



Today	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Scatt. Tstorms	Scatt. Tstorms
H 77 L 63	H 76 L 56	H 79 L 62	H 83 L 67	H 80 L 65



A look at next week ... Goodridge teen goes into sudden cardiac arrest and is saved by the efforts of his local first responders!

Chaplain Captain Clifton Hanson, USAF, shares his experience in Greenland



Written by Kari Sundberg, Eagle Editor

On Sunday, June 26th, Chaplain Captain Clifton Hanson, USAF, gave a very interesting presentation at Ekelund Church in rural Goodridge. He shared of his year-long unaccompanied remote tour he just completed in Greenland as a Chaplain with the United States Air Force.

Prior to spending a year in Greenland, Clifton was stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base near Rapid City, South Dakota. Prior to that even, he served as a Parish Pastor in Isanti, MN, for 8 years after graduating in 2010 from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. (He is a Goodridge High School 2001 graduate.)

Clifton was back home in Goodridge, visiting family, so this was the perfect time for him to share with the community what his experience was like on Thule Air Base, which is the United States Space Force's northernmost base, and the northernmost installation of the U.S. Armed Forces, located 750 miles north of the Arctic Circle and 947 miles from the North Pole on the northwest coast of the island of Greenland.

Thule Air Base is referred to as the "Top of the World" and was built in 1951 in just 104 days over the summer, as not much can be done during the winter months at this location. The base was built under the code name "Operation Blue Jay." Back then, two bases were actually built 200 km into the ice sheet. They were entirely carved under the ice with

tunnels and convex structures inside. Upon entrance, you'd find dining facilities and even a chapel down there. However, the plumbing systems weren't done very well, as one can probably imagine! Project Iceworm was a top-secret Army program of the Cold War which aimed to build a network of mobile nuclear missile launch sites from under Greenland's ice sheet. To study the feasibility of working under the ice, a highly publicized "cover" project, known as Camp Century, was launched in 1960. Unstable ice conditions within the ice sheet caused the project to be cancelled in 1966.

Today, Thule Air Base is the site where missile warning and defense is done, along with space surveillance, and satellite command and control. The base is smaller with just 140 military members. It's the Department of AF's largest OCONUS (Outside Continental U.S.) installation with a 254 sq. mile defense area. The base also has a 10,000 foot year-round runway, which is great to have considering there are only 65 miles of unpaved roads once you touch down on land, none external.

Communication in this area is 100% reliant on satellite comms. Clifton shared that everything is self-generated electricity, heat and water, and that 6-8 million gallons of JP-8 jet fuel is used annually to power everything, including vehicles.

When we first think of Greenland, we think of one very cold ice-covered area. Clifton shared that the tempera-

tures are actually warmer than you think, ranging from -12F to 42F with three months of dark and three months of light.

Thule Air Base is also home to the Air Force's only tugboat. It's the world's northernmost deep-water port. Clifton begged over and over to get a ride in it, but never got the chance; strictly business on that end!

The Canadians and Danish also each run their own base nearby at about 800 miles north of Arctic Circle. Both of their militaries have a small presence at Thule.

As mentioned, Clifton spent one year in Greenland as the only Chaplain. His family was unable to live with him during that year, but made a visit, which included an opportunity for Clifton to give his daughter her First Communion during that time.

Clifton explained his role as a Chaplain on base. He said every official ceremony begins with a prayer in which he would lead. In addition to worship services, there were also many humanitarian efforts that were run through the Chaplain. Clifton shared an interesting time he was called upon; a couple of men were halfway into a 26-mile ruck during a snow storm and one guy stopped wanting to take communion. The commanders on base would also seek out Clifton for moral, ethical and spiritual advice to help them make decisions in an informed way that included disciplinary action.

In Clifton's words, "It was an interesting year." He explained that the sun went down on August 20th, and it didn't fully come up again until February 13th. "The seasons of light and dark aren't just fine. I thought I'd be fine but being in the dark was really rough on a lot of us. However, being with people that you care about and having them carry you through, it's really interesting how close you become after offering that kind of support to one another," he said. "God's people were just taking care of each other in ways I've never experienced outside of that environment. I was grateful for that and wouldn't have been OK if it hadn't been for that," he added.

