



Tri County Canary

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



Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) President, Doug Peterson, with Pope Frances at the Vatican.

Minnesota Farmers Union President returns from meeting at the Vatican

Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) President, Doug Peterson, announced his retirement last month from MFU, but took on the role one final time as an advocate for American family farmers in a meeting with the Pope and Vatican staff to discuss the importance of farming in the World.

During the meeting which was held in Rome at the Vatican, Pope Francis endorsed and blessed the efforts of Minnesota Farmers Union and Catholic Rural Life to support family farmers in the United States and worldwide. Pope Francis spoke of dignity and value of farmers. He also spoke of the need to move farmers and rural people from the margins of society and economy to the main

stream.

"I was blessed to have been able to present to Pope Francis the document on behalf of Farmers Union and ask for his blessings on the work that we do," stated Peterson, "I was honored to have been able to gift him a chalice of simple design after we spoke. I left the meeting with Pope Francis with the strong feelings that this work between friends of all faiths and societies will continue and I am truly honored to have been a part of it during my lifetime."

The Vocation of the Agricultural Leader is a project that the organizers of the Faith Food & Environment project have worked on for the past three years. They have worked together with farmers, theolo-

gians, sustainable agriculture advocates and agribusiness leaders to develop this reflective project. The objectives of this project are:

1. To affirm the noble and dignified vocation of farming and of the work of men and women involved in both agricultural production and getting food to our tables
2. To retrieve the spirit of vocation, that farming is not just an occupation, but an invitation from the Creator to a holy relationship: a calling "to till and to keep" the earth
3. To inspire future generations of men and women to see how their faith informs both their work in agriculture and stewardship of God's creation.



Pope Frances with the Vatican Staff.

Minkota Technologies to sell the business assets to Garden Valley

On December 29, 2016, Garden Valley announced that Dan and Mike Vesledahl had signed an agreement to sell the business assets of Minkota Technologies to Garden Valley Innovations, LLC., a wholly owned subsidiary of Garden Valley Telephone Company, located in Erskine, MN. The Minkota Technologies name will not change; they will simply be powered by Garden Valley.

For the past 17 years, Dan and Mike have been committed to specializing in small business computer, network installation and customer service care. Under GVI, Minkota Technologies will now have the opportunity to grow their business in ways which would have been difficult on their own. Garden Valley will provide administrative support and the resources needed to grow the staff, services offered, service area and clientele.

"This sale will allow us the ability to do what we do best and provide the resources to look at additional service offerings" said Dan Vesledahl, Vice President of Operations at Minkota Technologies.

Minkota Technologies will remain at their current location in Winger and the day-to-day business will continue to be handled by the knowledgeable staff of Dan, Mike and Ole.

"Our two companies already complement each other in nu-



Garden Valley Telephone Company & Minkota Technologies, Inc. representatives after signing the agreement to sell the business assets of Minkota Technologies to Garden Valley Innovations, LLC. Left to right: Byron Ness, Garden Valley Board of Director; Jerry Freitag, Garden Valley Board of Director; Tim Brinkman, CEO/General Manager; Dan Vesledahl, Vice President of Operations and Mike Vesledahl, Senior Network Technician.

merous ways, and this partnership will make us both stronger" said Tim Brinkman, CEO/General Manager at Garden Valley Telephone Company.

Garden Valley is a progressive telecommunications company serving 24 exchanges and surrounding communities in beautiful northwest Minnesota

DNR seeks to join lawsuit over project to divert Red River

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources said today it is asking a federal judge to allow the agency to join a lawsuit seeking to delay action on a flood diversion project on the Red River.

The project as proposed would redirect flows through the Fargo-Moorhead metropolitan area via a dam and diversion channel system.

The DNR is seeking intervenor status to join a lawsuit filed by the Richland-Wilkin Joint Powers Authority (JPA) in 2013. The plaintiffs initially sued the Fargo-Moorhead Diversion Board of Authority and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to halt any construction prior to completion of Minnesota's environmental impact statement.

In a continuation of the original case, the JPA is now seeking to bar construction unless the DNR issues the necessary dam safety and work in public waters permits for the project.

The JPA's suit alleges that the proposed project will damage farmland upstream of Fargo-Moorhead, violate Minnesota environmental laws, and doesn't consider alternative plans to protect the region from flooding.

After completing an environmental impact statement on the proposed project, the Minnesota DNR denied the Diversion Authority's permit application. The proposed project would need both a dam safety and work in public waters approval from Minnesota in order to proceed. The DNR is the permit-

ting authority for the project in Minnesota.

Despite Minnesota DNR's permit denial, the Corps of Engineers recently awarded a construction contract for the inlet control structure portion of the proposed project. Work could begin on the project as early as January 2017. In addition, the Diversion Authority recently issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the diversion channel portion of the project.

"The DNR has publicly stated that it is fully prepared to work with all the affected communities in search of a 'Plan B' approach to flood protection, since the proposed project doesn't meet Minnesota environmental standards," said DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr. "But the Corps' and the Diversion Authority's recent actions force us to join the lawsuit. If the DNR allowed construction to proceed without objection, we would be risking our standing to object at a later date. Moreover, we cannot credibly work on an alternate plan while the Corps and the Diversion Authority are beginning construction of this contested project."

Landwehr said his agency has empathy for people who experience flooding and agrees that enhanced flood protection is warranted for some places in the project area.

"The DNR's decision to intervene isn't about stopping flood protection, which is important. We want to find a mutually agreeable solution that speaks to the shared responsibility we

have to protect Minnesotans and North Dakotans living in this flood plain," Landwehr said. "Indeed, Minnesota has invested more the \$230 million on flood control and protection efforts in Moorhead and the greater Red River Valley over the past eight years alone. But the proposed project is not the right way to achieve that enhanced protection for the region."

