

Leader-Record

\$1.00

CONTINUING THE GONVICK RECORD AND CLEARBROOK LEADER
Serving the Communities of Clearbrook, Gonvick, Gully, Leonard and Trail



The Clearbrook-Gonvick elementary students presented their annual Christmas program with some very energetic students signing. Below students singing are Elleigh Emmel, John Ballard and Lydia Bakken. Photos by Alicia Preuss.



Levy increases 5.5% over last year

County conducts Truth in Taxation meeting

By Karen Edelbach
The Clearwater County Board of Commissioners held the Truth in Taxation meeting on Dec. 12, 2017.
County Auditor Allen Paulson said the Levy was approved for the Truth in Taxation notices recently mailed showing changes for the taxes payable in 2018.
“The Levy increased by \$114,000. There were some reductions compared to last year,” Auditor Paulson said. “There is an overall increase of 5.5% over last year.”
Board Chairman Dean Newland opened the meeting to those present who wished to appeal their tax statements. Three property owners expressed their wanting to appeal, and showed concerns as to their tax increases being a great deal more than the “5.5% overall increase” in the County.
One property owner who is appealing owns three parcels near Long Lake Park. He had increases of 25% on as seven acre parcel, which he said was 10 acres before a road split the parcel. The prohibitive expense of doing a survey cannot confirm the loss he said.
He bought a parcel last year by bid from the DNR, advertised at a minimum bid of \$20,000, but he ended up pur-

chasing for \$32,150. He said it almost doubled in value on his tax statement, which is zoned as rural vacant land. He is also concerned that though he has an easement, he has been unable to get public utilities to his properties.
Another property owner in Falk Township showed that his property increase was a staggering 106% increase on agricultural and pasture land.
A third property owner was surprised by a valuation on 140 acres increasing to \$102,700.
“The budget vs. value determines how the taxes are spread over the county,” Auditor-Treasurer Allen Paulson said. “Valuations may change, and classification. Those are considered at the Board of Equalization meeting in spring. That is how Minnesota does it. Often people don’t pay attention to the earlier statements, until they see it on the Truth in Taxation statements in the fall.”
“It is all in the estimated market value, or what you can expect to sell it (the parcel) for,” Assessor Jamie Freeman said.
All those appealing were invited to come to the Assessors office so they could look up the details and discuss their statements with the Assessor.
Regarding the easement issue, it was suggested to the

property owner to consult with an attorney, as the County Board has no jurisdiction in those matters.
In other County matters, a Resolution to Accept County Attorney’s Resignation was passed. Commissioners expressed that they had been surprised by the departure of the current County Attorney. Three attorney applications have been received for the position, and interviews are expected to be on Dec. 19.
Department Budgets under the Clearwater County Revenue Fund for fiscal year 2018 were approved with motion by Commissioner Neal Illies, seconded by Commissioner Dan Stenseng. County Solid Waste Management Fund, Nursing Service Fund, and Ditch Fund Budgets were also approved for 2018.
Land Commissioner Bruce Cox received approval for the proposed Forfeited Tax Sale Fund Budget for fiscal year 2018. Total revenues for Forfeited Tax Sales, Timber Development, In Lieu, and County Forest Roads is in the amount of \$462,915; and total expenditures for the same is \$595,999.
County Engineer, Dan Sauve` received approval for
Commissioners...
Continued on page 6

Border State Bank adds eleventh location

GREENBUSH, MN – Border State Bank is pleased to announce the purchase of First State Bank of Clearbrook, Minnesota.
“Clearbrook is a special small community and was attractive to us because the community, residents, bank culture and employees are much like those in other Minnesota small towns where Border State Bank has a strong presence. Border State Bank is excited to pair with a well-established bank that has a strong commitment to community banking, which is the focus of our mission” said Robert Hager, CEO of Border State Bank.
Border State Bank was established in 1935 and has extraordinarily deep roots in Minnesota. The bank proudly serves eight communities in Northern Minnesota – Greenbush, Thief River Falls, Badger, Middle River, Baudette, International Falls, Roseau and Lancaster. In addition, Border State Bank has a bank in Coon Rapids and a Deposit Production Office in Rochester. The combined bank will have approximately \$550 million in assets.
“Our employees are excited to have been acquired by a bank that shares the same hometown banking phi-

losophies First State Bank is known for. It is a natural fit. Our customers should be rest assured the transition will be seamless and they will continue to receive the exceptional, personalized service they expect and value,” said Brad Eck, EVP/CEO of First State Bank.
First State Bank will retain its name through October 2018, at which time it will assume the Border State Bank name and branding. First State Bank in Clearbrook is located at 123 Main Street and can be reached at 218-776-3151, or at www.fsbclearbrook.com.
Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

Council certifies property tax levy

The Gonvick City council passed resolution 17-04 certifying the property tax levy for next year at 3% to the County Auditor. This will take effect in 2018. The meeting was held on Wednesday, December 6.
Police Chief Dan Gazelka gave the Police Department Report for the month. They included 911 Hang Up 1; Animal Relate 2; Assists 2; Civil Complaint 1; Medical 1; Sexual Conduct 1; Suspicious Activity, Traffic Complaint 1; Traffic Stop 3 for a total of 13. There have been reports of barking dogs.
The council approved the minutes of the regular meeting on November 8.
Maintenance issues included getting a contractor for any water main breaks that might happen with the winter season. Three will be contracted to see if they would be interested.
Health insurance was discussed for Joe Amundson, City Maintenance person for the coming year. More information will be gathered for next months meeting.
The Gonvick Fire Department

had a crash with their old computer and that is now working again. Bill Klema will be the new fire chief at the beginning of the year.
Liquor license for The Trap was approved for on and off sale.
Due to lack of action, the campground proposal at Jefferson Park has been dissolved and will be removed from the agenda.
Bills were approved with \$32,948.88 for General, \$3,292.26 for Water and Sewer and \$3,531.34 for Fire for a total of \$39,764.48.

