

Leader-Record

\$1.00

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

Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial races rescheduled to January 2-3

Race Director Brian Nelson made the official call this past weekend to reschedule the Pine Lake race to January 2-3, 2016. Devils Lake will be moved to the following weekend, January 9-10.

The United States Country Snowmobile Racing Association is again sponsoring the Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial Pine Lake 200 which was set for this coming weekend on Pine Lake south of Gonvick.

USXC has announced the new schedule for the 2016 racing season. There are 8 races officially scheduled. The season will now kick off in Gonvick, MN on January 2. The premier race of the season, Seven Clans Winnipeg to Willmar 500, is to be ran on Feb. 10th-13th.

January 2nd & 3rd
Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial Pine Lake 200 - Gonvick,



Gerald Dyrdahl

MN 120 XC Event Saturday -
January 9th & 10th
Devils Lake North Dakota
250 - Devils Lake, ND
January 16th & 17th
Park Rapids 106

Park Rapids, MN
January 23rd & 24th
Seven Clans TRF 300
Thief River Falls, MN
120 XC Event Saturday
January 30th
Grafton 100
Grafton, ND
120 XC Event Saturday
February 10th, 11th, 12th & 13th
Seven Clans Winnipeg to Willmar 500
February 27th & 28th
Seven Clans Warroad 200 - Warroad, MN
120 XC Event Saturday
March 5th & 6th
Naytahwaush 200 - Naytahwaush, MN - Flyer
120 XC Event Saturday
The race headquarters will be Sportsmans Bar on Pine Lake. Racing will start at 9:00 a.m. each day in January.

Prom presentation made at school board meeting

The Clearbrook-Gonvick Junior class is planning the Junior-Senior prom for this coming spring. A presentation was presented at the school board meeting on Monday, December 21 for the prom to be a destination prom. They are planning to have it at the Timbers in Bagley with the Grand March at the school at 6:00 p.m. Last year it was held at the Fireside in Bagley with students being bussed to that location after the Grand March. Money for the expenses come out of the Junior Class account by popcorn and candy sales throughout the years.

Principal Jeff Burgess report
Events and concerts were held and the end of the first Semester is January 22.

Teacher observations were held with the first round completed in November. The second round will be in January and February and the third round will be in March and April. The Daily 5 curriculum is strengthening instruction.

Staff development will be on January 18th with a Teacher-In-Service Day. The elementary teachers will be having a Journey's curriculum training on technology and writing. Journey's is the new Reading Series the high school teachers will be going to Thief River

Falls for the area technology conference.

The staff will be meeting with Marco to discuss services that they provide on January 11 at 10:00 a.m. They will go over options of service and pricing.

He has already started scheduling meetings for high school and is looking at priorities were junior high rotation and core classes for upper levels that would be moved to the middle of the day. Students go to various activities with sporting events and others and leave the last hour of the day.

Superintendent Wayne Olson report
No Child Left Behind Act from 2001 is now new legislation being replaced with Every Student Succeeds Act. The federal government will not be involved as much. The district will continue what they have been doing as there is not a whole lot of changes. Most of the money for the district comes from the state.

The board was given a comparison report for the finances. They are down some on the projections as some of the funds have not come into the district. There was also a dust collector system that had to be put in, a new generator, the new text books that were purchased were higher than anticipated

and long-term substitute situations were not budgeted. They will know more when the money comes in.

Superintendent Olson presented the anticipated budget for the Car Restoration Program that Ross Faldet will be offering. They have a donation that will be put into the account when it is all set up. They are thinking of a muscle car and will be looking at leads to find one that can be restored to be put up for sale.

The District hiring guidelines was postponed to the January meeting.

New Business
The School safety presentation was postponed. Dan Gazelka will present how school safety should be handled.

Truth in Taxation information was presented to the board. The state reimbursement has not kept up with inflation.

The board approved the levy limitation and certification for \$1,687,701.05 that did not include the Q comp levy of \$38,312.00.

Special Property Tax Refund is available for all homestead properties with a gross tax increase of at least 12% and \$100 over the prior year. Re-

School board...
Continued on page two



The Northern State Bank in Gonvick and the First State Bank in Clearbrook held their annual Christmas Tea. Goodies, cider and coffee were provided at both banks. Door prizes were given to the many who stopped by at the banks. Above, Pam Goebel and Julie Miller had served some goodies to Jeanette Hetland at the Gonvick bank. Below, First State Bank employees took time to take this picture, with Mona Djernes, Debbie Pletschett and Niki Groshong.