According to Landwehr, "The project needs state permits. Unfortunately, as proposed, the project does not meet the standards under Minnesota law and thus cannot be permitted."

In October, the DNR denied the Diversion Authority's permit applications for three reasons: the project does not meet the requirement to be reasonable, practical, protect public safety and promote public welfare; is not consistent with some state and local land use and water management plans in the project area; and the project's mitigation plan and demonstrated fiscal capacity to implement that plan do not meet the requirements in Minnesota law.

The Richland-Wilkin Joint Powers Authority lawsuit is currently pending before U.S. District Court Judge Tunheim. By seeking intervenor status, the DNR is asking to become a party to the lawsuit. Minnesota will ask the court to prohibit construction of the dam and diversion channel because the Minnesota has not issued the necessary permits.

Supreme Court Justice Anne McKeig stops by Cass County Courthouse First American Indian on Minnesota Supreme Court First Female of Native Descent to Serve on Any State Supreme Court

Story and Photo by David Harrington, Edited by Michael Meurers

Minnesota's newest Supreme Court Justice Anne McKeig came home on Friday afternoon December 23 when she stopped by the Cass County Courthouse for an informal reception during a trip to the area over the holidays. Governor Mark Dayton appointed McKeig to the Supreme Court on Aug. 31, 2016. She is its first Native American justice as well as the first female Native American to serve on any state supreme court.

McKeig, who grew up on the other side of Leech Lake from the courthouse and graduated from Northland High School in Remer, was congratulated by a number of area residents, including Mrs. Dee Hillstrom, her former English teacher at Northland. Mrs. Hillstrom, who spoke at the gathering honoring



Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Anne McKeig, a graduate of Northland High School in Remer, visits with Dee Hillstrom, her former English teacher at Northland, in the hallway of the Cass County Courthouse.

McKeig, noted that in addition to being a great student McKeig participated in nearly every possible school sponsored activity.

It was noted by District Court Judge David Harrington that Governor Dayton highlighted Anne's "life experiences," and "common sense wisdom" when announcing her appointment to the bench. Pointing out that Justice McKeig needs no GPS to find Walker or Sugar Point or Bena or Boy River, Harrington said, "Ann's background growing up here in Cass County along with her own internal compass has shaped who she is and has given her a sense of direction from which the entire state can benefit."

Judge Harrington related how McKeig said she was inspired back in 1995 when White Earth member Robert Blaesser became the first Native American to serve as a Minnesota District Court Judge. McKeig, who is also of White Earth descent, is now the first Native American to serve on the Minnesota Supreme Court and is believed to be the first woman of American Indian descent to serve on the highest court in any of the 50 states. Upon seeing Judge Blaesser being sworn in, McKeig thought, "If he could do it, maybe I could too."

At the close of the gathering two portraits of Anne were revealed for permanent display in the hallway outside of Courtroom #1. One of the portraits shows ten year old Anne McKeig from Federal Dam and the second is Anne's official Supreme Court portrait. Noting that the hallway is "too often filled by people, especially young

McKeig...
continued on page 2



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McKeig...continued from page 1



Judge David Harrington.

law degree from Hamline University School of Law in 1992. She earned her bachelor of arts from St. Catherine University in 1989.

She is an Indian Child Welfare Act Specialist and a member of the American Indian Bar Association.

Judge David Harrington was elected in 2002, 2008, and 2014 to the Ninth Judicial District. He was formerly General Counsel for Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, 1994-2003, and Defense Counsel for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians, 2000-2003.

people, who for some reason or another end up in court," Judge Harrington said "we can all hope that Anne's story will be an inspiration to those who might seek to follow the path that Anne has opened."

Governor Tim Pawlenty appointed McKeig to the Hennepin County bench on February 6, 2008. McKeig earned her

Passport photos

Richards Publishing Co.
218-487-5225



It's a Girl!

Greggory Colen and Terry Erickson of Gonvick are very proud to announce the birth of their first child Melody Ereena Odette Colen, born six pounds and 3 ounces and 20 inches long on December 19, 2016 at Fosston Hospital.

Also very proud are her grandparents Terry and Penny Erickson of Leonard, Michelle Colen of Blackduck and her boyfriend Jim Kaasa of Puposky and Michael Erickson and his fiancée Sandra Dee Lutgen-Freyholtz of Becida along with her 12 aunts and uncles.

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Granlund Lodge meeting scheduled

Granlund Lodge 240 Sons of Norway will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 12th, at the Embassy Center, 603 3rd St NE, Fosston, MN. We will be working on the programs for 2017 meetings; so come and share your ideas with us. Bring used postage stamps if you have saved them as we will be cutting stamps for Tubfrim. Come and share your Scandinavian heritage.

Lunch will be provided. (Please not the change of time due to cold weather).

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Bemidji Area First Friday Art Walk January 6, 2017

Events to Attend:

Gallery North will introduce their new member, Rachel Davey, on January 6th from 2-5 PM and feature Davey's beautiful original jewelry pieces. Attendees can also check out the schedule for the "WARM YOUR HEART WITH A LITTLE ART" classes which will be held this winter. Class schedules and registration forms will be available. The gallery is located at 502 3rd Street NW.