That year "on the job" also included a lot of down time, though passing time there looks a bit different than here! Clifton joked that you can swim in the ocean if you'd like, but you'll probably only

do that once! He enjoyed all of the wildlife around the area, including seeing all of the musk ox and polar bears. In fact, three polar bears came on the base during Clifton's time there. Hikes would include polar bear sighting or their kill-spots, which was a sure way to get the heart pumping. The outdoor adventures also included climbing and exploring ice caves that form seasonally, and walks around the bay, though you have to be careful of the icebergs, as that's where the bears like to hunt. A lot of people do mountain climbs in the area, which the scenery is breathtaking, Clifton shared. There are also a lot of camping opportunities in little cabins that were once part of old Inuit villages that are no longer inhabited. When the base was built, the original settlement was re-located about 60 miles north, but some of the structures were left in place. There is a mixture of original structures and AF-built structures that are used seasonally for camping, and by residents who come back to hunt/fish.

In regards to the musk ox previously mentioned, Clifton said the meat is very tasty and they are a very interesting animal. They hardly move and just stand in one place, grazing on moss, short grasses, and shrub-like little berries that grow. Actually, in his words, he exclaimed that the musk ox hardly ever move at all... except for when you try to take their picture - then they move really fast! As for other animals he encountered, Clifton said the Arctic Fox are pretty cute, but pretty annoying. They are more like stray cats up there, always looking for food and handouts. Other animals commonly spotted were arctic hares, sea birds, and a variety of ocean life.

One of the questions Clifton was asked during his presentation was how big the communities are in that area. He said there are about four different communities making up the area. The largest has about 600 people, while the other ones are smaller at 150, 50 and 40 or so. The small village life really revolves around hunting, fishing and trading. It's an old way of life. Most of the village supplies are ran through the air base, though there is a grocery store to buy dry goods.

Greenland... Continued on back



The Goodridge Fire & Rescue appreciation supper was held on Wednesday, June 22nd. A wonderful meal was prepared and served, and the volunteers were presented with a variety of awards.

Firemen of the Year awards went to: Tanner Wellman, Ben Nelson, Logan Swenson, Blaine Kriel, Dylan Manderud, and Riley Manderud.

In place of First Responder of the Year, the following individuals were presented with Life-Saving awards who provided heroic and life-saving measures on June 15, 2022: Tim Hruby, Tanner Wellman, Joe Hruby, Mike Lovly, Karyl Mayernik, Nate Peters, Logan Swenson, Wyatt Alby and Gary Hasby. The continued dedication and devotion to those in the community is appreciated beyond words. Next week, the story will be shared of Donald Johnsrud, a Goodridge teen who went into sudden cardiac arrest and was saved by the quick response and efforts of the individuals mentioned above. Photos courtesy of Kensie Lovly



Left: Chaplain Captain Clifton Hanson, USAF, visited Goodridge recently. While here, he spoke of his experience at Ekelund Church. He also joined Pastor Kristin Dahlen Ostercamp in leading Worship that Sunday. Right: When his family visited him in Greenland, he was able to give his daughter her First Communion there. Photos by Grygla Eagle Newspaper/Clifton Hanson

• CHURCH CALENDARS

GRYGLA LUTHERAN PARISH
Grace and Our Savior's, Grygla
Vicar Marilyn Grafstrom
Recorded services are available on-demand on the church website and will play on Garden Valley channel 36 on Wednesdays 7pm and Sundays 9am & 7pm. gracelutherangrygla.weebly.com
Sunday, July 10
Grace: 9am Worship
OS: 10:30am Worship

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH, ELCA
Bethany, Ekelund, Faith Pastor Kristin Dahlen Ostercamp
Sunday services are posted online on the Parish YouTube channel. They are rebroadcast on the GVTV Channel 36 on Wednesdays at 9am and 6:30pm.
Sunday, July 10
Ekelund: 8am Worship
Faith: 9:30am Worship
Bethany: 11am Worship

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF

Grygla Garden Club Social

The Grygla Garden Club will be holding a social on July 10th from 1-3pm at the park by the Grygla School. Enjoy some delicious homemade desserts! Bringing a dessert to share is optional – you are not obligated to do so. Coffee and juice will be provided by the Garden Club. Freewill offering goes to support the local club.