Clearbrook-Gonvick students joined with faculty singing carols upon the stage the final day before break. This annual tradition takes place in the commons before school begins.



Clearbrook-Gonvick Senior High Choir shown above.

To the right Clearbrook-Gonvick Senior High Band.

Friday, December 18, at 6:00 the Clearbrook-Gonvick Jr. High Band Sr. High Band, and Choir had their Christmas concert. Many in attendance enjoyed the music and afterwards they served cider and Christmas goodies. A tremendous turn out in support of the students was an encouragement to them as they have worked hard this season and no pun intended, it was noteworthy to say the least! Directed by Katrina Stewart, their performance was outstanding. -Submitted



Community Calendar

Clearwater County Fair Calendar
Raffle Winners
Dec. 12 - Sabrina Anderson, Bagley, \$20
Dec. 13 - Dave Engebretson, Clearbrook, \$20
Dec. 14 - June Schmunk, Gonvick, \$20
Dec. 15 - Julie Walker, Aurora, SD, \$20
Dec. 16 - Rylie Aufforth, Bagley, \$20
Dec. 17 - Bruce Netland, Bagley, \$20
Dec. 18 - Carter Phillips, Niceville, FL, \$20

Notice to Johnson Township Residents
Filing for township offices open.
1 Supervisor for 3 year term
1 Clerk for 2 year term
Filing for township office opens Dec. 29, 2015 until Jan. 12, 2016.
The annual meeting is March 8, 2016. Affidavits of candidacy may be filed with the clerk. A filing fee of \$2.00.
Lloyd Sweno, Clerk R40-41C

Notice to Residents of Eden Township
Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Eden Township, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 8, 2016 at the Gully Lumber Yard office across from the Gully Elevator, Gully, MN.
Filing for township offices opens on Dec. 29, 2015 and continues to January 12, 2016 until 5:00 pm. Offices to be elected are:
1 Town Supervisor for a 3 year term.
1 Town Supervisor for a 2 year term.
1 Town Clerk-treasurer for a 2 year term.
Affidavits of candidacy may be filed with the clerk-treasurer, Dennis Erickson, 39741 320th St. SE, Gully, MN 56646. A \$2.00 filing fee is required by law. R40-41C



It was nice that these local men were able to enjoy coffee, goodies and a little visiting at the Northern State Bank in Gonvick for their Christmas Tea.

Don't throw away valuable resources!

A study by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) shows that in Minnesota we are:

- Throwing away 3.6 million pounds of aluminum cans daily;
- Discarding over 1 billion pounds of recyclable paper per year;
- Wasting 41 million pounds of PETE beverage container plastic in a year.

Don't waste opportunity along with your recyclables!

We are literally throwing away valuable resources that fuel jobs and economic activity; we're burying opportunity in landfills and burning it in incinerators.

Approximately 37,000 jobs in Minnesota are directly and indirectly supported by the recycling industry.

In 2010, Minnesota recycling programs collected about 2.5 million tons of material worth \$690 million.

It cost Minnesota over \$200 million to throw away 1 million tons of recyclable material. This could have been recycled instead for an additional estimated value of \$217 million.

Do Your Part and Utilize Clearwater County's Recycling Bins! They are conveniently located by the Fairgrounds (south end by Highway Dept. Building) and in Clearbrook by the Highway Dept. Building.

Thank You for Helping Our Environment and Economy

Call us for answers to your recycling questions
Clearwater County Environmental Services
218-694-6183
1x-mo-tfc



Serving goodies at the Northern State Bank in Gonvick for the annual Christmas Tea were Eileen Horn and Mary Sather. Enjoying the visiting was Mike Thompson.



Servant leadership by Cami Johnson and Morgan Cornell as they helped prepare the stage for the band and music concert held on December 18 at the Clearbrook-Gonvick School.