Buffer Ordinance public hearing held – Facts and misconceptions heard

By Karen Edelbach
The Clearwater County Board of Commissioners conducted the public hearing regarding the State of Minnesota-mandated Buffer Ordinance on Dec. 12, 2017. It was an Executive Order by Governor Mark Dayton. The counties were given the opportunity to take on the enforcing of the order, and if not, then the State will do it.
Environmental Services Director, Dan Hecht and Nathan Nordlund, District Manager of Soil and Water Conservation District were present to explain the oversight of the law, and answer questions.
“There were no responses to the public notice in the paper, but we are fortunate that (editor) Tom Burford called with some questions and local papers put article in about the ordinance. It was good to get the word out,” Dan Hecht said.
“The State will do the enforcing if the local counties don’t take it on. Most people would rather deal with the local (authorities),” he said. “My job is to help interpret the buffer law.”
In Clearwater County, the county has decided to take on the issue here. The Soil & Water Conservation District is responsible for administration and education. The Environmental Services department is responsible for enforcement if needed.
“Counties are subdivisions of the State of Minnesota. We are compelled under the authority of the State. We administer the law as they lay it on us,” said Commissioner Dan Stenseng.
“For the record, we (Commissioners) are not for the buffer law. We fought down in the Cities at the State Legislature. The Counties and the Repre-

sentatives didn’t want it. But it passed. We either had to enforce it or let the State do it. We felt it was better to enforce it,” Commissioner Neal Illies said.
It was stated that a vast amount of Minnesota counties are taking on the control.
This ordinance is mostly to do with agricultural land where you do have water. Pollution in the lakes and rivers, from such things as fertilizer and chemicals is the biggest concern. The State law is to protect the environment.
Nathan Nordlund presented an aerial map indicating water ways and how properties were considered compliant or not in Clearwater County through the imagery.
A question and answer period followed the opening comments, answered by Dan Hecht or Nathan Nordlund.
Q: “What will happen if I have lakefront property?”
A: “A buffer on lakefront property is vegetation year around which is close to the water. That is a different buffer that the DNR is trying to advance, letting vegetation grow up in certain areas.”
Q: “Is there any problem here (in Clearwater County) with the chemicals and pollution?”
A: (Nathan) “Our Office is interfacing with landowners. We had to look at each parcel to see if it complied. If not we let landowners know if your land didn’t meet with the law.”
“Generally, the ordinance requires (no more than) a 50 foot buffer, but alternative requirements are available that are less intrusive, such as 20 or 30 feet. None here have issues with your land parcels.”
Q: “How much land and who does the testing to see what is doing the damage?”
A: “Two years of sampling results are being looked at. Aerial imagery is used. You can come into the Soil & Water office (at the USDA building) to look at parcels.”
“There is more severe damage in the southern part of the State. You can look at the Minnesota Pollution Control website for more information.”
Q: “How does this affect tax structure – I am already taxed into the lake where my property is located?” (Clover Township)
A: (Dan) “There won’t be any affect on lake lots. Ag land could be affected.”
Assessor Jamie Freeman added, “For property under water in Clearwater County we have a code. There is no value as far as taxes go. Other property assessors are trying to determine the tax.”
Q: “A 50 foot buffer that used to produce, but now you cant produce there, loses money. Most people are counting their acres. If money is lost, how do we pay the taxes, are there any compensations from the State for the loss?”
A: “You can sign up buffer acres in the CRP through the NRCS office. There are other programs available such as cost share.”
“Where there is hay planted, there are provisions to work the land up and reseed.”
Q: “What about places where the roadway is right next to the water?”
Buffer Ordinance...
Continued on page 6



A Live Nativity scene was hosted by Clear Waters Life Center for their December 1 program and dinner in Gonvick.

Community Calendar

History Center in Shevlin To Close For Holidays

The History Center will be closed Friday December 22 through January 1 for the Christmas and New Years Holidays. The museum will reopen on Tuesday January 2.

However, if you have family or visitors during the holidays that want to visit the museum, please don't hesitate to call and make an appointment. The staff will be happy to give tours during the holiday break.

Office and museum hours at the History Center during the winter months are Tuesday through Friday from 10-4 and by appointment. Look for special weekend events all winter long. The current exhibition is "Creative Clearwater" showcasing the talents of county artists and crafters; past and present.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please call the History Center at 218-785-2000 or call Tamara Edevold at 218-694-2856. Email: clearwaterhistory@icloud.com

Happy Holidays from the Clearwater County Historical Society Staff and Board of Directors.

Thank You

We want to say thanks to the Clearbrook Community Club and business places for the Lucky Trade Bucks we won on Santa Claus Day. It will be well spent in the town of Clearbrook.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

Frank & Annie Bergh, Clearbrook

Clearwater County Food Shelf Holiday Schedule

Dec. 18 Mon. 10am – 2 pm
Food Shelf is closed until
Wed. Jan. 3, 2018



Performing at the Clearbrook-Gonvick Elementary program were Charlie Phillips, Jasmine Erickson, Kendra Klein and Madison Walser. -Photo by Alissa Preuss.

Today In Banking

Some "Straight Talk" On Banking Today ... That Can Make Banking Better For You...

Wishing You A Merry Christmas

And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

~Luke 2:10-11

As we celebrate this joyous season of Christmas, we remember the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas.

The Northern State Bank will be **CLOSED** on Monday, Dec. 25 in observance of Christmas and Monday, January 1 in observance of New Year's Day.

MAKING BANKING BETTER FOR YOU!

The Northern State Bank

GONVICK, MINNESOTA 56644 • PHONE 218-487-5244
www.nsbgonvick.com
MEMBER FDIC

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from Gonvick's Hair Repair & Jan

STOP IN now through Jan. 5 for a **drawing to win a woman or man's gift bag**

Is your hair & tan ready for the holidays or maybe that winter get-away? Make your appointment today by stopping in or call **BOBBIE** or **MARY ... 487-5501**

We have **Gift Certificates** FOR THAT HARD-TO-BUY-FOR PERSON

Thank you to all our customers You are what makes the door stay open. Blessings to you all in 2018.

Open: Tues.-Sat. WALK-INS WELCOME

Clearbrook-Leonard Senior Meals

Wed., Dec. 20- Chicken Chow Mein, Rice/Chow Mein



Jake TeHennepe before he took a look at Santa Claus.



Luke with his brother Jake TeHennepe after he got a look at Santa Claus.

Noodles, Oriental Veg., Mandarin Orange, Gelatin, Brownie and Milk.

Thurs., Dec. 21 - **Christmas Meal** - Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes Gravy, Cream Peas, Bread, Fruit Cobbler and Milk.

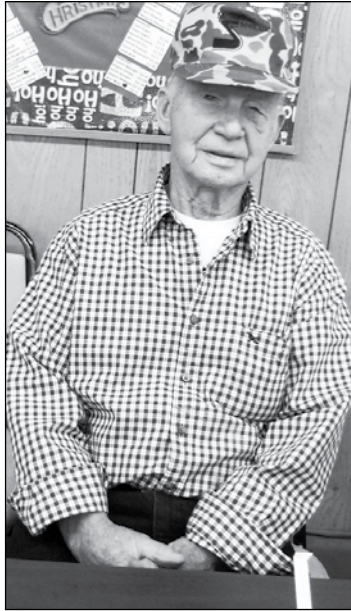
Fri., Dec. 22 - Spaghetti with Italian Meat Sauce, Cauliflower, Garlic Bread, Apricots and Milk.