Exhibits to View:

Watermark Art Center continues their multi-media group show that highlights a variety of mediums including painting, ceramics, mixed media and photography. Artists featured include John Lembi, Marlon Davidson, Don Knudson, Paula Swenson, Butch Holden and Duane Paulson. Due to construction, Watermark is currently operating out of their temporary annex location at 516 Beltrami Ave NW. You can view the exhibit Mondays - Fridays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse will continue its presentation of "New Works" by Marlon Davidson and Don Knudson, through the month of January. Award winning artists Davidson and Knudson have been working collaboratively for decades, and will exhibit new collaborations as well as individual solo pieces. The artists are best known for their dimensional, mixed-media wall pieces that show well in private and public spaces. Marlon was an instructor at Bemidji State University until his retirement, and Don has been a sculptor and a furniture maker. One of the objectives of the two artists is to successfully combine both natu-

ral elements and more sophisticated content, and put them together in a way that makes the work harmonious. Both artists look at nature as their primary source of inspiration, informed by art history and the progress of art through the Twentieth Century to the present. Professionals and students must see two of our region's best known and widely celebrated artists! Visit Wild Hare at 523 Minnesota Ave NW.

Dunn Bros Coffee will continue their display featuring painter Kierlyn Ward. Ward is a coffee roaster at Dunn Bros. Her paintings encompass many styles. Visit Dunn Bros at 501 Paul Bunyan Dr SE.

Neilson Place continues the photography display of "Around the World in Pictures" by Cal Rice. Rice is a professional photographer and world traveler. His goal is to document the history and culture of each country he visits. Every display area at Neilson Place is dedicated to an individual country's images, including Bhutan, Cuba, Costa Rica, Ireland, Italy and America. Neilson Place is located on the Sanford WoodsEdge campus, 1000 Anne Street NW.

Bemidji Library - The library wall will display work by the Northern Artist Association, featuring a variety of art mediums and styles. Visit the library at 509 America Ave NW.



Ron Vold of Pinewood gave horse rides in the area to various organizations. Ron survived a traumatic brain injury a few years ago. His semi was being pulled out of the ditch and the hook from the loader broke loose and came through the windshield, striking him between the eyes and broke every bone from his forehead to his upper jaw.

Plan Ahead for Home Purchases and Home Repairs

USDA Rural Development, a federally funded agency, offers loans for very low and low income households to purchase or build single family dwellings, as well as home improvement loans for very-low income households who already own their homes.

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Already own a home? Our home improvement program for very-low income households offers: an interest rate of 1 percent; up to a 20 year term; and a maximum loan amount of \$20,000. Grants up to \$7,500 may be available to those 62 and older who qualify to remove health and safety hazards from their homes.

To learn more about our requirements, please call the USDA Rural Development Office in Thief River Falls at (218)

681-2843 Extension 4, or write to USDA Rural Development, 201 Sherwood Avenue South, Thief River Falls, MN 56701. You can also visit the website at <http://www.rd.usda.gov/mn>. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

An Introduction to Bird Identification

Bird watching has become one of the most popular outdoor recreation activities in America. According to a CBS News report, more people are watching wild birds than all professional sports combined!

Try it and you'll see why.

It doesn't take much to get started. All you need are binoculars and a field identification book. And these days, there's even an app for that!

The best and easiest way to get started is to go birding with someone who knows birds - and the tools you need to identify and enjoy them: binoculars, books, apps, cameras, audio - and nest boxes, feeders, birdbaths and poles.

Heidi Hughes, author of the Expert's Guide to Backyard Birdfeeding, knows birds and birding equipment. She'll be at the Godel Memorial Library in Warren to talk about birdwatching and show you how you some of her favorite bird ID books and apps. If you have one, bring your bring your favorite bird ID book - and your favorite app (on your laptop, tablet or smart phone).

When: Thursday Jan 26, 2017 at 6:30pm

What: How to select and use bird identification books and apps workshop

Where: Godel Memorial Library, Warren MN

Who: NW Regional Libraries & Agassiz Audubon Workshop

This program is FREE for adults (and young people 14 years and older).

Open Enrollment for Bemidji Area Schools Independent School District #31

If you live outside the Bemidji School District attendance boundaries and would like your child to be able to attend a Bemidji Area School for the 2017-2018 school year, please obtain and complete an Open Enrollment form from the District Office, 502 Minnesota Avenue NW. The completed form must be returned to the District Office by January 15, 2017 at 4:30 pm.

Please call 218-333-3100, extension 31131, if you have any questions regarding enrollment in Bemidji Area Schools.

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R41-43C

Looking
for a **PART-TIME COOK.**
Apply within.

**Dee's
Leonard Cafe**
Leonard, MN

R32fc

Notice of Board Opening

Inter-County Community Council is now accepting applications to serve a three year term on the Agency's 15 member Board of Directors. Applicants must reside in East Polk, Red Lake, Clearwater or Pennington County. Applicants must also be a representative of the low-income population who receives, has received, or is eligible for Community Action services. Meetings are usually evening dinner meetings held on the forth Monday every other month. For more information or to request an application contact Catherine Johnson, Executive Director at 218-796-5144 ext. 27 or electronically by CJohnson@intercountycc.org. Board Applications are also available on our website at www.intercountycc.org.

R41C

Health Position Available

Are you looking for a job where you can make a difference? Would you like to work in a family friendly environment? Are you looking for paid holidays and great benefits?

ICCC Head Start is looking for a full time, year round **Licensed or Registered NURSE** to do Health Services for our enrolled children & families. Position would include direct health services, child / parent education and data entry / health records review. This position is 40 hours/week primarily Monday-Friday with daytime hours, located in Oklee, MN. Experience working with young children and families preferred.

Application and position specific information, including job duties, salary and educational requirements are available on our website at www.intercountycc.org. Send completed application and resume to D'Anne Johnson, ICC Head Start Director, PO Box 189, Oklee, MN 56742 or djohnson@intercountycc.org. Applications must be received by 4 pm on Thursday, January 5, 2017. Call 218.796.5144 ext. 28 for more information.