School board.....Continued from front page
fund is 60% of the amount by which the tax increase exceeds the greater of 12% or \$100, up to a maximum of \$1,000.
There are no income limits. One has to fill out state tax form M-1PR.
•Allows people 65 years of

age or older with a household income of \$60,000 or less to defer a portion of the property taxes on their home

- Taxes paid in any year limited to 3% of household income for year before entering deferral program; this amount does not change in future years
- Additional taxes are deferred, but not forgiven
- State charges interest up to 5% per year on deferred taxes and attaches a lien to the property
- The deferred property taxes plus accrued interest must be paid when the home is sold or the homeowner(s) dies

The board approved the hiring of Jenetta Mathson as the new Office Assistant. The hiring of a SPED Para was ready to be offered at this time.

The board approved the new scholarship language for the hand book. When a scholarship is offered a student has to submit his grade point average after his first semester of college or trade school to be able to get the money offered in the scholarship. A 2.0 average is required.

Bills were approved with amounts going to: Stein's Bus Service LLC \$47,850.51; BRIC \$42,090.54; Clearwater-Polk Electric \$9,291.40; Marco \$7,941.25; Community Oil Co \$6,200.00; Clearwater County Nursing Service \$3,891.25; City of Clearbrook \$2,267.68; Garden Valley Telephone Company \$1,522.82; Rogers Two Way Radio \$1,144.65 and Wiebolt Electric \$1,077.87.

The next meeting and board reorganization meeting will be January 25.

Hickory Backroads
GONVICK, MN
Holiday Hours

December 21st - December 23rd: 10-5
December 24th: 9-1
December 26th: 10-4
December 28th - December 30th: 10-5
December 31st: 9-2

Hickory Backroads will be CLOSED January 1st - January 18th for store updates and will REOPEN regular hours Tuesday, January 19th, 2016.

Starting December 18th, all CHRISTMAS ITEMS are 50% OFF!!!

Hickory Backroads would like to thank everyone for welcoming us into the community and we look forward to 2016!!
Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year! R38-40C

Notice to Gully Township Residents
Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Gully Township that the annual election of town officers and annual town meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at the Gully Township Hall.
Filing for township offices opens on December 29, 2015 and continues to January 12, 2016.
Offices to be elected are:
1 Clerk - 2 yr. term
1 Supervisor - 3 yr. term
1 Supervisor - 1 yr. term
Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk. There is a \$2.00 filing fee.
Carole Tharaldson, Clerk R40-41C

Notice to Dudley Township Residents
Filing for township offices opens.
1 Supervisor for 3 yr. term
1 Clerk for 2 yr. term
Filing for township office opens December 29, 2015 until January 12, 2016.
Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the clerk for a \$2 filing fee.
Contact Niki Walters, 968-2347. R40C

- CLIP AND SAVE -
Dudley Township
2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

January 12, 5 pm
February 9, 5 pm
March 8, 5-8 pm, township election
March 15, 5 pm
April 12, 5 pm
May 10, 5 pm
June 14, 5 pm
July 12, 5 pm
August 9, 5 pm
September 13, 5 pm
October 11, 5 pm
November 8, 5 pm
December 13, 5 pm R40C

Clearbrook-Leonard Senior Meals

Wed. Dec. 30 - Vegetable beef soup, meat salad sandwich, pineapple, crackers, bar and milk.
Thurs. Dec. 31 - BBQ ribs, sour cream mashed potatoes, veggie, dessert, bread and milk
Meals are served daily at 11:30 at the Clearbrook site except for evening meals served at 5 p.m.
Please register for meals at least the day before. Call 776-3154 to sign up.

Now hear this...
by Harry Hutchens, Clearwater County Veterans Service Officer

VA AND THE IRS: Beginning in 2015, VA will send Veterans and eligible beneficiaries a letter and IRS form 1095B which will provide the details of the health care coverage provided by VA for the previous year. As required by law, VA also will notify the IRS. If you are enrolled in any of VA's programs below, you have coverage under the standards of the health care law:

- Veteran's health care program
- Civilian Health and Medical program (CHAMPVA)
- Spina bifida health care program

Enrollment in VA health care means you have:

- Medical care rated among the best in the U.S.
- Immediate benefits of health care coverage. Veterans may apply for VA health care enrollment at any time.
- No enrollment fee, monthly premiums, or deductibles. Most Veterans have no out-of-pocket costs. Some Veterans may have to pay small copayments for health care or prescription drugs.
- More than 1,500 places available to get your care. This means your coverage can go with you if you travel or move.
- Met the new requirement to have health care coverage that meets the minimum standard.