Mon., Dec. 25- Closed for Christmas.

Tues., Dec. 26 -Tomato Hamburger Casserole, Green Beans, Pineapple, Bread, Lemon Dessert and Milk

Wed., Dec. 27- Vegetable Beef Soup, Meat Salad Sandwich, Pea and Cheese Salad, Crackers, Bar and Milk.

Meals are served daily at 11:30 at the Clearbrook site except for evening meals served at 5 p.m. They are subject to change. Please register for meals at least the day before. Call 776-3154 to sign up.



Ordean Swanson celebrated his December birthday at the Senior Center in Clearbrook.

Thank You

Special Thanks to the Gonvick Lions Club for the very nice Goodie Treat Bag that was brought to our door. What a kind thing to do. We can't thank the Lions Club enough for all the things they do for everybody.

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year to all!

Thanks again!
Frank & Annie Bergh, Clearbrook

Thank You

I would like to thank the Northern State Bank of Gonvick for the LED tower speaker I won at their Christmas tea.

Jacie Bergerson

Thank You

Thank you to the Northern State Bank, Gonvick, for the wireless color weather station I won at their Christmas drawing. Love it. Now I'll finally know cold it is.

Bobbie Dyrda

Thank You

A big thank you to the Gonvick Lions for the Christmas package that the wonderful volunteers delivered.

Bernice Magnussen

Someone Is Missing at Christmas

Let this be a loving reminder That someone is missing today.

Someone our hearts still hold on to. As we travel along life's way. Someone who made life so special. For all those who gather here, Someone who won't be forgotten, But cherished from year to year. And now as we pause to remember, Let us all fondly recall, How dearly each of us loved her, And oh ... how she loved us all

On Loving Memory of Mavis Erickson

Love Lights a Tree

Love Lights a Tree recognizes the following loved ones this week:

In memory of my husband Maylon Charles and his brother Murray Charles from Beverly Charles.

In memory of Ron Hanson, Bette Vaccaro, Frances Hayes, and Irene Loftus from Bertina Hanson.

In memory of Carol Jake-man from Dennis and Laida Wiens.

Donations should be made to the American Cancer Society and sent to: Kim LaVine 18802 County 39 Bagley, Mn 56621 100% of donations will be sent to the American Cancer Society.

Church News

KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
Sand Lake Ave & 5th St. Bagley
Thursday: 7:30 p.m. Bible Study; 8:00 p.m. Theocratic School; 8:30 p.m. Service Meeting.
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Public Bible Talk; 10:35 a.m. Bible Study.

FAITH BIBLE CHAPEL OF CLOVER
Leonard, MN
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Bagley 218-694-6416
Pastor: Fr. John Melkies Suvakeen Terri D, Parish sec.
Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM
Call for weekday Mass times.

ELIM LUTHERAN BRETHREN CHURCH
Clearbrook
Pastor Adam Krog
Wed., Dec., 20 - 5:30 p.m. Confirmation; 6:30 p.m. Youth Group, 7:30 p.m. Bible Study.
Thurs., Dec. 21 - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study and Prayer.
Sun., Dec. 24 - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Program Worship Service. 4:30 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Service.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CLEARBROOK & OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH LEONARD
Pastor Robert Kirchnerman
Good Shepherd
Sunday, Dec 24: 9:00 am Worship Service. 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.
Wed. Dec. 27 - 6:30 pm Choir Practice; 7:30 pm Handbell Practice.

Our Savior's
Thurs. Dec. 21 - 2:00 p.m. WELCA, 6:00 p.m. Church Council.
Sun., Dec 24: 11:00 a.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.
Mon. Dec. 25 - 11:00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship Service.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Clearbrook
Pastor Verlyn Strenge
Assoc. Pastor Jim Galloway
Wed. Dec. 20 - 6:30 p.m. AWA-NA
Thurs. Dec. 21 - 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
Sat. Dec. 23 - 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast & Bible Study.
Sun. Dec. 24 - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service, 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive - Nazareth Oak Park - St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseith
Wed. Dec. 20: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School. Semester exam.
Sat. Dec. 23: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive Christmas service.
Sun. Dec. 24: 9:00 a.m. St. Petri. 5:30 p.m. Nazareth.
Mon. Dec. 25: 9:30 a.m. Christmas Day Service at Oak Park.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg, Youth Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Wed. Dec. 20: Community Caroling, 12:30p.m.-3:00p.m. Food Shelf, 6:00p.m. Alpha. 6:30 p.m. Awana.
Thu. Dec. 21: 12:00 p.m. Rotary.
Fri. Dec. 22: 6:00 p.m. Holy Yoga.
Sat. Dec. 23: 9:00 a.m. Holy Yoga.
Sun. Dec. 24: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:40 p.m. Sunday Sschool.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Wed. Dec. 20: 2:00 p.m. Lund WELCA Christmas Party/ Potluck, Advent Service Sand Valley 6:30 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 24: 5:00 p.m. Parish Wide Christmas Eve at Lund.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston
Seth Johnson, Interim Pastor
Sun. Dec. 24: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship

DISCIPLES OF MESSIAH-YAHUSHA
who obey Yahusha's teachings (John 8:31) are meeting each Sabbath in homes. (218) 766-8176 Homeless Shelter - Scriptural Counseling & Encouragement.

Clear Waters Life Center Happenings...

CWLC office, programs, and businesses closed Dec. 23-January 1. CR will meet!

CLEARBROOK SITE:
Anger Management Class: Jan. 8-Feb.12, 2018, Mondays, 6:30-8:30 PM. Registration required. Deadline Jan. 3. Forms on-line at www.clearwaterslife.org or at our sites.

Celebrate Recovery Support Group: 7:00 PM, Thursday, Dec. 28, 2nd floor of CWLC-Clearbrook. Help for any hurt, habit, or hang-up. Confidential.

Need a gift idea for someone on your list? Gift certificates are available from each of our businesses. Grow It! certificates may be purchased at either site.

GONVICK SITE:
Restore It! Furniture Shop: W-F, 10-4. 25% off our already great prices through Fri., Dec. 22.

Senior Connection Adult Day Services: Openings available beginning January 3. Call 218-487-5290, Ext., 1 for enrollment & transportation assistance.

As a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, CWLC is able to provide a variety of free or low cost services to our area thanks to generous financial donors. We would love to have you as part of our team: "Building lives, Growing relationships, Imparting hope". All donations to CWLC are tax-deductible.

CWLC-Gonvick, 226 Elm St., open: M-W-F, 10-4 & Sat., 9-12. CWLC-Clearbrook, 256 2nd Ave., SW. Open 10-4, M-F, & 10-12 on Saturday.