ICCC is an equal opportunity employer.

R40-41C



MENTOR, MINNESOTA

OPERATOR ASSISTANT -- Scoular Special Crops is seeking motivated individuals to work in their sunflower processing facility in Mentor, MN. Scoular offers competitive wages and a comprehensive benefits package including medical and dental insurance, a retirement program, and vacation and holiday pay. For more information, call us at 218-637-8204.

R28 - 1/mo-ft-C

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Position Opening

Position: Extended Day Program Para
Address Letter of Interest: Jeff Burgess, Principal, Email: jburgess@clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us

Application Submission: Please send or e-mail your letter of application to Jeff Burgess.

Application Deadline: ASAP or until filled.

Dates: Jan 3rd-end of school year.

Job Description: The Extended Day program para would be responsible for the extended day program. Duties include: program planning, student supervision, and communication with parents.

Hours would be from 3:00-5:30 p.m. The program provides after school supervision for students K-4.

R41-42C

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M48-47C

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R41V

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For more information call DW Jones Management, Inc.
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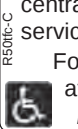
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R51fc

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M41-42C

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R41-43C

Rummage Sale

RUMMAGE SALE: Embassy base-
ment, 3/4/Eaton, Fosston. FRIDAY,
JAN. 6th (most items 50¢); SATUR-
DAY, JAN. 7th (\$2 bag day). 9am-
noon both days.

R41C

Recreation

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R12-HNC

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R45fc-NC



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O27-36C

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R41-41V

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R41-42C

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R35-30C



Cornerstone Residence, an assisted living community downtown Fosston,

**Accepts HUD Rental Reimbursement
for Studio Apartments**

Cornerstone Residence of Fosston announces:

**"In order to meet the needs of the community and surrounding area,
Cornerstone Residence is happy to announce that they will begin
accepting HUD RENTAL REIMBURSEMENT for Studio apartments on
August 1, 2016 for those individuals that qualify."**

Applications for HUD reimbursement can be picked up at Cornerstone
Residence, 115 1st St. East, Fosston or at the HUD office in Mentor, MN.

Other payment sources for Assisted living apartments and services include:
assistance through the County, Long term care Insurance and Private pay.

For more information to see if you
qualify for financial assistance for
assisted living apartments and services,
call Nicole Harmon, Housing Manager, at
218-435-6333.

**"Embrace a lifestyle of
Comfort and Convenience"**

R171fc



DINING & entertainment

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The Pioneer

By Eric Mickelson
 First I have apologize for missing last weeks paper. The holidays took up my time and I didn't have time to write an article.

Well, holiday television has many specials and of course the 24 hours of "The Christmas Story," is one of my favorites. But, also I think every year the SyFy channel has a "Twilight Zone" marathon. I had a chance to sit on the couch and watch a bit. If you are not familiar the "Twilight Zone" was a show made from 1959-1964, featuring fantasy and science fiction twists with a little suspense and maybe to some a little horror. Many episodes had to do with traveling back in time, space travel, or some other science fiction topic of 50 plus years ago.

What does this have to do with my tractor trivia.....well, I'll let you know!! You see when I was young and playing around the yard, my grandfather, Ames Mickelson, was often sitting in his lawn chair petting the dog or just enjoying a little sunshine. Sometimes I would ride my bike past grandma and grandpa's yard and pull over an talk for a while. (What a lucky kid, although I didn't know it at the time.) One sunny day I pulled up and grabbed the lawn chair next to him and asked him, "What was the biggest tractor you ever drove?" He replied it was a Pioneer tractor and that he used it to pull 14 bottoms. Wow!! We pulled four!! I didn't know what a Pioneer was but it the 1990's I was into a series of tractor movies and calendars about classic tractors and one featured a huge Pioneer tractor. This caught my attention. This must be what grandpa drove.

The Pioneer tractor originated in Minneapolis, MN, in 1909, but was moved to Winona, MN, in 1910. Supplies poured into Winona, and they were happy to have the new company in town. The first tractor they built was the 30-60 which was a huge tractor with 8 or 9 foot



Pioneer tractor at Rollag in 2015.

drive wheels and weighing over 20,000 pounds. It was manufactured to break the Dakota prairie sod(which is where my grandfather drove one). Later other models were made but as with many other companies the agricultural depression of 1920 put an end to the Pioneer tractors, although they did continue to manufacture some for road construction. The main downfall was the price, some companies like Ford worked hard to devel-

op affordable tractors selling for less than \$1000, while the 30-60 sold for \$2700 in 1911.

Well, the "Twilight Zone", I just wanted to have Rod Serling, the shows creator to write one more episode. It would have a young farm boy, portrayed by me, finding a way to travel back in time. That farm boy would get to take a round in that Pioneer with his grandpa. That is an episode I would like to watch!! Happy New Year!

How About a Little Tractor Trivia

- When the Pioneer Tractor Manufacturing Co. began producing tractors in Winona, MN, in 1910 they produced _____ tractors per week.
 A) 1 B) 2 C) 3 D) 4
- The Pioneer 30-60 had a _____ cylinder opposed engine.
 A) 2 B) 4 C) 6 D) 8
- The 30-60 engine had a _____ in. bore and an _____ in. stroke.
 A) 4/6 B) 5/6 C) 6/7 D) 7/8
- Were Pioneer tractors ever exported outside of the United States?
- At the 1910 Minnesota State Fair the Pioneer tractors were praised for having enclosed gears. The leading selling tractor of the time The _____ did not do this until three years later.

