduct Medal and three overseas service bars. He received his honorable discharge on January 27, 1946 one month after marrying his wife, Wilma. The two had seven children. He has several grandchildren, great and great-great grandchildren.

In the military Eugene was a Locomotive Mechanic 112 with Company B 726th Railroad Operations. He continued in that field as a civilian working on the Duluth, Mesaba and Iron Range Railroad for 21 years. He later worked for Mankato State and Bemidji State University as Chief Engineer retiring in 1987.

In his leisure he was an avid hunter and trapper and helped form the Trappers Association in Minnesota.

Eugene Sandberg was one of over 16 million Americans that served during WWII and has been a proud member of the American Legion Irvin Blix Post 16 for five years.

Members of the Headwaters Quilt Guild and the community in which we live may never know the extent of the sacrifices of the six brave men and woman to protect and the defend the United States of America. The awarding of this Quilt of Valor is an expression of gratitude from a very grateful nation.



Chris Fletcher



James “Butch” Boe



Cody Nelson



Eugene Sandberg



Douglas Moe



Mindy Ferrie Broden



Clearwater County residents, members of the Headwaters Quilt Guild (Bemidji) and Quilts of Valor Foundation - Louise Walker, MaryAnn Erickson, Linda Gulbranson, Linda McPherson and Gladys Luecken, presided over the Quilt of Valor presentations.

Representative Matt Grossell Legislative Update District 2A

News Release
 Statement from Rep.
 Grossell and Rep.-
 elect Duran on Fatal
 Accident Involving
 Red Lake Police Of-
 ficer Jesse Branch

Bemidji, MN — This morning Officer Jesse Branch was killed on duty in a crash involving his patrol car and another vehicle. A strong member of the Red Lake Police Department who last year was recognized for his outstanding work in DUI enforcement as a DWI-All-Star Enforcer. Representative Matt Grossell (R - Clearbrook) and Representative-elect Bidal Duran (R - Bemidji) had this to say on the tragic incident:
 "We are truly heartbroken



for the family and friends of Officer Jesse Branch. They will be in our payers as they face the grief of losing a loved one heading into a time of year that should be filled with joy and happiness. Officer Branch served our community with honor, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to protecting the safety of others."

"Having both been a part of the law enforcement community, there is nothing more difficult in this line of work than losing a brother in blue. Officer Branch's bravery and selflessness will never be forgotten. We share our support for our police and peace officers in this especially difficult time."

Tips from Essentia Health to stay safe and healthy this winter

As winter approaches, Essentia Health wants to ensure that our communities stay safe and healthy during the colder months. With a few simple precautions, you can enjoy winter activities while protecting yourself from the cold weather and flu season.

Winter activity safety tips:
Dress warm: Layer your clothing to stay warm and dry. Wear a hat, gloves and a scarf to protect exposed skin from frostbite.

Stay active: Engage in winter sports like skiing, snowboarding or ice skating, but always wear appropriate safety gear.

Be cautious on ice: Watch for icy patches on sidewalks and driveways.

Stay hydrated: Even in cold weather, it's important to drink plenty of water to stay hydrated.

Sun safety: Even though the temperatures are colder, the sun can still be harmful to your skin. During outdoor winter activities, sunglasses and sunscreen are still recommended.

Cold-weather health tips:
Prevent hypothermia and frostbite: Limit time spent outdoors in extreme cold. Know the signs of hypothermia, such as shivering, confusion and drowsiness, and seek immediate medical attention if symptoms occur.

Maintain indoor safety: En-

sure your home is properly heated and use space heaters safely. Install carbon monoxide detectors to prevent poisoning from heating sources.

Mental health: The shorter days and longer nights can affect mental health, leading to conditions like Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). Staying active, maintaining social connections and getting enough sunlight can help improve mood and overall well-being.

Keep your home humidified: Use a humidifier to maintain moisture in the air, which can help prevent dry skin and respiratory issues.

Protect yourself and others from illness:

Get vaccinated: The flu and COVID-19 vaccines are your best defense against winter illnesses. Schedule your flu or COVID shot with Essentia today.

Practice good hygiene: Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and avoid close contact with sick individuals. Regularly clean and disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, light switches and mobile devices to reduce the spread of germs.

Stay home if sick: If you experience common illness symptoms, such as fever, cough and body aches, stay home to prevent spreading the virus to others.

Boost your immune system:

Eat a balanced diet rich in fruits and vegetables, get regular exercise and ensure you get enough sleep to keep your immune system strong.

"Winter is a beautiful season, but it comes with its own set of challenges," said April Rohrer, an advanced practice registered nurse and certified nurse practitioner specializing in family medicine at Essentia Health. "By following these tips, we can all make the most of this time of year while minimizing the risks associated with cold weather and seasonal illnesses."



JohnRogerEggers.com, envision@paulbunyan.net, 20269 Irvine Ave NW, Bemidji, MN 56601, 218-766-9009



I wasn't sure if I sure bother purchasing them. To me they just looked a bunch of old newspapers tied with a string. They may have been sitting in the garage for decades. One of the perks of buying antiques is that it's kind of like playing a slot machine (which I never do) but you stick in your coin and hope you make a hit.

I purchased the old-old "newspapers" for about twenty dollars feeling that I just blew a twenty dollar bill. I took them home, untied the bundle and found that these old newspapers were not newspapers at all but a stack of old pulp story books dating to the early 1900s.

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Sons of Norway meeting scheduled

The Granlund Lodge of the Sons of Norway will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30, Thursday, December 12th, at the Embassy Center in Fosston. After the meeting, there will be a Christmas potluck meal followed by a gift exchange. For those members or guests who wish to participate in the gift exchange with a \$10 value, a man is asked to bring a gift for a man and a woman to bring a gift for a woman. For questions, contact Wes of Susie Roland at 218-435-1230.

AD DEADLINE FRIDAYS NOON

They were kind of rat torn around the edges but the covers were extremely colorful and dramatic and told a story. The original price on these magazines was ten cents.

Pulp fiction books originated around 1890. The first magazine was titled Argosy. They were called "pulp" because of the cheap pulp paper used to print the pages. The covers often overlapped the inside pages and this is why so many covers are torn along the edges.

Magazines or "pulp" that date to the early 1900s to the 1950s are prized for the cover art work, which is identified by the artist's name on the cover. Westerns, science fiction, war, weird, and detective are just a few of the themes, which are highly collectible. The Ace High Western pulp book featured here is worth about \$25.