For programs and services, visit: www.clearwaterslife.org, www.mustardseedhomes.org, or www.aduldaysservicesgonvick.org and our Facebook pages.

CWLC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization providing a variety of free and low-cost programming and services to northern Clearwater County and surrounding area.

This ad is sponsored by:

Home at Heart Care Personal Care & Homemaking

The Leader Record

Published by Richards Publishing Co. Subscription rates \$25.00 per year in Clearwater County and East Polk County cities of Fosston, Gully and Trail and \$30.00 per year outside the county. Continuing by consolidation the Olberg Journal, established in 1901. The Clearbrook Leader, and the Gonvick Record.

PUBLISHER'S LIABILITY FOR ERROR: The Publisher shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The Publisher's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement is strictly limited to publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issue or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisement.

(USPS 307 630) POSTMASTER: Please send address changes, Form 3579, to The Leader-Record, PO Box 159, Gonvick, MN 56644.

(218) 487-5225

Corrine Richards, Editor
Richard Richards, Publisher
Editorial office Gonvick, MN 56644
email: richards@gvtel.com
MEMBER MNA AND NNA

Periodical Postage Paid in Gonvick, MN 56644

PRINTED WITH SPOYINK

BEAR TRACKS

Clearbrook-Gonvick Honor roll
"A" Honor Roll
1st Quarter
Seniors - Brody Arlaud, Kendehl Ballard, Morgan Cornell, Cassandra Faldet, Brynn Hetland, Abigail Moy, Hunter Voxland, Sierra Walters

Juniors - Amara Allen, Callie Baker, Emily Bergman, Adriana Churness, Ethan Dor-man, Ethan Erickson, Bailey Haugen, Caleb Petterson, Brandon Quern, Kari Shamp, Jazmyn Smith, Jacey Tronnes, Kristin Weems

Sophomores - Kayla Ehlers, Kaylee Faldet, Danika Harmon, Bailey Klema, Tay-bryn Knutson, Mykenzie Lar-son, Jennifer Lavin, Gabriel Lavine, Lauren Melby, Sydney Vakoch, Ashlyn Weems

8th Grade - Jayden Berg-erson, John DeVries, Jensen Engberg, Ella Engen, Kelsey Johnson, Chantelle Kuskick, Dana Melby, Emma Rude, Jay-na Tronnes, Mckenzie Weems, Kaylee Westrum

7th Grade - Sydney Dahl-ke, Ty Dyrdaahl, Madison Ger-lofs, Julianne Lavin, Dawson Quern, Logan Westrum.

"B" Honor Roll
1st Quarter
Seniors - Kaylee Anderson, Alexine Bjerke, Madelynne Faldet, Cami Johnson, Mikala Johnson, Keisha Jones, Brian-na Straabe, Brent Weems
Juniors - Alexis Ballard, Arabella Corey, Hunter Ehlers, Joshua Lavin, Rachel Lavin,

Clearbrook-Gonvick School Menu

Wed. Dec. 20 - Chicken Patty on WG bun, Oven Fries, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Choices and Milk.

Thurs. Dec. 21 - Walking Taco, Refried Beans, WG Cook-ie, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Choices and Milk.

Fri. Dec. 22 - Orange Chick-en, WG Rice, Stir Fry Veggies, Fortune Cookie, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Choices and Milk.

Mon. 25 through 29 No School. *Merry Christmas.*

With articles submitted by the staff, administration and students at the Clearbrook-Gonvick Junior and Senior High Schools

Anthony Peldo, Riley Schulz
Sophomores - Benjamin Engebretson, Geonhui Kim, Nyah Neadeau, Jenna Smith
9th Grade - Wyatt Ander-son, GiAnne Cadreau, Amara Churness, Rose Java
8th Grade - Justyce Augi-

nash, Shayla Baker, Lane Cad-reau, Aiden Churness, Malaina Hartwig, Gryphon Riley, Bian-ca Sather, Theodore Tollefson, Samuel Wishard
7th Grade - Jesse Ander-son, Ashlyn Churness, Hailee Hanson, Joshua King



Santa and Mrs. Clause came jingling their way to Holi-day Fun Night in the Early Childhood classrooms at the Clearbrook-Gonvick School on Dec. 11th. The youngsters were VERY excited to see them! (Even reluctant children warmed up to the special visitors after singing carols to the red suited guests!) ECFE would like to send a HUGE thank you to Santa and his sweetie for spreading cheer to out littlest learners!



School Readiness students were learning about letter 'E' and became the most adorable and hard-working elves at the C-G school.

School News

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!
NO SCHOOL: Christmas va-cation is December 23-January 1. School resumes

CONGRATULATIONS!! to the newest members of the Na-tional Honor Society: Abigail Moy, Emily Bergman, Callie Baker, Bailey Haugan, Joshua Lavin, Kari Shamp, Lindsey Gray, Savanna Rankin, Naomi Shamp, JackieLynn Taffin. These folks were inducted on December 13. Requirements for the National Honor Society are: Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Character. Congratula-tions ladies and gentlemen!!

Hours: Either 11-6 or 11-1
COUNSELORS CORNER:
 Get up to date information over the school year including scholarships, financial aid, tips, college representatives, career fairs, articles, and some fun stuff by following me on:

Instagram: counselormegang
Twitter: @CounselorMeganG Check out the School Counselor Web-site https://sites.google.com/a/clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us/school-counselor/

ACT test

The ACT will be offered to the Juniors during the school day on February 27, 2018 at no cost. There is a sign-up sheet in the office and letters have been sent in the mail with the follow-ing information:

The ACT test score will provide you with information about progress toward college readi-ness and it widely used by col-leges in making decisions about admission. It is a required test for most four year colleges. Stu-dents who take the ACT will be able to share their ACT scores with up to four colleges or uni-versities for free.

Here are some benefits to taking the ACT test in the school:

- Students feel less stress

testing in a familiar environ-ment on a regular school day

- The ACT is accepted by all four-year colleges and universi-ties in the United States

- Tested on what they've learned in their high school core courses

- Eliminate potential con-cerns about finding transporta-tion to a test center on the week-end

- Receive personalized in-

Annual Meeting Notices

THE PINE RIDGE RESIDENCE, INC. WILL HOLD ITS ANNUAL MEETING AT THE CLEARWATER DAC OFFICES ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018 AT 1:00 P.M. PERSONS INTERESTED IN PINE RIDGE RESIDENCE ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

THE CLEARWATER DAY ACTIVITY CENTER, INC. WILL HOLD ITS ANNUAL MEETING AT THE CLEARWATER DAC OFFICES ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018 AT 2:00 P.M. PER-SONS INTERESTED IN THE DAC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

R39-42C

**FOR THOSE
HARD-TO-BUY-FOR
PEOPLE ON
YOUR LIST...**

...give Santa a hand and send a subscription.