Answers: 1. A) one tractor per week 2. B) 4cylinders 3. D) 7in. bore, 8in. stroke
 4. Yes, they were popular in Romania, Austria-Hungary, and Russia 5. Little Bull, made by the Bull Tractor Company.

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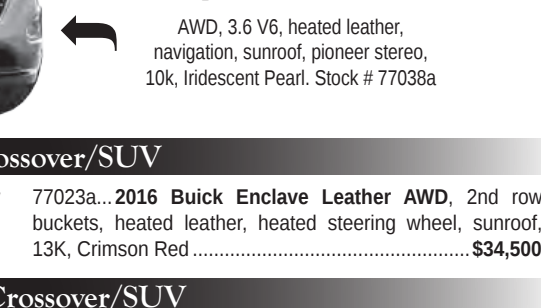
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Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol

Question: I enjoy reading your column. I

have been driving for a number of years but still get confused as to what all the white road markings mean. I know what the white dashes on a road/highway mean – OK to pass. But what do solid white lines mean, particularly if they are on a three-lane highway? Also, what do the intermittent white “bricks” mean? What do narrowly spaced white lines mean verses widely spaced white double lines. Thanks for your help!

White lines separate lanes of traffic traveling in the same direction.

- A white line with dashes indicates that drivers can change lanes in areas where this type of marking is present.

- A line of shorter and thicker white dashes indicates that the lane will end.

- A solid white line indicates that lane changes are discouraged. Solid white lines also mark crosswalks, stop lines at intersections, parking stalls, and the edges of a roadway.

- Double solid white lines indicate that lane changes are against the law.

- A solid white line with a bicycle insignia along the side of the road indicates an area designated for bicycle traffic only. Bicycles must travel in the same direction as adjacent traffic.

Yellow lines separate traffic moving in opposite directions.

- A solid yellow line indicates that passing is prohibited. Passing in a no-passing zone is illegal.

- A line composed of yellow dashes indicates that passing is allowed.

- A solid yellow line may appear on one side of the roadway, while a line composed of dashes appears on the other side. Drivers must obey the marking that is present in their lane of traffic.

- Two solid yellow lines, one in each lane of traffic, indicate that passing is prohibited in both directions. Drivers traveling in both directions are prohibited from crossing the double

solid center line in order to pass other vehicles.

Please obey the speed limits and passing zones. If the roadway is covered with snow, slow down and look for the no passing signs, and do your best to determine where the lanes are marked.

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

At the Foot of the Cross

In the dimly lit church, in the quiet of the night, the reflective glow behind the old rugged cross calmed. A place of safety it was as the cold winds blew a deep chill just outside the windows mere feet away. The shelter brought comfort. Plopping in a pew for respite was all that was sought this blustery eve.

Words came in picture form of another mama who lived some two-thousand years ago. John 19:26 puts it plain. “Woman, behold your son. Son, behold your mother.”

The Word was spoken to lift a mama's heart. Her son, who was dying, knew full well she would need another to love. She would need a heart transplant as the load bearing was heavy. Twas a gift given her.

Could someone else replace

the love a mama has for a child? I suppose not, but He would soon send His Holy Spirit to help bring a peace that passes all understanding and hope would be born.

But back to the beginning. Back to the beginning when the earthly hearts were separating at the foot of the cross. The beating that took out the beating heart of a son while a mama watched on would have destroyed this mama. He'd chosen Mary to take on this role. He'd chosen her to carry Him in more ways than one, and He'd chosen wisely.

Someday I hope to give Mary a hug and tell her thank you for carrying the burden of burdens, looking on as her own child suffered and died right before her eyes. It was bad enough when my mama died. I did not have

to look upon it. It was shrouded in the cloak of a smile during a one-on-one meeting with her a few weeks prior to death, and it took place in the confines of a clean and quiet hospital room.

When the time came and I heard that my mama had passed, it was like my beating heart stopped. The world stopped. Time stopped. I stopped. Yet, Mary, mother of the King of Kings, Lord off Lords, went on. She went on with living. She put one foot in front of the other and kept on going.

I was fortunate enough to have my mama's mama still alive at the time. In her ultimate wisdom, when I asked her how she managed to bury a daughter and a husband (my grandpa) in the same year, she threw up her arms, and in perfect grandma style simply said, “What are you gonna do? You gotta keep on living!” And she did. My grandma taught me not only how to keep on breathing, to keep on putting one foot in front of the other, but more-so how to keep on living.

I miss them both now, my grandma and my mama. But what are you gonna do? You gotta keep on living. As time passes and we pass through the brokenness of where life leads...it is He who brings life and allows us to keep on living. Acts 17:28 whispers truth. “For in Him we live and move, and have our being.”

And as we are separated for a time from those whom we love, lest we forget...He remembers. “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all...Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution...or peril or sword? Just as it is written... in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For... neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth...will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:32-37). Amen

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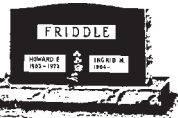
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OBITUARIES



Services held for Luane Hanson

Luane "Lu" Hanson, age 38, died unexpectedly Friday, December 23, 2016 at his home in rural Trail.

A funeral service to celebrate Luane's life was held at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 with Rev. Jeffery Merseeth officiating. Burial will be at Nazareth Church Cemetery, Hickory Township, Pennington County, MN.

Luane Harry Hanson was born June 1, 1978 in Thief River Falls, MN to Howard and Linda (Watne) Hanson. Luane was born and raised on the family farm being baptized and confirmed at the Nazareth Lutheran Church, rural Trail.