I am happy to report that the pulp magazines I purchased were one of my most profitable purchases in my many years of antique collecting. Many of the magazines went for between \$300 and \$400 each. This wasn't due to what was printed on the inside but what was printed on the outside. In the world of antiques, you never know what you are going to get. If you can afford to take a chance, do it!



Knife Show

Hundreds of knives for sale in time for Christmas gifting!

• New hunting knives • Survival knives • Folding knives

• Collectible vintage knives from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark

NO ADMISSION CHARGE • DOOR PRIZES

Saturday, December 7, 2024

From 9 am to 6 pm

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TUESDAY, DEC. 10TH, 2024 - 6:30 PM

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Comes with Salad Bar, Potato & Garlic Toast.
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DEC. 7TH-LIVE MUSIC
"JOHN VINCENT & HILLBILLY BOYS BAND"
7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

DEC. 14TH-LIVE MUSIC
"FRANK & THE JAMES GANG"

DEC. 28TH-LIVE MUSIC
"JOHN VINCENT & HILLBILLY BOYS BAND"

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Starting at 58#s
Progressive Blackout 6pm,
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Kitchen will be CLOSED
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CLASSIFIED ADS

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Win-E-Mac Public School

Win-E-Mac Public School is seeking to hire special education paraprofessionals for the 2024-2025 school year.

Applications available at wemschools.org/district/employment-opportunities. Please send a letter of interest and a completed application to Principal Casey Reiersen at creierson@wemschools.org or Win-E-Mac School, 23130 345th ST SE, MN 56535. This will be open until filled. Phone: 218-563-2900.

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M38C

Customer Service Representative
American State Bank- Erskine Location
201 Vance Ave S, Erskine, MN 56535 • 218-687-2865

Full Time – Pay \$16-\$20, based on experience

American State Bank in Erskine, MN will be taking applications for a Customer Service Representative. We will accept a resume and cover letter indicating interest in the position. The position includes but is not limited to providing account services to customers by processing deposits, withdrawals, loan payments, and opening new deposit accounts.

Monday-Friday with shifts ranging from 8:00am-5:00pm. 40 hrs/wk. This position requires a detail-oriented person, with a professional manner and provides prompt, efficient, and accurate service in accordance with established policies and procedures.

If you want to work for an established, growing organization, this is the place for you. Let American State Bank be your destination workplace. Please contact Kristopher Munter at Kristopher.munter@asbgrygla.com or Jackie Huschle at Jackie.huschle@asbgrygla.com with any questions or interest in the position.

M37-42C

EDITOR POSITION

The Oklee Herald is looking to fill the position of Editor. This position is Full-time and includes benefits and 401K. Various duties include, but not limited to:

- Page layout
- Writing articles
- Attending community events: day, evening or weekends
- Photography
- Some inter-office duties (updating subscriptions, customer service, ad sales)

Knowledge in Adobe InDesign, Acrobat, Photoshop, Microsoft Word and Excel helpful.

Will train. Applications are available upon request, or submit application and resume to the Richards Publishing, PO Box 159, Gonvick, MN 56644. Contact Corrine at 218-487-5225 or email richards@gvtel.com for questions.

M38-40C

Polk County Full-Time Employment Opportunities:

Custodian I – Facilities:
\$19.50 – \$24.70/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Deputy Sheriff Patrol I - II – Sheriff's Office:
\$30.48 – \$40.93/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Engineering Technician – Highway:
\$26.08 – \$36.78/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Environmental Technician – Environmental Services:
\$26.08 – \$33.04/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Landfill Technician – Landfill:
\$23.44 – \$29.69/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Mechanical Maintenance Technician I - II – Fosston:
\$24.61 – \$33.04/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Public Safety Telecommunicator – Sheriff's Office:
\$26.08 – \$33.04/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Sort Line Operator I - II – Fosston:
\$18.57 – \$24.70/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

R48C

EARLY CHILDHOOD POSITIONS OPEN



Are you looking to find your purpose in the world? We are looking for people that want to connect with their community and provide meaningful support our enrolled families....all while building a career with great benefits.

Inter-County Community Council is accepting applications for openings in our Head Start program.

Home Visitor: Position works with one-on-one with families of children ages birth-3 yrs, providing in home child & parent education visits on a weekly basis. Office in Bagley, MN. 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. Full or Part-time.

SUBSTITUTE Classroom Assistant Teacher: substitute on an on-call, as needed basis. Hours vary significantly. Work with a team to provide care and education to 3-4 years olds in a classroom setting (Thief River Falls or Bagley, MN); 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.intercountyycc.org/careers/

Application is available on the website. Send completed application and resume to Inter-County Community Council, attn.: Human Resources, PO Box 189, Oklee, MN 56742 or hr@intercountyycc.org. Positions are open until filled. Call 218-796-5144 x1028 for more information about the positions and salary.

ICCC is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.

R37-38C

Hiring! Bagley Co-op Elevator Manager

The Bagley Co-op Elevator is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Manager to join our team. The ideal candidate will have a background in livestock or agriculture and a strong passion for serving the local farming community.

Position: Manager
Location: Bagley Co-op Elevator

Responsibilities:

- Oversee daily operations of the Co-op Elevator.
- Manage staff, scheduling, and workflow.
- Ensure smooth coordination of inventory
- Develop and maintain relationships with local farmers and suppliers.
- Implement safety protocols and company policies.
- Provide excellent customer service to all clients.

Qualifications:

- Experience with Livestock or Agriculture preferred.
- Strong leadership and organizational skills.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal abilities.

Compensation:
Wage is based on experience.

How to Apply:
Applications can be picked up at any Bagley Cenex location or directly at the Bagley Co-op Elevator. We look forward to reviewing your application!

M38-40C

1x5

Sounds like multiplication?

Guess again. It's newspaper talk for a one-column by 5-inch ad. Too small to be effective?

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FLOORING SALE: In-stock as low as 67¢ sq. ft.; In-stock vinyls as low as 78¢ sq. ft.; In-stock laminates as low as \$1.69 sq. ft. FREE estimates. Installation available. Mireault's Home Furnishings, Fosston, MN, 218-435-6171 or 800-545-6171

MISCELLANEOUS

BUYING AND SELLING silver bars, silver dollars, rare coins, gold jewelry, any gold-silver items, collector coins, currency. I have a \$750,000 line of credit and own 1475 acres of land near Ormsby. Kuehl's Coins, Fairmont, MN 507-235-3886/507-399-9982. R36-38P

REAL ESTATE - RENTALS

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Applications online at bemman.wixsite.com/bemidjimanagementinc

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R35-38C

LSS Caregiver Support & Respite services offers PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives) training classes for people, age 60 or older, who are experiencing depression due to the losses they endure as they age. Learn skills to manage unpleasant feelings and improve quality of life.