I welcome your own personal comments. Constructive feedback on your own behalf (not anonymous) to our Commissioners is also a valuable gauge of how this office can better serve all veterans and their beneficiaries. Office(218)694-6618; Cell/Text(218)556-5340 Hutch

Church News

REDEEMER EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS
Church Location: Corner of Hwy. 2 & Red Lake Ave. SW Bagley, MN
Pastor Linden B. Wendzel
Sunday Divine Service: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School / Adult Bible Study: 10:45 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Verlyn Strenge
Assoc. Pastor Jim Galloway
Clearbrook
Wed., Dec. 30 - NO Awana;
Fri. Jan. 1 - Happy New Year
Sat., Jan. 2 - 7:00 a.m. Men's prayer breakfast at the church. 1:00 p.m. wedding of Lucas Karl and Stephanie Lindquist.
Sun., Jan. 3 - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:45 Morning Worship.

COUNTRY FAITH CHURCH
1 mile south of Clearbrook, 2 miles west on Cty. Rd. 6
Senior Pastor Larry Dorman
Associate Pastor Jim Binder
Youth Pastor Troy Churness
Children's Minister Nikki Ubert
www.countryfaith.org
218-776-3367
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (Sept 7-May 17) 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
7:00 p.m. Youth Night (check church website for dates)
Every Tuesday: 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer
*Wednesdays: Care groups in various homes

ELIM LUTHERAN BRETHREN CHURCH
Clearbrook
Pastor Adam Krog
Sun. Jan. 3rd - 10:30 Worship Service with Guest Speaker, Luke Kjolhaug, 11:30 a.m. Communion Service.

Richard Vinje was finishing up his coffee at the Northern State Bank Christmas tea.

Thanks to the First State Bank of Clearbrook for the beautiful poinsettia I won. (My wife thanks you too!)
Mike Dyrdahl R40P

Clear Waters Life Center Happenings...

Happy New Year!
CWLC businesses & programs closed Jan. 1
Gonvick Location:
226 Elm St., 218-487-5290
Open Mon. & Wed. only.
Senior Connection:
Open 10-3 for enrolled clients. Interested in learning what Senior Connection has to offer? Stop in & visit with our staff.
Senior Exercise: 11-11:30, Drop-ins welcome. FREE.
Create It! Art Gallery & Restore It! Furniture Shop: M & W 9-4. North entrance. Good used furniture. Reasonable prices. Furniture donations accepted during business hour. Original pieces of art for sale in the gallery.
Create It! Community Art Studios: Open Mondays, 1-5 PM, with mentors for new members.
Clearbrook Location:
MAIN OFFICE HOURS & 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Tues - Thurs., 256 2nd Ave., SW, 218-776-2789
Addiction Recovery Support Group: New Year's Eve Fun, Dec. 31, 7 PM. Snacks provided. Starting Jan. 7, men's only group
Anger Management Class:
Mondays for six weeks, beginning Jan. 4. 7 - 9 PM.
Pre-registration required, \$10.
Cardio Fitness: M-Th, 6:30 - 7:30 AM. Use Gathering Place (south) entrance.
Starting Jan. 4, new full-body routine with optional eating plan. FREE!Boot(h) Camp Weight Room: Training for new members, Jan. 4, 5, & 7, 4-5:30 PM. Call to register. \$30.00.
Shop-at-the-Top: Open M-F, 10-4 & 10-3, Sat. Clothing for the whole family at reasonable prices, plus small household items.
Youth Connection: Closed for Christmas vacation.
Be sure check our web site: www.clearwaterslife.org or Facebook pages for more information.

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GONVICK LUTHERAN PARISH
MEMBERS OF NALC
Pastor Kris Snyder
Cell: 218-358-0162
gonvickparish@gmail.com
SAMHOLD
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wed., Dec. 30 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study; 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study.
Sun., Jan. 3. 10:30 AM Worship Service
UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH
55070 149th Ave., Gonvick (218) 487-5308
Sun, Jan. 3 9:00 AM Worship Service