Luane attended and graduated from Oklee High School in 1996. From 1995-1997 he attended Northland Community College in Thief River Falls resulting in earning his A.A. and A.A.S. degrees. From 2001-2006 he attended BSU in Bemidji, MN graduating with a B.S. Degree in Mass Communications. While attending college, Luane worked various jobs including Hugo's in Thief River Falls for 11 years, served as the Arts and Entertainment Editor for BSU for 3 1/2 years, the Cameraman for PBS (Lakeland Public Television) and as a DJ for FM90 KBSU.

Luane was always an adventurer at heart, so, in 2006 Luane decided to embark on his journey and spent the next 3 years traveling from the East Coast to the West. His journey took him to Front Royal, VA, Seattle (Seafair as an H1 Hydroplane Race Security Committee) and finally to Las Vegas, NV (Angel Park Golf Course) before returning home.

In 2011 Luane won a life-changing trip from Marlboro to Durango, CO, to upgrade a high Mountain Trail. While there Luane made memories and friends for a lifetime. That Fall Luane decided to attend NWSB for Wooden Boat Building in Port Haven, WA from 2011-2012. While in

school Luane did boat shop volunteering at the NW Maritime Center as well as being a winter schooner maintenance on a 133-foot gaff-rigged schooner "Adventuress". Luane was also a commercial copywriter for USA today and Livestrong. After graduating Luane was hired immediately by the Haven Boatworks LLC in Port Townsend, WA. One of his biggest accomplishments and most pride while in WA, was a beautiful 8' skiff boat he handcrafted and built, which he has documented at: <http://buildingmyboat.tumblr.com/>

In 2013 Luane truly proved no child loved his parents more, by setting aside his passions and leaving them 2000 miles behind to help his parents while they dealt with health issues. Even though in Luane's heart he wanted to return back to WA to the ocean, mountains and his 2nd family (friends) that he loved, it was so very important to him to make sure that his Mom got the treatment she needed at Mayo, which they fought and won. While staying on the farm and taking care of his parents, Luane wrote and published 4 books, created fabulous meals and worked on beautiful, hand crafted wood projects. Luane was very talented and his work will be treasured forever.

Luane loved life and wanted to experience it to it's fullest. Hobbies included exploring, photography, music, boats, cooking, writing and wood working. Luane was one of the most positive, kind, genuine and generous people you would want to meet with a brilliant mind and heart of gold, leaving a positive impact on everyone he met. He had this knowledge and eloquence of delivering his thoughts in writing that he would share with his family and friends. He will be forevermore loved and missed.

Luane is survived by his parents, Howard and Linda Hanson, Trail, MN, sisters, Wendy (Jeff) Thrane of Front Royal, VA and Joanne Olson, Thief River Falls, MN, brother, Dean (Naomi) Hanson, Trail, MN, Nieces and Nephews, Ariel Berry, Austin Thrane, Wyatt Olson, Tyler, Faith, Clancy, Carter, Gracie and Tucker Hanson, Uncles, Larry Watne and Lyle Watne of Alexandria, MN, Lonnie Watne, Trail, MN, Lowell (Sherrlene) Watne, EGF, MN.

Luane is preceded in death by his Grandparents, Harry and Nora Hanson and Lloyd and Lorraine Watne and numerous other relatives and friends.

Arrangements made with Johnson Funeral Service, Thief River Falls, MN.



Services for Kimberly Wolf

Kimberly Joy Wolf, 52, of Clearbrook, MN died unexpectedly Tuesday, December 27, 2016 at her home.

The family will have a memorial gathering from 1 p.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, January 7, 2017 at the American Legion, Clearbrook, MN.

Kim was born July 31, 1964 in Bemidji, MN to David and Linda Wolf. She attended high school in Bemidji. At a

young age it was evident that her passion was cooking. Kim enjoyed baking goodies such as lefse, pies and donuts. She shared great pride in her cooking and presentation of the food. She was an extraordinary cook. She loved crafts, decorating for each holiday and having the most beautiful flowers. She was very proud of her two sons, John and Andrew.

She owned the Leonard Café for 20 years and she took much pride in making people happy with what she served them.

She is survived by her two sons, John (Amanda) and Andrew (Heather); her mother, Linda Olson; her brother, John Wolf; her aunt, Kathy Blanchard, extended family and hundreds of friends.

She was preceded in death by her father, David Wolf; grandparents, Earl and Marie Wolf and her uncle, Don Blanchard.

Online guestbook at www.olsonschwartzfuneralhome.com



Services held for Steven Wedger

Steven D. Wedger, age 66, of Stacy; formerly of Eagan, died unexpectedly, Friday, December 16, 2016.

Steve was born July 14, 1950 in Fosston, Minnesota, the son of Marvin and Alice (Paulson) Wedger. He grew up on a farm south of Gully, Minnesota. Steven graduated from Gonvick High School and went on to further his education at the University of North Dakota. He graduated with his Bachelor Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Steven was united in marriage to Paula Swanson in 1985. He worked his entire career at Lockheed Martin; retiring in 2012. In his free time he enjoyed, motorcycling and mowing his yard with the John Deere. During those

yard days, his trusty sidekick, Lucy would always be along for the ride.

Steven is preceded in death by his parents. He will be deeply missed by his beloved wife, Paula; daughter, Ashley; four-legged children, Sammy, Casey, Lucy; siblings, Deb (Glen) Brase, Becky (Jeff) Huff; father and mother-in-law, Jim and Janet Swanson; siblings-in-law, Jean (Dale) Meyer, Alan (Carrie) Swanson, Nancy (Doug) Ekvall; many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Funeral Services were held at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at Glen Cary Lutheran Church, 15531 Central Avenue NE (Hwy 65), Ham Lake. Memorials are preferred to the family.