Call 866.787.9802 to learn more.

R31-42C

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R32a-cw

FOR SALE

Parts for snowmobiles, motorcycles, 3 & 4 wheelers for sale. Lots of vintage sleds. Also buying parts/machines.

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M30-46C

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAYS



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Danang Vietnam 1969
By Gerald Fenske

\$15⁰⁰

Memories Of A Seabee Welder Danang Vietnam 1969

Memories of a welder in Vietnam, is a story that I started about twenty years ago.... it has been a very satisfying trip down memory lane. -Gerald Fenske

If you would like to have a copy of Gerald's book, you can pick one up at the Leader Record in Gonvick or contact Gerald Fenske at Creatensteel@gmail.com

R33nc



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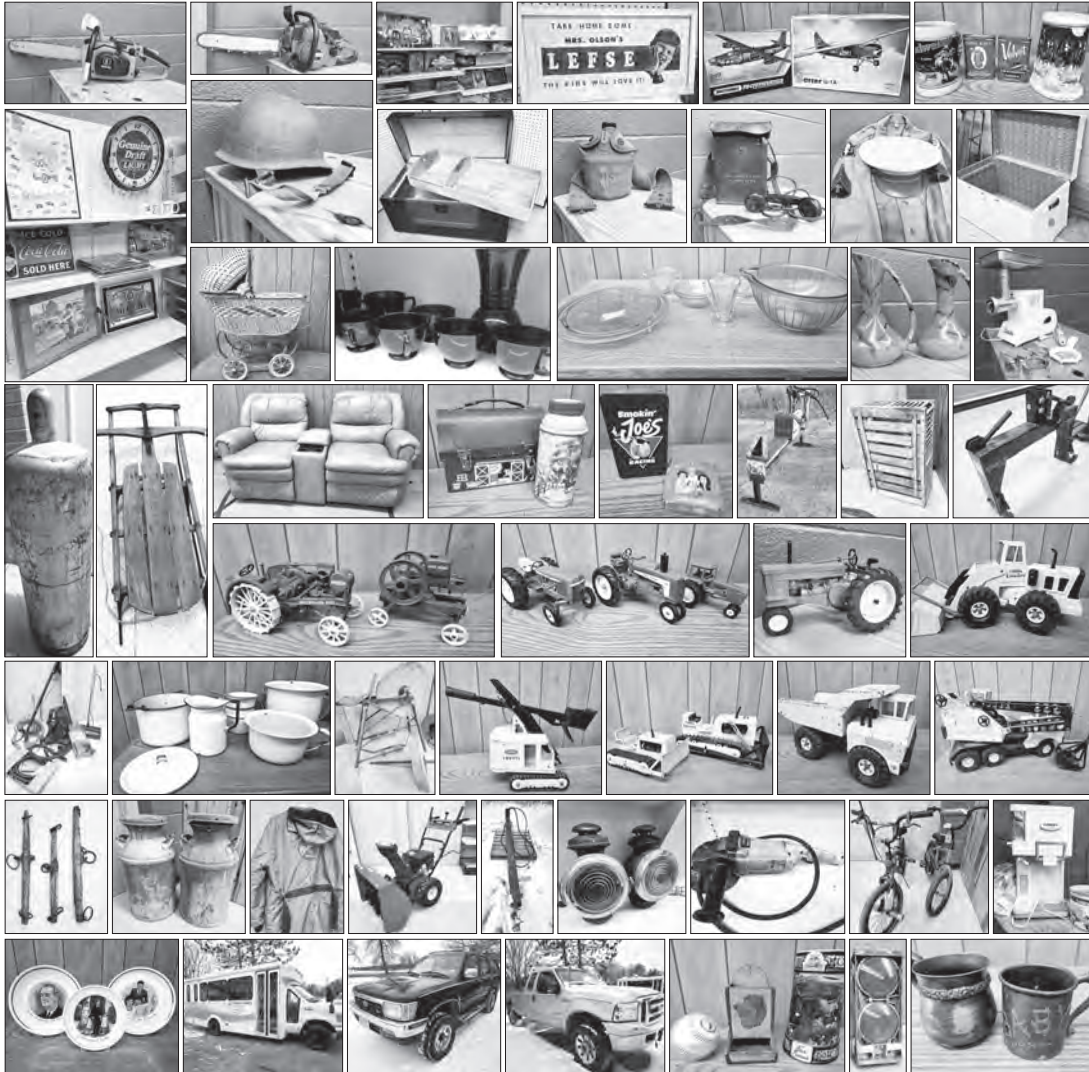
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Did you know?

What do Bingo® and pizza have in common? It appears each originated in Italy and are enjoyed across the globe. Bingo is derived from the Lo Gioco del Lotto d'Italia, which is the Italian national lottery that has been played since 1530. It is still played every Saturday in Italy. The game was later introduced to France, where it was known as Le Lotto, and Germany, where it was a child's game to help students learn key subjects. Bingo soon found itself on American soil, and originally was called "Beano." Players at country fairs would mark their numbered cards with beans after dealers selected numbered discs from cigar boxes. When players won the game, they'd yell out "beano." An enterprising New York salesman named Edwin S. Lowe came across the game at a carnival in Georgia, and overheard someone accidentally yell "bingo" in stead of "beano" upon winning. Lowe renamed the game and hired a Columbia University math professor to come up with a higher number of combinations for playing cards so there would be fewer non-repeating groups. Lowe ultimately marketed the redeveloped game as "Bingo."

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For More Information Go To: mcmullensales.hibid.com

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Bidding Starts to Close Thurs. Dec. 12th ~ 6 pm

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Minnesota Starwatch for December 2024

By Deane Morrison

As December rolls along, some of the most iconic stars and constellations wheel into view during the evening hours.

And that's just in the east. In the west, the brightest planet—Venus—stages a comeback.

During the first half of the month, however, the moon steals the show. On the 4th, a young crescent moon hangs below Venus above the southwestern horizon, in the sun's afterglow. As the moon waxes, it climbs eastward toward Saturn and passes the ringed planet between the 7th and 8th. Then, as it approaches fullness, it invades the space where the bright winter stars are making their entrance.

The evening of the 14th, December's almost-full moon; brilliant Jupiter; and Aldebaran, the eye of Taurus, the bull, line up above the eastern horizon. Starting on the 19th, though, you can go out at 9 p.m. and see all the bright winter stars, plus Jupiter and Mars, with no interfering moon. Mars will be below the Gemini twins and in line with two stars: Procyon, in Canis Minor, the little dog; and Sirius—the brightest of stars—in Canis Major, the big dog.