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
Clearbrook Branch
305 Lake Ave. E.
Sacrament Meeting: 10:00-11:00 a.m.; Sunday School: 11:20 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12:10-1:00 p.m.; Young Women's: 12:10-1:00 p.m.; Primary: 11:20 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CLEARBROOK & OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH LEONARD
Pastor Robert Kirchman
Good Shepherd
Sunday, Jan. 3rd: 9:00 am Worship; 10:00 am Coffee Hour
Monday, Jan. 4th: 7:00 pm Worship Committee
Wednesday, Dec. 30th & January 6th: 6:30 pm Choir Practice; 7:30 pm Handbell Practice
Joint Church Office Closed
Friday, Jan. 1st
Wednesday, Jan. 6th: 6:00 pm Confirmation
Thursday, Jan. 7th: 8:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
Our Savior's
Sunday, Jan. 3rd: 10:30 am Coffee Hour; 11:00 am Worship
Monday, Jan. 4th: 4:45 pm Congregational Life Committee

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

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.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
Mt. Olive - Nazareth Oak Park - St. Petri
Pastor Jeff Merseeth
Wed, Dec. 30: No Wednesday School/Confirmation.
Sat, Jan. 2: 9:00 a.m. Mt. Olive. 10:15 a.m. Sunday School.
Sun, Jan. 3: 8:00 a.m. St. Petri. 9:15 a.m. St. Petri SS. 9:45 a.m. Nazareth. 8:30 a.m. Nazareth SS. 9:45 a.m. Oak Park SS 11:00 a.m. Oak Park.
Wed, Jan. 6: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday School/Confirmation.

NEW JOURNEY CHURCH
Josiah Hoagland, Pastor
Tyler Stynberg, Youth Pastor
www.newjourneyfosston.com
Thu, Dec. 31: 12:00 p.m. Rotary meeting.
Sun, Jan. 3: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.
Tue, Jan. 5: 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study. 10:30 a.m. Quilting.
Wed, Jan. 6: 6:30 p.m. AWANA. 6:30 p.m. Youth Group.

GULLY-TRAIL PARISH
Bethany * Lund
Sand Valley
Dawn Hanson, Lay Minister
Sun, Jan. 3: 9:00 a.m. Lund. 10:30 a.m. Bethany.

BETHEL ASSEMBLY
Fosston
Jon Marx, Lead Pastor
Seth Johnson, Assist. Pastor
Sun, Jan. 3: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship.

Ad deadline: Noon Friday

The Leader Record

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BEAR TRACKS

Clearbrook-Gonvick School Menu

No school until January 4
Mon. Jan. 4 - Chicken pot pie with biscuit, fresh fruit and vegetable choices and milk.

Tues. Jan. 5- Chicken Nuggets, mashed potatoes and gravy and roll, fresh fruit and vegetable choices and milk.

Wed. Jan. 6 - Lasagna, bread stick, fresh fruit and vegetable choices and milk.

BREAKFAST MENU-
Monday- Breakfast Pizza, Fruit, Juice and Milk.

Tuesday- Biscuit w/Gravy, Tri Tater, Fruit, Juice and Milk

Wednesday- Breakfast Sandwich, Fruit, Juice and Milk.

Thursday- Pancakes, French toast or Waffles, Sau-

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

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sage, Fruit, Juice and Milk

Friday- Breakfast Roll, String Cheese, Fruit, Juice and Milk.

Christmas Treats!!!

The Christmas treats after school class for K-6 students has rapidly hit the height of popularity at Clearbrook-Gonvick! Thanks to the amazing organization of Robin Proffitt, Starla Sather and the kitchen staff and the fantastic help and leadership of the high school

volunteers, fifty youngsters decorated cookies and cupcakes and made chex mix for their families on December 16. They were so efficient that they had well over 40 minutes to spare so the wonderful high school helpers led the youngsters in several games, the most popular being "Duck Duck, Goose". Yes, those old-fashioned games can still entertain!

The following students helped: Molly Shamp, Taylor Volker, Mikayla Burman, Darby Riley, Kari Shamp, Naomi Shamp, Janessa Tronnes, Jasmin Molden, Katie Knutson, Madison Stenzel, Lizzy Bodensteiner, Rachel Spray, Charlie Bergerson, Alison Johnson, Dawson Volker. They did an amazing job helping the kids and playing games with them. Also thanks to Dawson Volker for leading the "band of boys" into the kitchen and washing dishes! Robin Proffitt and Starla Sather for all the prep and organization you put into these events!

Students participate in Toy Drive

Clearbrook-Gonvick iM-PACT students participated in the Christmas Toy Drive this year by encouraging all students K-12 as well as faculty to donate.