Services held for Marilyn Rimestad

Marilyn J. Rimestad, 85, of St Croix Falls, WI went to be with her Savior on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 surrounded by her family.

Marilyn was born on March 21, 1931 in Grand Forks, North Dakota, the daughter of Tenny and Judith Stromstad. She graduated from Grand Forks Central High School and attended Aaker's Business College. She worked for Grand Forks Herald newspaper until her marriage to Sigurd Rimestad.

She was proud to have raised five children before going back to work. She worked at Hazelden in Center City, MN and then as librarian at the Taylors Falls Public Library for over twenty years retiring in 2001.

Marilyn loved being involved in various church committees and was a church choir singer her entire life. Those who knew her knew that she loved to sing. She sang whenever she had the

opportunity - in the car or in the shower - and while cleaning, sorting books and shopping.

Marilyn is survived by her children: Marty (Wanda) Rimestad, WI, Kris (Mike) Lance, VT, Debbie (John) Motley, MN, Kathy (Richard) Westrum, IL, and Sanna (Dan) Raedeke, MN; thirteen grandchildren: Noelle (Hasan) Young, WA, Daenon (Brian) Scobee, IL, Kjersten Lance, IL, Luke (Beth) Westrum, CA, Lauren Rimestad, MN, Curtis Lance, TX, Brianna Lance, NY, Matthew Westrum, CO, Dominick Raedeke ND, Simone Raedeke, CA; Karsten Rimestad, IL, Landen Rimestad, WI; Braeden Rimestad, WI; six great-grandchildren, and a sister Patricia (Ken) Schultz, Grand Forks, ND.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband Sig.

The family wishes to thank the staff at Comforts of Home in St Croix Falls, WI for their loving care these past two years and Adoray Hospice for their compassionate care.

Family prefers memorials to Peace Lutheran Church, 2355 Clark Road, P.O. Box 655, Dresser, WI 54009.

Memorial services were held on Monday, January 2, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at Peace Lutheran Church with visitation at the church for the hour prior to the service. Interment at the Kabbakong Cemetery in Taylors Falls. You may sign an online guest book and view a video tribute at www.williamsonwhite.com. The Williamson-White Funeral Home and Cremation Services assisted the family.

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Medication mismanagement can be prevented

Medication management is an important issue for seniors and their families. Failure to properly manage medications can threaten the lives of seniors, highlighting the emphasis families must place on ensuring seniors take their medications in strict adherence to their physicians' instructions.

Polypharmacy, or the taking of multiple medications for different conditions, can be a potential health hazard for the thousands of seniors who must manage health conditions with prescription drugs. Harmful drug interactions are a result of the confusion that can arise when seniors take multiple medications at the same time. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists estimates that more than 34 percent of senior citizens are prescribed medications by more than one physician, and 72 percent use medications they were prescribed more than six months prior. Many people also have begun "pharmacy shopping" to save money. According to a study published in 2010 in American Nurse Today, 44 percent of men and 57 percent of women older than age 65 take five or more medications per week, with some taking as many as 10.

Medication confusion is one risk, but older adults also metabolize medications differently than young people. As a result, they may be more susceptible to overdose or other ill effects. Families looking to help seniors effectively manage their medications should consider the following tips.

- Keep a running list of medications. Maintain a list of all medications being taken, noting both prescription and over-the-

counter medications and any supplements and herbs. Provide a copy to any new doctors you visit and any new pharmacies you patronize.

- Use pill sorters. Medication sorters can keep medications organized and eliminate some of the personal error in medication management. Organizers have daily slots and may also differentiate between nighttime and daytime medications.

- Understand why each medication is being prescribed. Ask your pharmacist and doctor to explain why each medication is prescribed. This information should be printed on the prescription label. Some drugs designed for one symptom may actually be used to treat other issues as well.

- Ask for help. Some seniors may benefit from friendly reminders from a loved one regarding when to take certain medications, especially if they need to take multiple doses throughout the day. Cognitively impaired seniors may require the services of a visiting nurse or another caregiver.

- Recognize that not all medications are right for seniors. The American Geriatrics Society maintains a list of medications that older adults should avoid or take with extreme caution. Some drugs pose a high risk of side effects or interactions, while others are less effective. Discuss alternatives with your physician if you are prescribed one of these medications.

- Keep a medication diary. Record any side effects that occur and how the medications make you feel. Always bring up issues promptly with a doctor.

Proper medication management can help seniors avoid drug-related accidents or worse.

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Fuel stops near Gonvick and Strandquist

I-600 Winnipeg to Willmar will be February 8, 9, 10, 11, 2017

The green flag will drop at the Red River Co-op Speedway (the old Winnipeg Speedway) just south of Winnipeg, Canada. The race starts on February 8 and continues to February 11 with the final stop at Willmar.

Races will cross the border and head to Thief River Falls and the Seven Clans Casino on day one. Racers will then be off to Bemidji on day two. Day three will take the rides, 180 miles to the legendary Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria. The 2017- 1-600 closes out on day four with a 125-mile dash to the finish line in Willmar.

There will be five total fuel stops throughout the race and fueling will be handled by a truck and manifold system, saving riders the hassle of hauling their own fuel.

Day 1 from Winnipeg, MB to Thief River Falls is approximately 190 miles. Day 2 from Thief River to Bemidji is approximately 125 miles. Day 3 from Bemidji to Alexandria is approximately 180 miles and day 4 from Alexandria to the finish line in Willmar is approximately 125 miles.

The I-600 with the United State X-Country Snowmobile

Racing officially announced the running of the 2017 Seven Clans Casinos I-600. The 600 mile race will cover a good portion of the original 1-500 route that went from Winnipeg to St. Paul that started in 1966 and was associated with the St. Paul Winter Carnival.