The gift that keeps on giving all year!

\$25⁰⁰	(year) in county
\$30⁰⁰	(year) out of county
\$15⁰⁰	(6 months) in county
\$17⁰⁰	(6 months) out of county
\$28⁰⁰	Snowbirds

You now thave the option to view the news online or in print or both! Subscribe online or give us a call today!

Check us out at ...
www.TriCoCanary.com

The Leader Record ... 487-5225

☐ **YES**, I would like to order a subscription.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

START DATE _____ Please check appropriate box:

☐ 1 yr. in-county ☐ 1 yr. out-of-county

☐ 6 mo. in-county ☐ 6 mo. out-of-county ☐ Snowbirds

formation to explore future col-lege and career decisions based on their strengths, weaknesses, and interests

- Use their scores for finan-cial aid and scholarship applica-tions

- May choose to provide infor-mation to help identify opportu-nities for college admissions and scholarships

Upcoming activities

Thur, Dec 21: JH BBB at Fosston at 4:30. 7th at 4:30, 8th at 5:30. Release at 3:00, leave at 3:15

Thur, Dec 21: A,B, BBB vs BGMR at 6:00. B at 6:00, Var at 7:30

Fri, Dec 22: A,B, GBB vs Blackduck at 6:00. B at 6:00, Var at 7:30 (makeup game from Dec 4)

Thur, Jan 4: JH GBB at Cass Lake at 5:00. 7th at 5:00, 8th at 6:00. Release at 3:00. Leave 3:15

Thur, Jan 4: A,B, GBB at Cass Lake at 6:00. B at 6:00, Var at 7:30. Release at 3:00. Leave 3:15

Fri, Jan 5: JH BBB vs Kelliher/Northome at 5:00 at CCC. 7th at 5:00, 8th at 6:00.

Fri, Jan 5: A,B, BBB vs Kelliher/Northome at 6:00. B at 6:00, Var at 7:30

Add the following: Tue, Feb 20: A,B BBB at Nevis at 6:00. Var @ 6:00, JV at 7:30. Leave 3:45.

Sunday Afternoon Open Gym Begins January 7, 2018

The high school gym will be open for recreation January 7-March 11 from 2:00-4:00 pm for grades 4th-adult. 3rd grade & under may attend with an adult.

NO STREET SHOES.

There will be a \$2.00 fee per time or you may buy a pass good for all 10 Sundays.

Pass prices are: Individu-al=\$15.00, Family pass=\$25.00 Parents are free if they at-tend with their child/children.

Passes may be purchased in the Community Education of-fice or when you come to open gym.

If you have questions or con-cerns about fees, please talk to Judy Engebretson (776-3112 Ext 102) **NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED.**

Toddler Open Gym begins January 14, 2018

Starting Sunday, January 14th and running every Sun-day until March 11th, come to the Elementary Gym for Tod-dler Open Gym!! Come any time from 2:30-4:00.

For families with five year olds and younger. To help maintain the program, a free-will donation is encouraged.

Sponsored by Community Education **NO REGISTRA-TION REQUIRED.**

Clearwater County

Fair Calendar winners
Dec. 9 - Jean Walker, Min-neapolis, \$20.

Dec. 10 - Jodi Dyrdaahl, Bagley, \$20.

Dec. 11 - Bob and Lori Bur-gess, Gonvick, \$20.

Dec. 12 - Chad Bonik, Bagley, \$20.

Dec. 13 - Donovan Olson, Bagley, \$20.

Dec. 14 - Lillian Newland, Shevlin, \$20.

Dec. 15 - Paula Souder, Bemidji, \$20.

**WINTER
BEGINS**
 DECEMBER 21

Business & Professional Guide

THRIFTY WHITE PHARMACY
 Clearbrook
 Open 9:00-5:00, Mon.-Fri.
776-3111

Thrifty White Drug
 Bagley, MN
 Complete Prescription Service
 Home, Health &
 Convenience Services

Phone 694-6210

PHARMACY HOURS:
 9:00-5:30 M-F • Sat. 9:00-noon

OPEN 9:00-5:30 M-F • Sat. 9:00-noon

Town & Country Car Wash

-State of the art touchless car wash
 -Oversized self-serve bay: perfect for your vehicles, trailers, buses, RVs and more!
 -Open 24 Hours

Gift Certificates available
 Call 218-368-4279
 LOCATED ON HWY. 92 IN CLEARBROOK

Solid Bottom

Septic Pumping
 Satellite Toilet Rentals
218-785-2652
 Bagley, MN 56621

North Country Overhead Door

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
 *Sales *Installation *Service
 *Loading Dock Equipment
 *All Major Door Brands
 OPERATORS • REMODELING • REPAIR
 ~ FREE ESTIMATES ~
218-556-2213 or 888-393-9070

We print everything but money!

Richards Publishing Co.
— 218-487-5225 —

Hours: M-W, 8-4; Thurs. by apnt
CLEARBROOK DENTAL CLINIC
RANDY C. BEARD, D.D.S.

Main St., Box 314
 Clearbrook, MN 56634
 Telephone: 776-3558

Phone 694-6600

For Three Generations of professional service

CEASE

FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES
 Bagley

Joy Eck
"Your Realtor"
 Here to Serve You!
Eck-cellent Service!

Eck-spect More!
(218) 791-9605
 jeek@century21dickinson.com
 Century 21
 Dickinson Realtors

E. H. RASMUSSEN
 Lawyer
 Box Q • Bagley, MN 56621

694-6565

Fax 218-694-3502

Thoughts from the Sheriff

Clearwater County Sheriff Darin Halverson



The winter started out with a bang and then we received a nice warm up for a time. The change in temperatures definitely had an impact on the ice conditions on area lakes. Recently, there have been a few fatalities in Minnesota due to people falling through the ice. I want to take this time to remind everyone to please be safe when venturing onto the ice. Many area lakes have sufficient ice on them, however, others do not. Never assume ice is 100% safe.

The general rule of thumb for ice is if it has two inches or less, stay off. Four inches is usually safe for walking and you should wait for five to six inches before driving an ATV or snowmobile. It is recommended to wait for twelve inches of ice to drive a small truck or SUV on the lake and between twelve and fifteen inches for a full size truck. Of course, you also have to consider the weight of an icehouse if you are pulling one onto a lake and wait for the appropriate thickness of ice to support the combined weight.

The thicknesses I mentioned above are for clear, solid ice. If there has been any flooding on the lake and then it freezes again, white or cloudy ice will form which does not have the same strength. Many lakes have springs or rivers that run through them that also affect the ice. Ice can be twelve inches in one area and just a few inches a short distance away. You want to be alert if you are on a lake and look for river inlets and outlets and for ice that may appear darker as it might mean the ice is very thin.