St. Clement's – Grygla; St. Ann's – Goodridge
Fr. Bryan Kujawa
Sundays:
St. Clement's: 10:15am Worship.
St. Ann's: N/A

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH
Skime
Pastor Steve Bliss
Sundays
8am Worship

UNITED LUTHERAN PARISH
Gatzke
Pastor Tim Lundeen
Sundays
8:30am Worship

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
St. Petri – Grygla; Mt. Olive, Nazareth – Trail; Oak Park – Oklee
Pastor Jeff Merseth
Saturday, July 9
Mt. Olive Worship 9am
Sunday, July 10
St. Petri: 8am Worship
Nazareth: 9:45am Worship
Oak Park: 11am Worship

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Summer League Standings

Week 3 Standings	W	L
Purple	5	1
Green	4	2
Gray	3	3
Orange	3	3
Red	3	3
Blue	0	6

Week 3 Results
Green 67
Wyatt Neuschwander 25
Steven Hanson 11
Brady Olson 11
Gray 37
Matt Busse 15
Nick Groven 13

Red 73
Spencer Coan 19
David Jones 19
Carson Rubischko 15
Orange 61
Lewis Jones 32
Robbie Anderson 10

Gray 70
Nick Groven 28
Matt Busse 16
Andrew Loken 13
Red 68
Spencer Coan 19
Carson Rubischko 16
David Jones 11
Randy Henrickson 10

Purple 91
Jordan Coan 34
Riley Manderud 26
Jamison St. Germain 10
Blue 46
Jake Olson 21
Hogan Lundeen 12
Peyton Verbout 10

Orange 78
Lewis Jones 35
Robbie Anderson 20
Josh Loken 11
Blue 68
Jake Olson 31
Peyton Verbout 11

Purple 56
Jordan Coan 17
Riley Manderud 11
Green 49
Brady Olson 10
Matt Hanson 10
Owen Larson 10

Schedule
July 12
6:15 BG Purple vs. Red, SG
Green vs. Blue, Refs Orange & Gray
7pm BG Orange vs. Gray, SG
Green vs. Red, Refs Purple & Blue
7:45pm BG Purple vs. Orange, SG
Blue vs. Gray, Refs Green & Red
July 19
6:15 BG Red vs. Blue, SG
Gray vs. Purple, Refs Green & Orange
7pm BG Green vs. Orange, SG
Blue vs. Purple, Refs Red & Gray
7:45pm BG Green vs. Gray, SG
Red vs. Orange, Refs Purple & Blue

grygla.govoffice2.com
City of Grygla

Meet us at the fair

Polk County Fair (Fertile) is July 6-10, 2022; Pennington County Fair (TRF) is July 13-17; Roseau County Fair (Roseau) will run July 17-22; Marshall County Fair (Warren) runs July 20-24; Clearwater County Fair (Bagley) will be held August 3-7.

Jasper's Theater trip

The Grygla Senior Citizens Club is taking a trip to Jasper's Theater in Park Rapids on July 28th. Please let Thelma know by Friday, July 8th, if you will be attending. The group will meet at the Grain Bin Café the morning of the 28th, leaving at 9am on a bus. Senior members will ride the bus at no cost, otherwise it will be \$5/ person for non-members. The cost to attend the Jasper Theater is \$24.70 a person. Please call Thelma Thomas with any other questions. Hope you can join in for a day of fun!