As for Venus, our sister planet climbs steadily in the south-



west. If you go out regularly at nightfall late in the month, you can watch Venus and Saturn approaching each other. Saturn begins to tumble from the evening sky this month, and in mid-January, the ringed planet

will glide past Venus.

In the morning sky, see if you can spot Mercury low in the southeast about 40 minutes before sunrise late in the month. It will be best on the 25th; look for the red star Antares, in

Scorpius, to the lower right of the planet.

Winter arrives officially at 3:20 a.m. on the 21st. At that moment the sun reaches a point over the Tropic of Capricorn and begins its next journey north.

December Weed of the Month: Going Above and Beyond Using Drones for Conservation Efforts

By giving a bird's-eye view of hard-to-reach areas, drones are providing access to valuable data



Julia Dellick, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

The growing use of drone technology in conservation is transforming how we monitor and protect our natural resources and ecosystems. By giving a bird's-eye view of hard-to-reach

areas, drones are providing access to valuable data. Sam Seybold, Buffer Specialist at the Aitkin County Soil Water Conservation District (SWCD) has been incorporating drones into his work efforts over the past four years.

One key application of drones that Sam and Aitkin SWCD have used is invasive species monitoring. Drones can be flown over areas with known weed infestations to assess their extent, providing valuable imagery that informs

management strategies. This preliminary data can then be compared with follow-up images taken after treatment to evaluate management effectiveness.

In addition to assessing known infestations, drones can be used to find new ones. For example, Sam and his team used their knowledge of non-native Phragmites, an extremely tall wetland grass, to fly over areas while it was blooming. By analyzing the images, they can distinguish non-native Phragmites from native species. Non-native Phragmites can be spotted because of darker seed heads. These images are paired with GPS coordinates, enabling the team to pinpoint and target the new infestations more efficiently.

Drones not only assist in invasive species management, but also play a role in reintroducing native plants. This year, the Aitkin SWCD acquired a seeding drone. After treating an area of buckthorn, the drone disperses seed of native, fast-growing plants that compete with buckthorn seedlings emerging from the seedbank. This promotes the restoration of native plant communities.

In addition to weed management, the Aitkin SWCD also used drones to map the entire shoreline of Lake Mille Lacs, spanning over 80 miles. This has allowed for plans to restore many areas of shoreline to improve lake health. These efforts will focus on reducing runoff, stabilizing the shoreline, enhancing plant diversity, and expanding wildlife habitat. With the continued success of this project, Aitkin SWCD hopes to carry out similar efforts on other surrounding lakes.

Drones are rapidly transforming the way we approach land management, offering new possibilities for efficiency, accuracy, and data collection. Whether it's tracking invasive species, restoring shorelines, or supporting habitat restoration projects, drones are proving to be an indispensable tool on the path to healthier ecosystems. As technology advances and drone capabilities expand, the potential for drones in natural resource work will only continue to grow, making the future of conservation brighter and more accessible than ever before.

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

Flu, also called influenza, is an infection of the nose, throat and lungs, which are part of the respiratory system. The flu is caused by a virus. Most people with the flu get better on their own. But influenza can cause serious complications for some groups of people.

Getting a flu vaccine is the best way to prevent the flu and its complications for almost everyone. The flu vaccine can lower the risk of getting the flu. It also can lower the risk of having serious illness from the flu.

Once you get a flu vaccine, it takes up to two weeks to build immunity. It's best for everyone age 6 months or older to get the flu vaccine in September or October. But you can benefit from the vaccine even if you don't get it until later in flu season.

When you get vaccinated, your immune system makes antibodies to protect you from the viruses included in the vaccine. But antibody levels may decline over time, which is another reason to get a flu shot every year.

Getting a yearly flu vaccine lowers the chances of having serious complications or dying of the flu. This is especially true for people who are at high risk of flu complications.

High risk groups include:

- Adults older than age 65.
- People in nursing homes or long-term care.
- Young children, especially those age 12 months or younger.
- People who plan to be pregnant, are pregnant or recently gave birth during flu season.

The flu vaccine is your best defense against the flu. But you can take other steps to help protect yourself from the flu and other viruses. Follow these standard precautions:

- Wash your hands. Wash

your hands well and often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water aren't available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

• Avoid touching your face. Keeping your hands away from your eyes, nose and mouth helps keep germs away from those places.

• Cover your coughs and sneezes. Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow. Then wash your hands.

• Clean surfaces. Regularly clean often-touched surfaces to prevent spread of infection from touching a surface with the virus on it and then your face.

• Avoid crowds. The flu spreads easily wherever people gather — in child care centers, schools, office buildings and auditoriums and on public transportation.

For almost everyone, a flu vaccine can lower the risk of the flu and its complications. You may be able to get your vaccine at your healthcare professional's office. Other places to check are pharmacies, health centers, and vaccine clinics at your school or workplace.

Flu shots are available by walk in on Thursday afternoons from 2-4pm at Clearwater County Nursing Service. Please call (218) 694-6581 for other times/days if needed.

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/flu/in-depth/flu-shots/art-20048000>

Submitted by: North Country Community Health Services- www.ncchb.org or find us on Facebook-North Country Community Health Services

(Clearwater, Hubbard and Lake of the Woods Public Health)

Marshall Soybean & Corn Growers donate to area food shelves

WARREN – The Marshall Soybean and Corn Growers are putting their checkoff dollars to good use by donating \$600 in hams to food shelves in Warren, Argyle, Strandquist and Grygla.

"It is very important and helpful to those in need," Board Secretary/Treasurer Cecil Deschene said. "The Marshall County food shelves do tremendous work, and we are proud to help the families in our community."

Deschene noted that Minnesota's soybean farmers play an important role in providing feed for the meat that ends up on the family table.