The snowmobile race had a few multi-time winners, but the king of the modern era I-500 is Bryan Dyrdahl, winning the race five times with Arctic and Ski-doo sleds.

Racers are reminded to book their motel rooms early and to make sure they have an enhanced Minnesota driver's license or quick pass to make the border crossing.

Trail Blazers meeting

Clearwater Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club will have their first meeting of 2017 in the their new Shop/Meeting place in downtown Leonard, MN.

Come join the club at 7:30 PM, Monday, January 9.

AD DEADLINE NOON FRIDAYS

Minnesota Beef Research & Promotion Council Seeks Candidates for Upcoming Elections

The Minnesota Beef Research and Promotion Council is seeking candidates for their board elections. Candidates will be selected through mail ballot elections conducted by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) in March. The candidate registration deadline is January 25, 2017.

These farmer/leaders will serve a three-year term directing the investment of the beef research and promotion council's check-off program. Nominees are required to reside within the area to be represented. Council members shall be residents of the State of Minnesota of legal voting age, and be participating cattle producers or feeders.

Those interested in running for the vacant positions will need to complete the candidate registration forms which can be found at www.mnbeef.org/boardofdirectors.aspx. The open



Get Ready for the Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial-Pine Lake 200 this weekend!



USXC RACE #1
In what has turned into a time honored "kick off" to cross country snowmobile racing, the Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial-Pine Lake 200 will be coming your way on January 7th and 8th once again this year on beautiful Pine Lake, just south of Gonvick, MN.

In what is turning into a truly historic event, you can expect speeds of 118 mph in

the Minnesota vs Michigan Pro Open challenge race on Saturday, as well as the best of the best pro riders in the United States and Canada battling it out on Sunday for the Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial-Pro 600 class. The last few years the top finishers have all been within 2-5 seconds of each other after 100 miles. Last years (first time ever Pine Lake) winner, Corey Davidson of Holt MN, took home \$13,000.00 in cash and

factory contingencies! The total purse in all classes remarkably exceeded \$70,000.00!

USXC and the local non profit promoter, Five Star Motorsports Promotions, is hopeful to exceed that amount this year if they get another great crowd and yet another year of great racing.

USXC Racing has 21 classes of racing from Pros down thru juniors. Come watch the greatest show on snow! Racing starts at 9:00 AM each day.



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The University of Minnesota Beef Team is proud to host the annual Cow/Calf Days Seminar Tour and Trade Show at 10 locations across the state in January and February. This event has been held for over 40 years and continues to be the leading information, technology, and research outlet for cow/calf producers in the state of Minnesota.

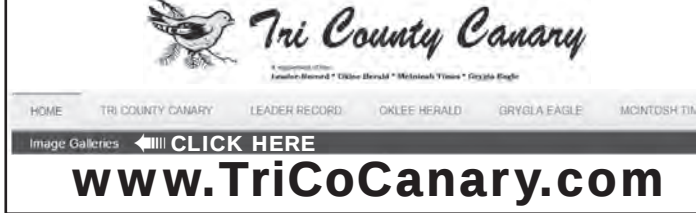
The 2017 event will feature information on managing scours in calves, results of a U of M study on the impact of different hay rake designs, grazing management, and results of a U of M study on the impact of hay feeder design on hay waste. Updates from the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association will also highlight the event. The corresponding tradeshow will feature vendors with new information, technology, and products with a wide-array of practical uses for the operators in the cow-calf sector.

The program is directed at cow/calf producers, allied industry representatives, and is open to the public. A meal will be served with the program and a registration fee of \$10 per person (register and pay at the door) will include the meal, proceedings book, and program materials.

Location and start times are listed below; each session is approximately three hours. More information can be found at the Cow/Calf Days Seminar Tour and Trade Show website: www.extension.umn.edu/beef or contact Eric Mousel at 218.398.1916, emmousel@umn.edu.

Southern Tour
JAN 23 – Mora, MN, 5:30 PM, Kanabec County Jail, 18 N Vine Street
JAN 24 – Starbuck, MN, 9:30 AM, Jim Wulf Bull Development Center, 30819 250th Street
JAN 25 – Pipestone, MN, 9:30 AM, MN West Community & Technical College, 1314 N Hiawatha Avenue
JAN 26 – Oronoco, MN, 5:30 PM, Tony Rossman Farm, 7000 70th Street NW
JAN 27 – Le Center, MN, 9:30 AM, Le Sueur County Fairgrounds, 320 S Plut Avenue
Northern Tour
FEB 7 – Staples, MN, 9:30 AM, Central Lakes College, 1830 Airport Road
FEB 7 – Bagley, MN, 5:30 PM, American Legion, 288 Main Avenue N
FEB 8 – Lancaster, MN, 5:30 PM, Community Center
FEB 9 – Roseau, MN, 5:30 PM, Gene's Bar & Grill, 1095 3rd Street NW
FEB 10 – Iron Junction, MN, 5:30 PM, Clinton Community Center, 8907 MN-37

Visit us online and click on **Image Galleries** to view photos of events in the area.



United States X-Country Snowmobile Racing

Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial Pine Lake 200

JANUARY 7 & 8, 2017

Pine Lake, Gonvick MN

► **Racing Starts at 9am Each Day**

► **Register online at usxcracing.com by 8:00 pm, Thursday, Jan. 5th**

► **28 Classes of Racing from Junior to Pro, Open, Vintage, Classic IFS**

► **KC 120 Class - Racing Sunday Only**

Sportsman's Lodge will be open for breakfast at 6:00 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday

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