Northwood Church to hold annual picnic

The Northwood Church Picnic will be held this Saturday, July 9th, at 11am. A potluck meal will follow. All are welcome! The Northwood Church is located 10 miles north of Grygla and 3 miles east at 44796 Moose River RD NW.

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Footcare clinics

North Valley Public Health will hold Foot Care and Blood Pressure Clinics on the following dates:
Middle River Royal Manor Apts.: Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Contact: LAH/BNP at 218-222-4466
Newfolden Community Center: Thursday, July 7, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Darcy Hestekind at 218-874-2256
Argyle LAH/BNP in the mall: Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Penny Korynta at 218-437-8431
Oslo Community Center: Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Contact: North Valley Public Health at 218-745-5154
Grygla Community Center: Thursday, July 28, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Contact: North Valley Public Health at 218-745-5154
Please call to cancel if you are feeling ill.
Please call the person listed above to sign up. We require sign-up sheets so that we can staff accordingly. If you are not able to keep your appointment, please call to cancel.
Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time.
The North Valley Public Health staff will soak feet and trim nails. The fee for this foot care service is \$20 per person.
The North Valley Public Health staff will do free blood pressure checks upon request.

Northern Lights fishing report

Written by Ben Kucera
On this week's report, I want to start with an apology for not having any reports since the end of May. Lake of the Woods has been all over the place as far as catching fish..... if you can get out with all of the wind and major flooding. Most have switched to jigging in 30'+ of water with shiners and others are starting to pull spinners and plugs from 8' on out.
I would start shallow or on the flats off of structure. Leeches or crawlers have been the ticket. Right now, they are fighting a lot of water all over the lake especially when the wind blows.
I really haven't done a whole lot of fishing and have finished most of my summer rods. The end of May I did get out and had a really good day of trout fishing. We caught a lot of fish jigging with a crawler. The panfish hadn't moved up at that time yet.
And then over Father's Day weekend we headed up to Minaki, Ontario, to chase some walleyes, and I couldn't have asked for better fishing. We

boated a lot of fish, around 60-70 fish an outing. So, around 150 fish a day. I tested out my new jig that I had released at the Home, Sport, and Family show. In what I call the LOW special - extreme glow white, blue, yellow, gold and a little red. And with a shiner, out-performed everything and caught numerous slot fish: 18"+, including a 25 ¼, a 26.5, a 32" pike, and a 34" 18-pound pike. Using the new jigging rod, I had to test it, and it was awesome. Loads of fun up in Minaki and beautiful scenery.
Good luck this week and hopefully it will stay nice now after all the rain and wind. Stay safe.
Ben Kucera is the owner and creator of Northern Lights Tackle & Custom Rods. He is also a Marshall County Sheriff's Deputy residing in Grygla with his wife and children. Ben is an avid fisherman who will be writing and submitting a fishing report weekly. You can follow his Facebook page at Northern Lights Tackle and/or contact him at 218-684-0588.



GAHS plans events for Freedom Fest

Goodridge Historical Society gets in on the celebration held in conjunction with the Freedom Festival on July 30th.
The Goodridge Historical Society is made up of 8 buildings located around town. The Country Museum, Depot, Telephone Building, Woodrow Schoolhouse, Settler's Building, Brown House, Log Barn and Log House all have interesting and original stories to them. Most also house countless pieces of history that help tell the story of Goodridge, MN. The Historical Society Buildings will be open that afternoon from 1-3pm. The GAHS celebration also includes hosting the Parade at 11am, which is sponsored by the City of

Goodridge. (Line-up begins at 10am by the football field.) Contact Margie Coan to register (218-378-4385). GAHS is also inviting anyone to the basketball, volleyball and/or horseshoe courts for anyone wanting to play. There will also be a Car/Tractor/Snowmobile Show by the Depot. Contact Jon or Mary Wilson to register (218-681-5738). Other activities include traveling bingo and games to be held in the park. GAHS would also like to congratulate the Goodridge Public School on 100 years of graduating classes! The school will also be open from 2-4pm that afternoon for the graduating classes of 1962 and 1982.