In Minnesota, pork is one

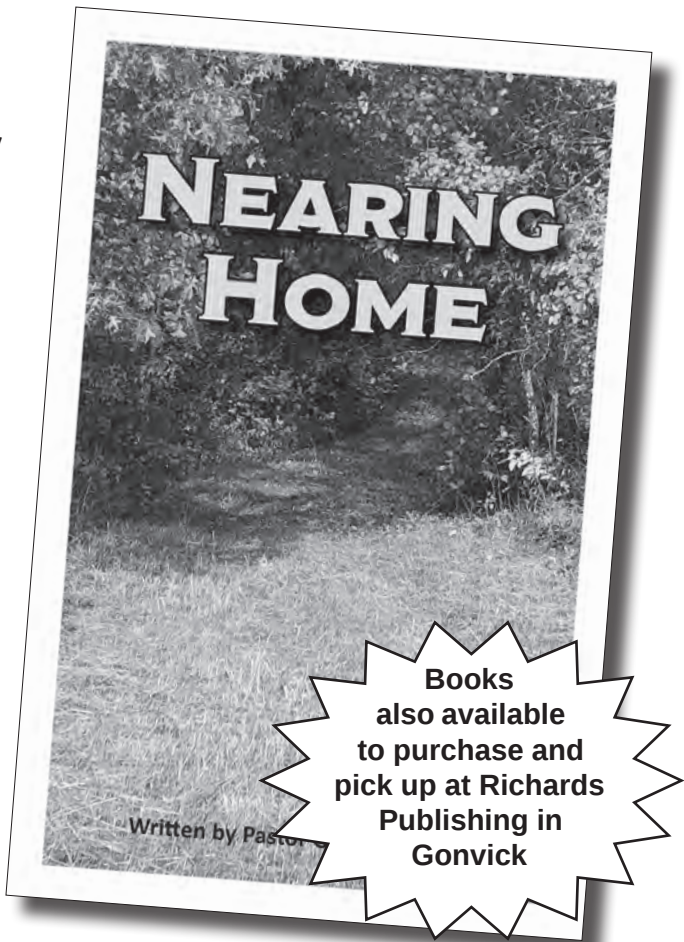
of the meat industry's top exports, creating over 44,000 jobs and generating \$6 billion in annual economic activity. Pigs consume over 20 billion pounds of soybean meal each year, increasing the taste of the pork and ensuring a high-quality product for consumers.

The mission of Marshall County is to effectively and efficiently deliver essential services to help families and individuals achieve their potential through active community participation and to protect, promote and improve the health and quality of life in Marshall County, Minnesota.

NEARING HOME

Written by Pastor Gary L. Johnson

In this long-awaited sequel to 'Till I See Heaven', Pastor Gary Johnson takes his readers along on his journey of faith, ministry, and family. Picking up in 1978, Gary invites us to follow along as he tells of services in large churches in cities, in individual homes and in tiny churches meeting in the middle of nowhere.



Books also available to purchase and pick up at Richards Publishing in Gonvick

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Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol

Q u e s -
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is here. Can
talk about
tire safety
and how a person can tell if
their tires are still good?

Answer: Winter season is a good time to remind motorists about the importance of installing and maintaining good tires. Tires must be able to carry your vehicle's weight and grip the surface of the road properly. Inspect tires regularly for cuts, cracks, uneven wear, bald spots, bulges, and punctures. Carry a good spare tire and check its pressure often. Tires do not have as much traction on gravel or dirt roads as they do on concrete or asphalt roads. Tires have been known to lose up to 1 psi (pounds per square inch) every month. Check your tire pressure often and never drive with under-inflated tires.

- The vehicle's recommended tire pressure is located on a sticker inside the driver's door of your vehicle or in the owner's manual.
- Check your tires before you've driven or at least three hours after you've driven your

vehicle.

- Insert a pressure gauge into the valve stem on your tire. The gauge will show a measured psi.

- Compare the measured psi to the psi found on the sticker inside the driver's door or in the owner's manual. DO NOT compare to the psi on your tire's sidewall.

- If the measured psi is above the number, let air out until it matches. If below, add air until it reaches the proper number.

- Check your tires often for wear and damage problems. A tire is illegal if the tread is less than one-sixteenth of an inch deep. An easy way to check for wear is by using the penny test.

- Take a penny and hold Abraham Lincoln's body between your thumb and forefinger.

- Select a point on your tire where the tread appears the lowest and place Lincoln's head into one of the grooves.

- If any part of Lincoln's head is covered by the tread, you're driving with the legal and safe amount of tread. If your tread gets below that, your

vehicle's ability to grip the road in adverse conditions is greatly reduced.

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

Filling Up the Manger with the Last Straw

T w a s
“a B a b e
wrapped in
swaddling clothes, lying in a manger” (Luke 2:12). The unspoken speaks how it all went down as He came down that holy night.

Preparing Him room came long before the arrival of as no doubt there were many ins and outs along The Way. You know, things like the Inns had to be all booked so there would be no room. The stable offering stability was carved out long before the arrival of this Babe of whom we speak. And seven hundred years before was told all bold by Isaiah when he spoke. “The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (Is. 7:14).

Straw was perhaps strewn ahead of time within the stable which helped prepare Him room. And because it was there upon arrival of the threesome, they'd soon be able to cradle the Babe within the manger, within the stable, which would soon behold the Son of God.

Or, was it hay? It most certainly could have been hay rather than straw. We don't know every detail as the angels broke the silence that silent night as “the Word was made flesh.” (John 1:14).

There's a difference you know, between straw and hay. Hay feeds while straw acts as an insulator, a protection if you will, from the elements that might otherwise be rather chilling. It offers comfort, and so it did to the Comforter of all mankind.

And in the stillness, I wonder what the last straw was that caused God to send down His only begotten Son. Oh, I know, way back in the plan of salvation, The Way was made and it came to pass—this Babe protecting us from things that cling.

Straw can be pretty clingy, and that's why He came—this Babe now covering the last straw. Truth is, that which clings may not only break the camel's back as we say, but it breaks His sacred heart, and

thus He came.

As my mind wanders, I still wonder. Was it hay rather than straw in that manger? Most mama's wouldn't be able wrap their minds around that though. After all, the animals nearby might nibble too nigh to the Babe—and I doubt Mary would have allowed that—nor Joseph for that matter.

No, I think it was straw. It's the straw we must hand over to the Babe in the manger so that He may cling to every tiny piece of broken in our lives. As we place each piece within the manger, may He cling to it as we cling to Him. Allowing Him to take hold of the last straw tis a gift we give back to the Savior. Tis a signal of sorts, a nod in His direction that we not only trust in The Way which was prepared so long ago, but all that is and is to come.

“And this will be a sign to you; You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger” (Luke 2:12). Amen.



Clearwater County Community Choir celebrates their 2024 Christmas season

“There is truly something for everyone,” says Director Josh Gunderson of the upcoming holiday concert. The Clearwater County Community Choir will be joined by performers from the Bagley High School in an afternoon concert scheduled for December 15th at 4pm. This concert will share performances from solo contest

pieces that won performance of the day and superior ratings at contest and nostalgic songs to get you in the holiday spirit. The second half of the pro-gram will feature the full Community choir and will span musical selections including holiday classics and familiar pieces, chorale classics and Latin standards, and even

something for the sci-fi fans with King Kong making an appearance (sorry, no Godzilla). Yes, even the Grinch will make an appearance. “Please come out and support music in our community. The program is sure to leave a smile on your face and JOY in your heart.” Mr. Gunderson assures.