The community toy drive is headed by Tracy Imle and she works closely with the school in order to give them the opportunity to give back. The students look forward to this each year.



Left to right is Emily Bergman, Adriana Churness, and Arabella Cory pictured here with the gifts that were gathered for the Christmas Toy Drive.



iMPACT students at Clearbrook-Gonvick participated in the Christmas Toy Drive. Front row: Bryce Johnson and Kendehl Ballard. Back row left to right: Cassie Faldet, Keisha Jones, Morgan Cornell, Alison Johnson, Elliot Dickey, and Liz Bodensteiner.



Friday, December 18, at 6:00 the Clearbrook-Gonvick Jr. High Band, (shown above) Sr. High Band, and Choir had their Christmas concert.



Obediah Hammer introducing a Jr. High selection during the concert held on December 18th.



Sydney Vakoch performing on clarinet during the band concert on Dec. 18, the final evening before Christmas break.



Xavier Goodwin and Keisha Jones did some heavy lifting as they helped prepare for the concert on Dec. 18th at the Clearbrook-Gonvick School.



Mason Dickey is caught on camera as he contributes not only to Mrs. Johnson's first grade classroom on a daily basis as an educational volunteer, but he adds to the festivities each season. Mason dressed up with his "ugly" sweater but actually it was pretty bright and cheerful as is Mason in what he contributes to the school climate.



Corrine's Corner

By Corrine Richards

Happy New Year to one and all. The weather at the end of the year has been terrible for those in the southern states.

The Gerald Dyrdahl Memorial Pine Lake 200 races put on by the United States Country Snowmobile racing Association has been postponed due to lack of ice. The two day event will be January 2 and 3 on Pine Lake south of Gonvick. The race headquarters will be Sportsmans Bar on Pine Lake.

What a clever way to propose to your girlfriend. David Larson asked his future wife with the help of his animals. On the side of his cow he had written the words, "Will You Marry Me."

The area blood drive is set for Thursday, January 14 at the Gonvick Community Center from 11:30 tp 6:00 p.m.

From the mail...

I received a renewal from Ardella Lindberg of Leonard. They had a terrific Christmas Tea with over 100 people being served in their church basement at Our Saviors.

Joke Time...

One day Lena confided to her friend Hilda that she had finally cured her nervous husband, Ole, of his habit of biting his nails. "Good gracious," said Hilda, "How did yew ever dew that?" "It was really simple," was Lena's reply. "I just hid his false teeth."

Ole and Sven die in a snowmobiling accident, drunker than skunks, and go to Hell. The Devil observes that they are really enjoying themselves. He says to them 'Doesn't the heat and smoke bother you?' Ole replies, 'Vell, ya know, ve're from norden Minnesooota, da land of snow an ice, an ve're jyst happy fer a chance ta varm up a little bit, ya know.'

The devil decides that these two aren't miserable enough and turns up the heat even more. When he returns to the room of the two from Minnesota, the devil finds them in light jackets and hats, grilling Walleye and drinking beer. The devil is astonished and exclaims, 'Everyone down here is in misery, and you two seem to be enjoying yourselves?' Sven replies, 'Vell, ya know, ve don't git too much varm veather up dere at da Falls, so ve've jyst got ta haff a fish fry when da veather's dis nice.'

The devil is absolutely furious. He can hardly see straight. Finally he comes up with the answer. The two guys love the heat because they have been cold all their lives. The devil decides to turn all the heat off in Hell. The next morning, the temperature is 60 below zero, icicles are hanging everywhere, and people are shivering so bad that they are unable to wail, moan or gnash their teeth. The devil smiles and heads for the room with Ole and Sven. He gets there and finds them back in their parkas, bomber hats, and mittens. They are jumping up and down, cheering, yelling and screaming like mad men.

The devil is dumbfounded. I don't understand, when I turn up the heat you're happy. Now its freezing cold and you're still happy. What is wrong with you two?

They both look at the devil in surprise and say, 'Vell, don't ya know, if hell iss froze over, dat must mean da Vikings von da Super Bowl.'