Medicare 101 Virtual Class

Submitted by Paul Baymler
There is a lot to do when you become eligible for Medicare and it can seem overwhelming. Minnesota's Senior LinkAge Line® offers a class giving you answers. The Senior LinkAge Line Medicare 101 class is for people new to Medicare and would like to learn about Medicare Parts A, B, C and D. Topics include a comprehensive introduction to Medicare including what Medicare covers, supplemental insurance and Part D prescription coverage. During class, you will find out how to get the most from your benefits and how to research your Medicare plan options using the Medicare.gov site.
Space is limited, to attend please register online at www.dancingskyaaa.org or call Senior LinkAge Line at 1-800-333-2433.

WHAT: New to Medicare Virtual Class
WHEN: Thursday, July 21st, 2022, from 2:00 PM – 4:00 p.m.
WHERE: Online Virtual Class
REGISTRATION: www.dancingskyaaa.org
The Senior LinkAge Line® is a free statewide service of the Minnesota Board on Aging in partnership with Minnesota's Area Agencies on Aging. The Senior LinkAge Line helps older Minnesotans and caregivers find answers and connect to the service and support they need. Call the Senior LinkAge Line at (800)-333-2433, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or visit www.MinnesotaHelp.info to chat with a specialist during business hours.

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...will be due August 1st, 2022.

Mail to: Veterans Memorial
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Only in Minnesota: a weekly feature in the Eagle

The 23-mile rock outcrop in Minnesota that still baffles archaeologists to this day

Minnesota officially joined the United States in 1858, making our state more than 160 years old. But of course, Minnesota’s history stretches far past the 19th century. People have lived on this land for millennia, and if you look closely, you’ll find signs of the presence everywhere.

One place, in particular, a huge section of rock in southern Minnesota, is a fantastic place to visit and learn about Minnesota’s long history. Though this spot has been studied for decades, it is still a mystery to archaeologists. Read on below to learn more about Jeffers Petroglyphs, the 23-mile rock outcrop that baffles archaeologists to this day:

Jeffers Petroglyphs is a fascinating destination in Comfrey, Minnesota. It’s about 140 miles southwest of Minneapolis or 35 miles south of Redwood Falls.

When you arrive, you won’t see much at first. This part of Minnesota is mostly flat and covered with farmland and vast, grassy fields. The visitor’s center is the only nearby structure that stands out over the prairie.

From the visitor’s center, a trail leads to the main attraction of this quietly beautiful place: a 23-mile outcrop of pink quartzite that stretches into two Minnesota counties. The exposed section is smaller, covering several thousand square feet.

The rock in and of itself is interesting. It’s unlike anything else

in the area, a strange interruption in the otherwise vast, empty prairie.

Besides being geologically interesting, the outcrop also has immense historic value. It’s covered in more than 4,000 petroglyphs, or rock carvings, created by native peoples.

Some were made by the Dakota people, with many of the petroglyphs depicting motifs that appear in other Dakota art. Carvings of animals, people, and other symbols cover the rock.

Other petroglyphs are thought to be much older, with some that may be up to 7,000 years old. In other words, they may have been carved around 5000 BCE.

Evidence of more recent visitors also covers the petroglyphs. There are deep marks from wagon wheels that once traveled over the area!

Though we may not know who exactly carved the earliest petroglyphs, we can still make guesses about them. Archaeological studies of the petroglyphs showed that those who carved them had a deep understanding of math, astronomy, and medicine.

All in all, this unusual site is an amazing place to learn about the history of Minnesota’s first people. We highly recommend a visit to anyone with an interest in history or archaeology! For more information about Jeffers Petroglyphs, including history, hours, and admission prices, visit the Minnesota Historical Society website.

• SIMPLY DELICIOUS

Written and made by Kari Sundberg, Eagle Editor

Layered Greek Dip

This Greek dip recipe is a spin-off of a 7-layer dip. It’s an easy, make-ahead appetizer for a party. The briny Kalamata olives, juicy cucumbers, salty feta, and garlicky hummus will remind you of your favorite Greek salad!