Minnesotans receive 460,733,400 robocalls annually, that's 81/person

More Key Highlights:

- New Threats: Half of Americans lack confidence in their ability to spot AI-generated robocalls

- Victim Demographics: Millennials are the most susceptible to scammers, with an 80% likelihood of giving personal information to unknown callers

- Southern States Hit Hardest by Spam Calling: Louisiana residents receive the most robocalls per capita (339) in the U.S., followed by Georgia (307), South Carolina (248), Alabama (248), and Arkansas (238)

- Residents are fighting back: 44% of Americans have joined the national Do Not Call Registry. The top 5 states most proactive for filing on the Do Not Call Registry are Arkansas, Delaware, Ohio, Illinois, and Virginia

Full Robocall Epidemic Report: <https://www.whistleout.com/CellPhones/Guides/robocall-epidemic-state-statistics>

com/CellPhones/Guides/robocall-epidemic-state-statistics

Some of our tips on how to combat robocalling and protect yourself from fishing scams:

- Ignore or block spam callers: Answering the phone lets scammers know that yours is an active number, so you stay on their lists. On your device, iPhones and Androids can block numbers if you're receiving repeated calls, and blocking text messages is also simple.

- Avoid giving personal information to unknown callers: Even just confirming with a 'yes' when asked to verify your identity can give scammers a foot in the door to stealing your information. When in doubt, hang up and call the assumed business back with a known and trusted number.

- Do Not Call Registry: This

is a government database tracking the phone numbers of individuals who have requested telemarketers not to contact them. Registering is free and open to anyone.

- FTC Fraud Report: If you have been defrauded by a spam call—or experienced one but managed to avoid becoming a victim—make sure to report it to the FTC. Your report is shared with law enforcement officials across the nation who warn other consumers and potentially use the information to shut scams down.

With scam calling and texting presenting an ever greater risk to Americans, it's more important than ever for people to know their options when it comes to dealing with spam and robocalls. If you're interested in sharing this with your audience, I'd be happy to answer any questions. Let me know!

Report bear den locations in Brainerd, Duluth areas

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is asking hunters and other recreationists spending time outdoors this fall to report the locations of occupied bear dens they encounter in and around the Brainerd and Duluth areas. Bear researchers with the DNR and University of Minnesota Duluth hope to fit an additional number of bears with GPS tracking collars this winter.

“Getting a few bears collared in winter would really help these studies,” said Andrew Tri, Minnesota DNR bear project leader. “It would allow us to get a whole year of movement data, which we can't do with bears that we catch and collar in mid-summer.”

The purpose of this research is to document bear movements on the landscape (both rural and urban) and assess the age of first reproduction in these two study areas.

Anyone finding a den in either area should obtain a GPS location (if possible) and call DNR bear research in Grand Rapids at 218-328-8879 or 218-328-8874.

The Minnesota DNR has had a decades-long study on bears collared in the Chippewa National Forest and at Camp Ripley Training Center to as-

sess survival, reproduction and movement. Assessing the age of first reproduction is critical to keeping tabs on the bear population and effectively set harvest quotas.

“Bears can cause conflicts when they live near people, and collaring and tracking bears in the Duluth area will help us better understand how they are using the developed landscape,” said Michael Joyce, UMD wildlife ecologist. “Ultimately, we would like to use the information we gather to help reduce human-bear conflicts and pro-

mote coexistence.”

Bear research provides a better understanding of factors that cause populations to change, and in this way enables the Minnesota DNR and partners to better manage and conserve this species.

Separate from the bear den study, the Minnesota DNR also has an online tool that allows people to report bear sightings. The bear sightings tool and more about bear management in Minnesota is available on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/bear).



Allis Chalmers

By Auctioneer Eric W. Mickelson



RC Allis Chalmers

When I was growing up west of Oklee, MN, in Garnes Township, we farmed with mostly two cylinder John Deere tractors. Dad had an H Farmall that he had purchased H Farmall from Steen Birkeland (Birkeland Farm Supply in Oklee, MN). So we did have one tractor of another color. Dad told stories of neighbors in Clearbrook farming with other tractors, like John Djernes and Bill Johnson with a new H Farmall, The Stanke's and their 8N Ford. In Oklee one of our neighbors was Walter Pederson. When I knew Walter he had a 70 John Deere, an E3 Coop, and an RC Allis Chalmers. That RC always was interesting to me.

Edward P. Allis dabbled in many businesses. In 1861 he purchased Reliance Iron Works renaming it Edward P. Allis and Company. With the demands of the Civil War the company flourished. Edward P. Allis died in 1889, then in 1901 his company merged with Fraser and Chalmers and Allis Chalmers was born.

The company did have some struggles but to escape financial woes they decided to enter

the tractor market. Allis's first few attempts at a tractor were unsuccessful. In 1918, Allis introduced the 15-30. It featured a 4 cylinder 461 cu. in. engine and weighed over 6000 lbs. Its drawback was the selling price \$2100! Eventually the 15-30 was changed into the 20-35 by increasing the engine speed. The only problem again, the price tag! So Allis went to work replacing some parts and got the price down to \$1000. Still not as cheap as the Fordson had been but Allis had made leaps and bounds figuring out to make a dependable and affordable tractor. This is just what the farmers wanted!

How about a little tractor trivia!

1. The 15-30 had it's name changed first to the 18-30. Why?

2. The 15-30 or 18-30 and later the 20-35 were painted what color?(Hint not Orange!)

3. Allis Chalmers tractor division headquarters was in what city?

A) Dearborn, MI B) Milwaukee, WI C) Minneapolis, MN D) Brantford, Ontario

4. In 1931 Allis Chalmers acquired what tractor company?
A) John Deere B)Case C) Rumley D) Oliver

5. The Allis Chalmers model U is famous for being the first tractor to _____.

A) Have a Diesel engine B) Develop 50 plus HP C) be equipped with pneumatic rubber tires

Answers: 1. The Nebraska Test showed it had 18 hp. 2. Green 3. B. Milwaukee 4. C Rumley 5. C. the first to have rubber tires

SENIOR SAFETY WORD SEARCH



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

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

WORDS

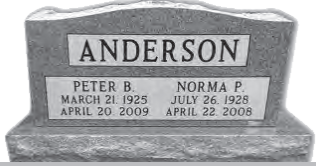
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SLIP

Answers on page 7

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Death Notice for Ellen L. Roux

Ellen L. Roux, 72 of Erskine, MN, passed away, Sunday, November 24, 2024, at Sanford Hospital in Fargo. No services are planned at this time. West Funeral Home, West Fargo, ND is in charge of the arrangements.