Whether you are walking or driving on the ice, there are a few safety tips that you should keep in mind. First, if you are walking on early ice, have a pair of ice picks with you. You can make your own by using two short pieces of wood with a nail on both ends attached together with a piece of rope. If you should break through the ice, you can use these picks to help pull yourself out of the water. Another thing you can do is carry an ice chisel with you and use it to hit the ice in front of you. If the chisel doesn't go through the ice with the strike, then the ice should be good enough to bear your weight.

If you are driving on the ice, it is a good idea to take your seat belt off, keep your window down or keep your door ajar. It isn't often that you hear someone from law enforcement telling you not to wear your seat belt, but in this case it may just save your life. If your vehicle goes through the ice, you may become panicked and disoriented and not be able to unbuckle yourself. Every second counts if your vehicle goes through. Try to get out as soon as possible before the vehicle becomes submerged. Your vehicle will float for a period from a few seconds to a few minutes. Once your vehicle goes under and fills with cold water, your chances of escape begin to diminish. If you are in water deeper than fifteen

feet, your vehicle will most likely roll over onto its roof. Combine that with the darkness under the ice, your chances of survival are minimal.

So what should you do if you find yourself in ice-cold water? Time is of the essence. You have about ten minutes of meaningful movement and about one hour of useful consciousness. The first thing to do is determine which direction you came from. Always try to get out of the water and onto the ice from the direction from which you came. You know the ice supported you to that point so it would be your best option to crawl out onto. Whether you have ice picks or not, don't panic and get your hands on top of the ice. Kick your feet to propel yourself and try to pull yourself out of the water. If you are successful, roll on the ice for a short distance away from the water to be sure you are on solid ice.

Once out, try to get to a warm place as soon as possible. If you were in the water for a lengthy time and are experiencing symptoms of hypothermia, seek medical attention as soon as possible. Your body can trap cold blood in your extremities and when your body begins to warm, the cold blood will rush to your heart and possibly cause a heart attack. It is best to be monitored by medical professionals if you have been in cold water for an extended period.

Another situation you may find yourself in is being a witness to someone going through the ice. If you do, remember these five words: Preach, Reach, Throw, Row, Go. "Preach"- shout out to the victim and encourage them to fight to survive. "Reach"- try to safely reach the victim. Do not walk to the edge of the ice yourself as you may break through and become a victim. "Throw"- throw a rope, jumper cables or anything else you may have out to the victim for them to grab onto. "Row"- think of a boat. If you have access to a small, light boat possibly from a house or cabin on the lake, push the boat out to the victim and have them hang onto the edge and pull them back onto the ice. "Go"- find more help. Don't try to be a hero if you are not prepared yourself. If you have a cell phone, call 911 immediately so professional help can be summoned to your location.

I hope that you never find yourself in a situation like this and everyone has a safe winter. Get out and make the most of the winter that is yet to come. However, keep these safety tips in mind and be prepared so a fun outing does not turn into a tragedy.

If you have questions that you would like answered or any suggestions, please email me at darin.halverson@co.clearwater.mn.us or call the Sheriff's Office at 218-694-6226. You can also find us on Facebook by searching for Clearwater County Sheriff's Office.

Thank you and as always, I am honored to serve as your Clearwater County Sheriff.

Santa Claus makes his yearly visit



Kaylie Bjerke and Kiana Wangstad.



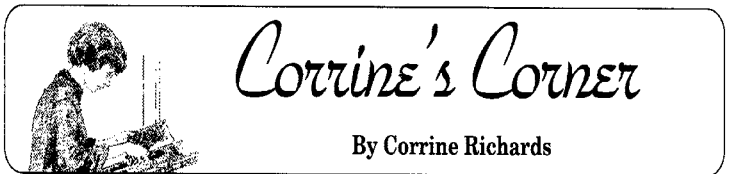
Jaxton and Braxton Bjerke.



Emma O'Dier and Ellie Ruggero.



Jack McKnight.



By Corrine Richards

Christmas came in a hurry this year. It will soon be 2018. That does not seem possible. Although it did take 12 months to get here, the months go by a lot faster now days. A reminder to our readers that the paper will be one day late next week. We will not be open Christmas Day. We will not be open on Monday, January 1 as well so the paper will be one day late again.

A special greeting to you and yours during this holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Congratulations to Karen Otfelie, a former Gully resident now living in Bemidji. She will be retiring from her job at First National Bank in Bemidji. They honored her on Friday, December 15 with refreshments at the bank. The Turtle Island Ensemble performed as well. Her husband Gary retired from UPS after delivering in the area for many years.

Pine Lake race has been rescheduled to December 30th and 31st. Only 7-10" of ice in nearly 30 locations around the lake postponed the race. The forecast for cold weather earlier never happened, unfortunately. They will be having Raffle tickets for the Arctic Cat 120 from Christian Brothers Racing, \$500.00 merchandise/parts certificates from Ski-doo, Polaris and Arctic Cat, as well as a

Ruger American .17 HMR from Bagley Motorsports. Breakfast will be served both days at Sportsmans Lodge starting at 6:00 a.m.

The Good Samaritan Society dropped off photo albums and framed pictures at the Sr. Center. The community is welcome to come in to look at the pictures and take what they would like.

Ottertail Power Company will sponsor the holiday lighting contest again in Gonvick. They will donate \$200 again for the winners. Judging will be done the week of Christmas. Be sure to have your Christmas lights on during that week.

Obituaries in the Canary are also put on our website for you to see. Go online at trico-canary.com. They are free and updated as they come into our office.

We collect used eye glasses in our office in Gonvick and at the Clearbrook-Leonard Senior Center. We do this for the Gonvick Lions Club and they are put to very good use.

Joke time...

The judge had just awarded a divorce to Lena, who had charged non-support. He said to Ole, "I have decided to give your wife \$400 a month for support." "Vell, dat's fine, Judge," said Ole. "And vunce in a while I'll try to chip in a few bucks myself."



Robert Roy.



Gus Coulter.



Bauer, Avery and Parker Robertson.



Molly and Maddy Nelson.



Parker and Bauer Robertson.



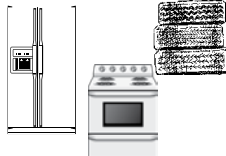
Tyden and Adilee Larson.



Cyla and Greyson Rouland.

Clearwater County Demolition Debris Landfill and Waste Transfer Facility

Accepting: Demolition Debris
Waste Tires
Major Appliances
Scrap Metal
Yard Waste
Furniture
Large Wood, Metal, Plastic Waste Items



NO regular household trash

Hours: Tuesday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thursday 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

LOCATED 1.5 miles NE of Bagley on County Road 24
For fee schedule log on to www.co.clearwater.mn.us

Legal Notices

Notice to Residents of Johnson Township

Filing for township offices opens Jan. 3, 2018 and continues until Jan. 17, 2018 at 5:00 pm.