8 ounces cream cheese softened

1 tbsp lemon juice

1 tsp dry Italian seasoning

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 cup prepared hummus

¾ cup cucumber, chopped

¾ cup tomato, chopped

½ cup pitted Kalamata olives, chopped

½ cup feta cheese, crumbled

¼ cup green onions, sliced

Pita chips

Add cream cheese, lemon juice, Italian seasoning and garlic in a medium mixing bowl. Beat with an electric mixer until combined.

Spread cream cheese mix-



6th Annual Freedom Fest at the Goodridge Veterans Memorial Park

It’s time to gear up for another round of fun and celebration! The 6th Annual Freedom Festival will be on Saturday, July 30th, at the Goodridge Veterans Memorial Park.

With numerous vendors set up, featured artists on display and free entertainment under the band shell all day, the event is sure to be another hit with young and old alike. Consider checking it out with some of the top picks back on the schedule, along with plenty of new additions added to the day.

Funded in part by the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council and local sponsors, the hard work of many has resulted in a day-long event filled with music, art and activities for all ages.

The official poster and event line-up hasn’t been released yet; watch for that to come. However, the day will kick off again with the Freedom Run 5K/Fun Run. Some information about the event is shared below.

your \$20 registration form to Berny Vraa at 18767 370th Ave NE in Goodridge, MN, 56725. Or to Trudy Hyland at 33501 130th St. in Goodridge, MN, 56725.

Veterans Honored

As a token of appreciation, the Red White & Blue Quilters from Thief River Falls will present six local veterans with handmade quilts at the 6th Annual Freedom Festival on July 30th, 2022. Veterans honored this year are Ronald Dahlen - US Army Vietnam 1968-1970, Leroy Elg - US Army Vietnam 1967-1969, Donald Jensen - US Army 1970-1972, Richard Parnow -US Army National Guard 1963-1969, Rob Blankenfeld-US Navy/ Marines 1984-1988, Billie Dean Blankenfeld - US Army 1953-1955.

Free Music

Get your dancing shoes ready as there’s music throughout the entire afternoon until 11pm in the Veteran’s Memorial Park Band Shell!

Emcee Eric Mickelson is coming back to the 6th Annual Freedom Festival! Eric and his wife Patty will also be singing a few tunes! Make sure to get a seat under the big tent by the band shell.

Downtown Horns, known as the Red River Valley’s “Premiere Party Band,” will be performing at the 6th Annual Freedom Festival. Downtown Horns are a 9-piece band with a horn-kick playing the most recognizable and danceable hits. Plan on attending the Freedom Festival on July 30th; you won’t want to miss this fun and talented band!

The Cathy Erickson Band, from Middle River, will be performing at Freedom Festival on July 30th! Cathy’s genre is mainly polkas and waltzes with a mix of accordion, sax, and drums. Get ready for some good old-time music.

If you want to hear some good country music, Freedom Festival is the place to be! Tami Lee and The Northern Lights will be performing again this year singing classic and current country.

Featured Artists

Not only are there some great musicians lined up for the festival, but there are also going to be a number of impressive artists there throughout the day. Check them out.

Featured artist, Shannon Lucas Westrum, owner of the Wildflower Cottage in Bemidji, will be featuring her beautiful woven baskets, whisk brooms, jewelry and more! Stop by her booth at Freedom Festival.

Featured artist, Trevour from Detroit Lakes, MN, will be back this year drawing his amazing caricatures at the 6th annual Freedom Festival.

Featured artist, Kathy Bauck, is a face painter from New York Mills, and will be returning again this year with her artistic talent in face and body painting. Make sure the kids visit her booth.

Back by popular demand, Al Belleveau, from Puposky, MN, will be a featured artist at the Freedom Festival! Al is an iron artist that is amazing with the kids and teaches them the techniques of welding by creating their own masterpieces.

Janet Johnson of River’s Edge Studio from Roseau, will be a featured artist at this year’s Freedom Festival! Janet will have her hand built and wheel thrown pottery (and more) on display and for purchase.