**Submit obituaries to
richards@gvtel.com**

Annual Lifelong Learning Regional meeting

Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning (NELL) was host of the annual meeting of the regional Lifelong Learning programs in Northwest Minnesota at the Bagley American Legion on November 20th. NELL covers Clearwater and East Polk Counties. The other two programs are Headwaters Lifelong Learning (HLL) Bemidji and Adventures in Lifelong Learning (ALL) Park Rapids. At the end of each year the Tri-Regional Lifelong Learning programs gather to share their programs, enjoy a nice

luncheon and learn more about the programs that were offered that were most memorable and impactful. The Lifelong Learning programs offer diverse, educational and entertaining programs each Spring and Fall. Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning will kick in Spring 2025 on April 2 with Emily Thabes - Forest to Fork: The Forging Adventure. Additional information on the NELL Spring 2025 schedule will be announced February 2025 and mailed out to members and sponsors mid March.



Attendees enjoyed a bountiful luncheon during the annual Lifelong Learning Regional meeting.

How common is Crohn's disease?

Crohn's disease is a form of inflammatory bowel disease that can cause swelling of tissues throughout the digestive tract from the mouth to the anus. The Mayo Clinic says Crohn's disease can cause abdominal pain, fatigue, weight loss, malnutrition, and severe diarrhea. The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation indicates IBD affects nearly 1 in every 100 Americans. It's estimated that over half a million Americans

are living with Crohn's disease. The National Institutes of Health says an estimated 410 people per 100,000 in Canada has Crohn's disease. While not overly common, it can be painful and debilitating. Although there is no cure for Crohn's disease, there are treatments to mitigate certain symptoms and help with inflammation flare-ups. Also, dietary changes can go a long way to helping those with Crohn's disease feel better.



Word Search Answers for this week

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



Wire Wrapped Jewelry.

Wire-Wrapped Jewelry Class a Hit!

Local area artisan Connie Nunemaker led another "wire-wrapped" jewelry class at the Bagley Public Library, where 10 participants made "one of a kind" wire wrapped pendants. Participants could make either a one wire or a three wire pendant. All supplies were provided. There was no charge to attend this class.

Each pendant was unique, and reflected the personality and creativity of the individual. A special thank you to Connie for sharing your expertise. The participants fully enjoyed the class and want to do it again. Connie's jewelry classes are very popular.

This class was sponsored by the Bagley Public Library.

Split Rock Lighthouse Seeks Photography and Art Submissions for Rotating Gallery

Eight artists will have their work featured at the lighthouse in 2025

TWO HARBORS, Minn. (December 2, 2024) – Split Rock Lighthouse is now accepting submissions from photographers and artists for the 2025 season of Photography & Art at the Rock. The rotating exhibit located in the lobby of the visitor center at Split Rock Lighthouse showcases local landscape and wildlife photographers and artists.

Photographers and artists are encouraged to submit their work online through January 6, 2025. Eight artists will be selected to showcase their work at the exhibit in 2025. Selections will be announced in January.

Photography & Art at the Rock celebrates the wonder of nature and the passion of photographers and artists. Works from artists will be featured in the Split Rock Visitor Center for one month at a time throughout

the year. Artists will also have the opportunity to discuss their work during onsite programs.

Accepted works include two dimensional art forms such as drawings, paintings, prints, and photographs. Art created by pencil, charcoal, ink, watercolors, and oil paints will be considered. All photographs must be created by the photographer. Digital and film are acceptable. AI-generated images will not be accepted.

Artwork must be able to hang on a wall and have a "north woods aesthetic."

Great reasons to donate unwanted items

People may wonder if they should donate or sell items they no longer use. Of course, some unwanted items can be sold through various channels. However, the benefits of donating merit consideration as individuals ponder what to do with unwanted items taking up space around the house.

Save time and stress: Selling items can take time, and that may be stressful to busy individuals. Donating items is less time-consuming and stressful, and donors won't find themselves waiting around for buyers who fail to arrive on time, if at all.

No diminished returns: It's easy to overestimate how much a particular item is worth. Even if something was a collectible in the family, it might not have much value in the eyes of potential buyers. Holding out for a price that is unattainable may be unrealistic. But donating items clears them out quickly and ensures others can benefit from them.

Facilitates a process: Since selling items can take time, people who tend to hoard items may end up procrastinating even more if they try to sell. If the goal is to clear away clutter, donating is the simplest and quickest means to doing so.

Tax implications or benefits: Those who sell enough items and turn profits may have to claim it on their income taxes. Conversely, donating items comes with potential tax deductions that can help them save money.

Donating unwanted items can have certain perks over selling those same belongings.

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of a Few Things?

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FAQ about HIV and AIDS

In recent decades, researchers studying HIV and AIDS have made considerable progress and undoubtedly saved countless lives. Indeed, the organization UNAIDS reports that AIDS-related deaths have been reduced by 69 percent since deaths peaked in 2004 and by 51 percent since 2010. In addition, by the end of December 2023, 30.7 million people living with HIV were accessing antiretroviral therapy, which marked an increase of 30 million from 2010.

Such figures are a testament to the tireless work of researchers and the contributions of donors and volunteers who have given and worked to combat HIV and AIDS. Despite all the progress made in recent decades, there is still work to be done, and that can include a refresher course in what distinguishes HIV and AIDS.

What is HIV?

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infects and destroys cells of the immune system. According to the Cleveland Clinic, the damage done by HIV makes it hard for the body to fight off other diseases. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that, without treatment, HIV infection can lead to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

What is AIDS?

The Cleveland Clinic characterizes AIDS as the final and most serious stage of an HIV infection. When a person has AIDS, their count of certain white blood cells is very low and their immune systems are severely damaged.

Can I get AIDS if I have never had HIV?

A person who is not infected with HIV cannot get AIDS. The Cleveland Clinic notes that AIDS is a result of HIV infection.

Does HIV always progress to AIDS?

According to the Cleveland Clinic, HIV infections progress to AIDS in about 10 years if



a person is not treated. However, as the aforementioned data from UNAIDS indicates, access to HIV therapies has improved dramatically in the first couple of decades of the twenty-first century. That's why researchers now know that a person with HIV will not necessarily develop AIDS. However, the Cleveland Clinic notes that untreated HIV almost always advances to AIDS.