Business & Professional Guide



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Sunny Hill School also known as Taffin School, District #37. Henry Johnson went to the school and also his kids Alvin, Juane and Vernon. Vernon went through fourth grade then in about 1945 it was closed. Robert went to Clearbrook. This picture was taken in 1915 with Iolete Halseth the teacher. The school was located 1/2 mile south, 3 miles west and 1/2 mile north of Clearbrook. The names of the students were listed on the back of the picture. Left to right: Albin Rundquist, Milton Henderson, Oscar Taffin, Melvin Johnson, Gerhart Dokken, Edwin Klongerbo, Oscar Hoiland, Morris Holte, Edward Synnes, Miss Halseth - teacher, Lila Kjørven, Celia Wangsness, Nora Dokken, Tillie Hoiland, Esther Dokken, Signe Nelson, Della Hanson, Julia Nelson, Effie Taffin, Edna Johnson, Helen Wangsness, Ena Holty, Gerda Wangsness.



Above, Clearbrook Mayor George Postier gets some of the goodies that they served at the Christmas Tea at the First State Bank in Clearbrook. To the left bank employees Terri Vorderbruggen and Cherie Hinrichs stand in front of the beautiful Christmas Tree. To the right Betty Randklev gets her coffee mug during the Christmas Tea.

Regional Ag News... Jim Stordahl Extension Educator

Program to Compare Crop Budgets

As we turn the calendar to a new year, many farmers are contemplating their cropping options for the upcoming season. With the reality of significantly reduced crop prices, and razor thin margins, many are looking for ways to compare the economics of different crop options.

To help in this effort, NDSU Extension recently offered an updated "Crop Compare Program for 2016".

This program provides a tool for producers to check the changing scenarios until final planting decisions are made this spring.

The North Dakota State University Extension Service has updated the Crop Compare program, which is a simple

spreadsheet designed to compare cropping alternatives.

The program uses the direct costs and yields from the 2016 projected crop budgets for nine regions of North Dakota, but producers are encouraged to enter the expected yields and input costs for their farm. Although this is geared to North Dakota, simply select a cropping region that reflects yields and costs similar to your farm.

The user designates a reference crop and enters its expected market price. Depending on the region, a broad selection of nine to 18 crops are compared. The program provides the prices for competing crops that would be necessary to provide the same return over variable costs as the reference crop.

"Producers can compare these 'break-even' prices to expected market prices to see which crop is most likely to compete with the reference crop," says Andy Swenson, NDSU Extension Service farm management specialist. "Grain prices can move quickly. The program provides a tool for producers to check the changing scenarios until final planting decisions are made this spring."

It should be noted that an underlying assumption is that fixed costs, such as machinery ownership, land, and the owner's labor and management, do not vary among crop choices and therefore do not need to be included in the analysis. The projected margins of each crop will need to cover those costs.

"In practice, there may be differences in fixed costs that should be considered," Swenson says. "For example, there may be additional labor, management and risk associated with a competing crop. If all the labor and management is provided by the owner-operator, it would be considered a fixed cost and could be excluded. However, the producer should add some cost if he or she would only want to produce the crop when an adequate reward would be received for the extra time and management required relative to the reference crop."

A similar rationale could be used if a competing crop is considered higher risk. The Crop Compare program is available at <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/farmmanagement/tools>

Also, the complete 2016 crop budgets are available at <http://bit.ly/2016NDCropBudgets>

For more information, contact me at 800-450-2465 or stordahl@umn.edu. This article was provided by Andy Swenson, NDSU Extension Service Farm Business Management Specialist.

Love Lights a Tree Memorials are:

In memory of Irene and Peter Henderson and Lillian and Hilburn Howard from Denise and Bob Howard.

In memory of daughter Jean Fultz Albo from Doris Ann Fultz.

ACS tidbit: 100 years ago, 1 out of 10 people were surviving cancer. Thanks to the American Cancer Society's support in research, now 2 out of 3 are surviving. But the American Cancer Society won't stop fighting until that number is 3 out of 3! To learn more, visit www.cancer.org or call 1-800-227-2345.

Love Lights a Tree donations through December can be sent to Kim LaVine 18802 County 39 Bagley, MN 56621



The Gonvick Lions Club was busy preparing baskets to deliver to area people living alone. They packed up 60 bags with apples, oranges, lefse, salami, and baked goodies. Some of the Lion members shown from left to right: Richard Vinje, Cody Rude, Corrine Richards, Matt Anderson, Dan Sundquist, Chris Eck and Dan Johnson.



The holiday season is a time for family, friends and special events. In the spirit of the season, we thank you for banking with us this past year.

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May the New Year bring you health, wealth, success and happiness.

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