Officers to be elected are:

1 Supervisor for a 3 year term
1 Clerk for a 2 year term

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the clerk. There is a \$2.00 filing fee.

Lloyd Sweno, Clerk R39-40C

Notice to Residents of Gully Township

Filing for township offices opens Jan. 3, 2018 and continues until Jan. 17, 2018 at 5:00 pm.

Officers to be elected are:

1 Supervisor for a 3 year term
1 Clerk for a 2 year term

Affadavits of Candidacy may be filed with the clerk. There is a \$2.00 filing fee.

Carole J. Tharaldson, Clerk R39-40C

Notice to Leon Township Residents

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Leon Township, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at the Leon Township Hall.

Filing for township offices opens on January 2, 2018, and continues to January 16, 2018, 5 pm. Offices to be elected are:

1 Supervisor for a 3 year term
1 Clerk for a 2 year term

Affidavits of candidacy may be filed with the clerk. There is a \$2 filing fee.

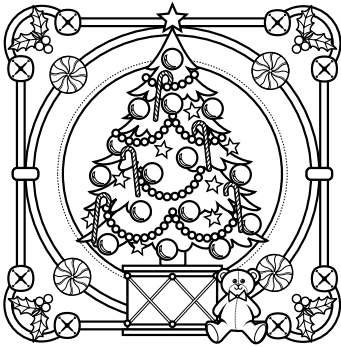
Lori Larson, Clerk R39-40C

Leader-Record subscribers

Please check the address label in the upper right corner of the front page. Be sure all the information is correct.

If not, call the Leader-Record offices at 218-487-5225 or 216-776-3665 as soon as possible. You need to contact with a change of address or corrections. Just giving the Post Office a change of address, **DOES NOT** change your paper address. If you do not let us know we have to pay 58 cents for each one that is returned. Thank You.

Ideas for making holiday memories



Counting down to Christmas Day means many different things to people across the globe. Although families likely have several different traditions they anticipate each year, it can be fun to incorporate some new merrymakers into the festivities. Here are some festive ideas to include in the days leading up to Christmas - a special family calendar of fun finds.

1. Annual memento: Have

- the kids or adults make one new handmade ornament each year. This way the tree is always evolving, and everyone can track milestones.
2. Cookie day: Devote one day to making Christmas cookies. Invite friends or family members over. Distribute some cookies to elderly neighbors.
3. Holiday classic: Spend a night in and watch a classic Christmas flick you've never seen before. Streaming movie services often put classics and obscure titles into rotation during the holiday season.
4. Christmas concert: Host

- a gathering of children where they can sing or perform their favorite tunes for an audience. Take it on the road to a nearby nursing home.
5. Dine out: Take a break from cooking, shopping and hosting and stop into a restaurant you've been meaning to try. Keep it local to support nearby businesses.
6. Adopt a child/family: Volunteer with a charitable organization that provides for less fortunate families. Answer the Christmas desires of a needy child or family by purchasing an item on their wish lists.
7. See the sights: Pack the children into the family car to

- tour nearby areas and look at Christmas lights displays. Bring along cookies and hot chocolate.
8. Trim a tree: Get together with adult friends at a tree-trimming party. Rotate the hosting house each year.
9. Play dress-up: A gentleman can dress up as the man in red and pop into a friend's holiday gathering.
10. Wilderness walk: Enjoy the crisp air and snow and see a local park from a winter perspective.
11. Acts of kindness: Choose any act of kindness and make it happen this Christmas. It can include feeding the hungry or helping a disabled person shop for the season.
12. Kids' Secret Santa: Spread the joy of giving by having the kids choose a sibling or friend's name from a hat and purchasing or making a gift for that person.
13. Hand out hot chocolate: Make a big thermos of hot chocolate and give it out to shoppers or workers who have been out in the cold.
14. Read religious stories: Understand the true meaning of the season by reading Biblical passages.
15. Camp-in: The first night the tree is decorated, allow the kids to sleep beside it under the glow of Christmas lights.

16. Scavenger hunt: Plan holiday-themed trivia questions and hide small trinkets for children to find.
17. Surprise box: Put a gender and age nonspecific gift into a box. On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, the person who finds a hidden gift tag under their chair at dinner gets to open the box.
18. Family portrait: Wear your holiday finery and pose for a portrait that actually will be printed and framed.



Steve Holm sang "Mary, Did You Know" at the Clear Waters Christmas dinner that was held.



Over 200 potatoes had to be scrubbed and ready for the Clear Waters Life Center Friday night dinner in Gonvick.



Looking at seating arrangements at the Clear Waters Christmas dinner that was held are Karlene Dahlberg and Misty Jones.



Members of the Clearbrook-Gonvick School Choir sang some old English Christmas songs at the Clear Waters Christmas dinner that was held.

Northern State Bank winners

Winners of the drawings for the Northern State Bank Christmas Tea were: Luke TeHennepe, Eillie Ruggero, Grant Engen, Jacie Bergerson and adult winners Bobbie Drydahl and Bob Edevold. -Submitted photos.



Grant Engen .



Jacie Bergerson.



Luke TeHennepe.



Ellie Ruggero.

News and Views

Elli Gindele - U of M Extension Educator - Red Lake, Polk and Clearwater Counties
egindele@umn.edu Cell 218-280-1129 - McIntosh office: 218-563-2465
Red Lake Falls office: 218-253-2897 - Bagley office: 218-694-6151

Pasture Renovation & Herd Health Workshop

January 9 at 5:00 p.m. at the Bagley American Legion. Dinner served \$15 per person, \$20 per couple at the door. Different from cow/calf days that will be January 23.

Pasture Renovation
We will have the pleasure of having Jeff Duchene present along with two producers who have worked with him on improving their own pastures. Jeff Duchene works as a Grazing Lands Specialist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and covers NW MN. He mainly assists livestock producers with improving pasture management and productivity. In his spare time, Jeff likes to hunt, fish hike, and fix up his old farmstead.

"I would like to introduce a thought process to help producers make decisions on when pasture renovation is needed, why it may be a good fit for their pasture and operation, and different methods that could be employed to renovate pastures. I will also talk about the need to utilize good grazing management principles to ensure a return on their investment. My talk will also set the stage for the two producers to follow that will talk about their experiences with renovating pasture."

Producers: Steve & Susan Flanagan, have a diversified farm north of Bluffton where they raise children, beef, deer, oats, and soybeans. Steve is a

fifth generation Minnesota farmer who is focused on restoring an old family homestead and regenerating soil. Steve and Sue host several pasture walks per year to view a mix of low input annuals and perennials.