What are some signs of HIV infection?

Since AIDS can only develop after a person is infected with HIV, it makes sense to learn the potential signs and symptoms of HIV. The World Health Organization notes that HIV symptoms vary depending on the stage of infection. In the early weeks of infection, individuals may experience flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache and sore throat. A rash also may develop during these initial weeks after infection. As the infection progresses, the immune system weakens further, potentially leading to swollen lymph nodes, weight loss, fever, diarrhea, and cough. In addition to AIDS, untreated HIV can lead to tuberculosis, cryptococcal meningitis, severe bacterial infections, and even certain cancers.

Treatments for HIV have saved countless lives over the last several decades. Education about the virus and its potential byproduct, AIDS, also can save lives. More information about HIV and AIDS is available at unaids.org.

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Winter is Here- How about a little fun?

By Eric Mickelson

I am a fan of fishing and now it is getting close to ice fishing time! I have noticed on Facebook that some resorts on Red Lake are reporting 5 inches of ice. With the right conditions people could be walking out to fish this week. In fact on my way to visit the grandkids in Menahga, while traveling by Portage Lake near Park Rapids there was a blue portable house out on the lake! Too early for me! But, in the right amount of time I hope to get out again and hopefully watch the bobber go down!

I am not a golfer, but for you golfers I found what seems quite interesting. Maybe you have heard of the Wayzata Chilly Open. What is that you say? It is the largest, most well-known and unusual golf tournament held on a frozen lake each year. Each year golfers come from all over with their golf clubs and oh yah-hockey sticks- to putt balls around Wayzata Bay. Believe it or not over 2000 golfers appear for this winter extravaganza. So get your friends together and mark your calendars. Registrations begin and golf tickets go on sale on December 1, 2024.

Maybe we will see you on the ice on Saturday, February, 8, 2025. The theme is BORN IN '84. I thought this was clever! They said, "Hold on to your leg warmers, and we will see you soon!" I guess I was kind of an 80's guy so the leg warmers reference did put a smile on my face!

Like I said, I don't golf, but this did pique my interest!

How about snowmobiling? We have many many trails that will soon be ready for some winter fun! Most trails are made so that there are stopping places to warm up and have some refreshments! Ask your local snowmobile club if you have questions. If you just want to watch there are several events that you could attend. In our area we have the Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial-Pine Lake 200 Snowmobile Race obviously held on Pine Lake! Another one that is scheduled is the Goodridge-Grygla 500. The Goodridge-Grygla race is scheduled for February 8,9, 2025.

Whatever it is you may like to do, go for it. After all we have a lot of winter here in the north country so why not find a way to enjoy it! Happy winter everyone!

Take the time to honor veterans this holiday season

The holiday season is a time when family and friends gather to reconnect and celebrate. For many families there are people missing from these celebrations, whether they sacrificed their lives defending the country or died honorably years after serving in the military.

As individuals plan to add spirit to homes and businesses through decorations and other touches, they also can consider adding a bit of the holidays to the places where their beloved service members lie in eternal rest. This is the main premise behind the Wreaths Across America organization.

The primary activity of

Wreaths Across America is to distribute wreaths to be placed on graves in military cemeteries. On National Wreaths Across America Day, which takes place on a moving day each December at thousands of locations, volunteers place wreaths on headstones and read out the names of the service members.

The organization was founded by Morrill Worcester and his wife, Karen, as a way to teach all generations about the value of their freedoms and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed so much to protect those freedoms. Worcester, owner of the Worcester Wreath Company

in Maine, remembered a trip to Washington D.C. as a child that included a visit to Arlington National Cemetery. In 1992, when Worcester's business had a surplus of wreaths nearing the end of the holiday season, he remembered an indelible image of wreaths on graves at Arlington and devised a way to put those wreaths to use honoring the country's veterans.

Arlington National Cemetery was the first place to receive wreaths. Since then, the movement has grown to include cemeteries across the nation. In 2022, Wreaths Across America and its national network of volunteers placed more than

2.7 million sponsored veterans' wreaths on headstones of our nation's service members at 3,702 participating locations.

Although veterans are remembered each Memorial Day and Veterans Day, they can be honored 365 days a year for their service and sacrifices. Wreaths Across America offers an important way to set aside time during the holiday season show appreciation for veterans who are no longer with us.

Those looking to get involved can visit www.wreathsacrossamerica.org to learn more about volunteer opportunities or bringing WAA into their communities.

The ultimate playlist to give your home the right holiday season vibe

Staying home for the holidays can make the season a little more convenient, saving celebrants from having to contend with the millions of individuals who take to the roads, railways and friendly skies each December. But staying home comes with its fair share of obligations, especially for individuals who are planning holiday get-togethers with

family and friends.

Mood and merrymaking go hand in hand come the holiday season, and music can be used to establish a celebratory vibe this time of year. Whether you're hosting a holiday party or simply aspiring to create a festive atmosphere throughout the month of December, the following songs can help set the right tone this year.

- "Sleigh Ride," by Ella Fitzgerald
- "The Christmas Song," by Gregory Porter
- "Jingle Bell Rock," by Bob-bey Helms
- "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!," by Frank Sinatra
- "Jingle Bells," by Kimber-ley Locke
- "Silver Bells," by Tony Ben-net, featuring Count Basie and His Big Band

- "Here Comes Santa Claus," by Elvis Presley
- "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," by Diana Krall
- "White Christmas," by Bing Crosby
- "Winter Wonderland," by Louie Armstrong
- "The First Noel," by the cast of "Glee"
- "Happy Holiday," by Peggy Lee
- "O Tannenbaum," by the Vince Guaraldi Trio
- "Boogie Woogie Santa Claus," by the Brian Setzer Orchestra
- "All I Want for Christmas Is You," by Mariah Carey
- "Santa Baby," by Eartha Kitt
- "Mele Kalikimaka," by Bing Crosby and The Andrews Sisters

Sisters

- "Blue Christmas," by Elvis Presley
- "Frosty the Snowman," by Gene Autry
- "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town," by Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band
- "Deck the Halls," by Nat King Cole
- "Fairytale of New York," by The Pogues featuring Kirsty MacColl
- "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," by Burl Ives
- "Baby, It's Cold Outside," by Dean Martin and Marilyn Maxwell
- "The Twelve Days of Christmas," by The Ray Coniff Singers

These are just some of the songs that can make up a merry and festive holiday season playlist.

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