All of this PLUS MORE at the 6th Annual Freedom Festival at the Goodridge Veterans Memorial Park. Many activities for kids – fun for the whole family! Keep an eye for the official poster and event line-up coming soon.

11u JO team goes undefeated



Congratulations to the 11u JO Volleyball team for going undefeated this summer winning all five of their tournaments! They are coached by Brenna Dallager. Photo courtesy of Ruth Anderson

Greenland...
Continued from front

There isn't much of an economy in that area; you either work for the school, the city/tribe, or you are a hunter. "Or you're the one guy that runs the store," Clifton joked. A lot of furs are being sold there, if they aren't being used for their own clothing. Polar bear skins are commonly sold; one guy wanted \$1400 for it, which is a pretty good deal, Clifton said, but you can't bring it back into the U.S. As for the Greenlandic people, Clifton shared they have only been there for maybe 500 years or so, after migrating from Canada, following game.

Other than the roads inside the town (that don't actually lead anywhere), you either come and go by helicopter, dogsled, or by boat (if the water is open, which is only 2-3 months out of the year).

One of the highlights of Clifton's year-long tour in Greenland was Operation Julemand. It's an international effort that touches all of the four Greenlandic communities that surround the base, including one of the most northern places people inhabit. What they did was raise money all throughout the year (about \$10k was raised), then they bought Christmas gifts for every kid in all four of the villages. As Chaplain, Clifton dressed up as Santa, got on a helicopter and was flown into a village to make the delivery! The kids were waiting at the airport about two miles outside of the village. Then a firetruck made the trek over to the school, where kids and dogs were racing alongside the truck and following the whole way. "It was a remarkable time, meet-

ing everyone and giving away those gifts," expressed Clifton. He also shared that the helicopter was a Vietnam-era huey that had been converted into a cargo hauler. As Clifton flew over, to keep the mood light, the Danish pilot played "Fortunate Son" which didn't fit the Christmas feel, but definitely fit the mood for flying in that particular helicopter!

In conclusion to his presentation, Clifton shared with his crowd about the number of religions on base. "With non-Christian faiths, my job is to give them the tools they need to freely exercise their faith - to protect their first amendment rights. It might sound strange for a Christian pastor to help people to worship other Gods, but the world is a better place when people are free to worship as they choose, and that means someone has to make sure they can do that. Any job in this world that needs to be done is a job a Christian can and should do," he concluded.

After his presentation at Ekelund that Sunday morning, Clifton joined Pastor Kristin Dahlen Ostercamp in leading the worship service. He chose each hymn for a special reason. One of those was very fitting and was titled My Life Flows On In Endless Song. The lyrics rang out in song, singing, "No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging."

Clifton was in Greenland from June 10th, 2020, and left on June 17th, 2021. Up next, his family will be joining him in the UK for the next three years where he will be stationed at Royal Air Force Mildenhall NE of London a couple of hours.

Thank you for your service to God and your country, Clifton. We wish you the best!



A handful of Ash trees were cut down last week on the south end of the football field in Grygla. The school administration made the decision to remove some of the trees as they were starting to die off. They also felt it would improve the maintenance of the area and provide a better parking/viewing opportunity for football fans. The property is owned by the Grygla School. *Photos by Grygla Eagle Newspaper/Susan Saurdiff*



Take me out to the ballgame



The North Star Baseball League game was held in Greenbush on June 30th. Local kids joining the team were, L-R: Gus Jones, Cooper Aune and Shay Jacobson (Pee Wees team), and Emmett Lunsetter, Gavin Aune and Sawyer Jacobson (for the Midgets team). *Photos courtesy of Jamie Aune*



Clifton, along with his wife and two children, are now living in the UK for the next three years, stationed at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, NE of London a couple of hours.



Above: a polar bear walking through Thule Air Base. Below: Musk ox were a common sighting and also a very tasty animal to eat! *Photos courtesy of Clifton Hanson*