Ivan and Dayle Reinke operate Cloverleaf Grass Farm, a diversified farm that direct markets grass fed beef, pastured pork and chicken. Rotational grazing in the summer then bale grazing in the winter has been their management scheme. Cover crops have been fit into their system as a stepping stone to an improved pasture seeding.

Herd Health
Dr. Donald J Hagen, DVM -Don graduated from the University of Minnesota Veterinary program in 1979 and has had his own practice for about 14 years. We are a mixed animal practice with an emphasis in cattle. Don has worked for Red Lake Falls Veterinary and Lyle Kenner before starting his own practice. In 1985 he also spent 5 years milking his own cows. Don currently has a small beef herd and he rents out bulls for local farmers. Don will be assisting us with respiratory problems that have been popping up in NW MN. He will be reviewing the best options of a herd health protocols and what we can do as producers to help mitigate these diseases.

Questions or comments?
Send a message to egindele@umn.edu
Elli Gindele 218-280-1129

Representative Matt Grossell
Legislative Update District 2A

Friends,
Winter is here and in full force. Stay safe on the roads and get ready for Christmas!

This week I wanted to share an update on MNLARS, something that has inconvenienced thousands of Minnesotans and I have heard many frustrating stories from constituents having problems with renewing licenses, tabs, and more.

MNLARS Update
MNLARS is the new computer system that the state is now using to issue licenses, tabs, and was scheduled to begin distributing driver's licenses in 2018. The situation was set to become even more complicated with the implementation of REAL ID needing to happen in 2018 as Minnesota must be actively distributing REAL IDs by October 10, 2018.

There has been extensive reporting by KSTP and others regarding the struggles of MNLARS. Unfortunately and through no fault of their own, the City, County, and privately owned Deputy Registrars (DR) offices and their employees are really hurting. Many have been unable to issue permits due to computer problems and thus have been unable to receive their fees. Many of the privately owned DR offices may be forced to close and auto dealers are so backed up with title delays they can't get plates to customers, and those customers in many times are blaming the dealers for this delay.

The Minnesota House has been at the forefront of trying to fix this situation and get answers from the Dayton Administration as to how this

mess happened. We held multiple hearings and demanded that the Department of Public Safety quickly gets their vehicle services division working quickly, get REAL ID ready for a clean launch, make sure this type of

mess does not happen again, and as the 2018 session nears we are working on different ways of compensating our Deputy Registrar offices from current fees collected by DVS.

Then just last month, DPS announced in order to rectify the pending REAL ID situation and meet the need to deliver on all these core functions of government, they have contracted with a private vendor with a track record of delivering functioning licensing services across the country. DPS released a full fact sheet about the relationship here.

While it is disappointing that despite millions of dollars and years working to implement the new system, the Dayton Administration could not deliver a functioning licensing system. This solution should help to make sure Minnesotans have a functioning licensing system. This is especially vital as Minnesota will be implementing REAL ID in 2018. Our licensing system simply has to work and I will continue to monitor the situation and keep you up to date with any updates.

Please continue to stay in touch to share your thoughts or concerns. My phone number is 651-296-4265 or you can email me at rep.matt.grossell@house.mn.

Have a great weekend and God bless!



What is this group doing at the Clearbrook-Gonvick Elementary program. They enjoyed this part as they were all throwing snowballs at the audience. They were made of crumpled up paper which they had hidden until the moment they let them go. Photo by Alicia Preuss.



Santa and Mrs. Claus visit with area children Shown above are Jaedyn and Wyatt Krogstad.



Kylee and Blake Sander.



Emma, Hadley and Lainey Fawver.

per precinct maximum funds grant for voting equipment.

He was authorized to pay submitted invoices of \$120,811 for the County Revenue Fund and \$18,045 for the Nursing Service Fund.

The County Board approved the hiring of Merry Charles as Senior Assessor Clerk effective Dec. 27 at a salary of \$16.16 per the Courthouse Salary Schedule.

Liquor license for Lobo's Bar, and beer license for Knutson's Store were approved.

Commissioners present at the meeting were Daniel Stenseng, Dean Newland, John Nelson, Neal Illies and Arlen Syverson.

Buffer Ordinance... Continued from front page

A: "Roadways are considered exempt."

Q: "My concern is that the state wants control. It looks like Communism, where they abolish ownership of all private property."

A: (Nathan) "It is well under 10 acres in all Clearwater County (that the buffer will use) after we use alternative practices. Soil & Water worked very hard to make the impact very little in Clearwater County."

Q: "What if we don't comply? Will we be put in jail?" asked one landowner.

"No!" stressed Commissioner John Nelson. "Jail is not included in the language of the ordinance, and noncompliance is not a criminal offense. We (Clearwater County) took out all language which was in the ordinance about that. Fines do remain however, and a lien could be put against the property."

"We will work with you, even before a fine. We try hard on a lot of issues. It's not what we want, but what we get," added Commissioner Illies.

"Thank you for coming and we appreciate your input," Commissioners Nelson and Illies expressed to the community member who came to the hearing.

The motion to pass the Clearwater County Buffer Ordinance dated December, 2017, was made by Commissioner John Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Neal Illies and passed unanimously.

Commissioners present at the meeting were Daniel Stenseng, Dean Newland, John Nelson, Neal Illies and Arlen Syverson.

Commissioners... Continued from front page

Purchase of a semi-load of Maxwell Nuvo Gap Modified #201 in the amount of \$27,668; and a 55 gallon drum of Gap Primer at a price of \$2,252 were approved. Rental of a Mastic Melter and tools from Midstates Equipment was approved at a cost of \$5,295, and is expected to be needed for one month between April and May of 2018.

County Auditor-Treasurer Allen Paulson was given approval to apply for a \$5,000



Indi Juberian, Stella Wilde and Bridger Juberian visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

LOST YOUR FOCUS?

SEE OUR EYE EXPERTS IN BAGLEY OR FOSSTON

At Sanford we believe that quality eye care should be delivered close to your home, regardless of where you live.

Lucas Genereux, OD, Lauren Hazelton, OD and the professional staff at Sanford Eye Center are here to provide comprehensive eye care for your whole family. We also offer full-scale optical services including the region's largest selection of eyewear and contact lenses for all ages.

SAME-DAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE.

Sanford Fosston Eye Center & Optical
111 2nd St. NE
(218) 435-1010
Open Tuesdays and Wednesdays – Dr. Hazelton

Sanford Bagley Eye Center & Optical
14 2nd St. NE
(218) 694-2442
Open Thursdays and Fridays – Dr. Genereux

SANFORD
HEALTH

R39MNA