

Leader-Record



\$1.00

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



Walter and Ray Teige are featured this year on the 2022 Show Button.

Teiges featured on show buttons

Walter and Ray Teige are featured this year on the 2022 Show Button for the Lake Itasca Pioneer Farmers show coming up August 19, 20 and 21.. Walter and Ray have been active members of the LIRPF for many years. The Teige brothers have carried on their late father Arvin "Arnie" Teige's display of engines

and tractors. The brothers worked with their father restoring tractors and engines, many of which are on display in the Teige Building display area. Their collection ranges from small engines to a very large Primm horizontal stationary diesel engine. Walter and Ray's spouses Jennifer and Megan are

involved with the show too! The Pioneer Farmers are very thankful to the Teige Family for the dedicated work they have done on their display. Walter and Ray's children are now growing into the next generation of Teige's to display and become active members of the Pioneer Farmers.

Art Workshop Coming To Gonvick

Summer weekends are precious and few, but sometimes once in a lifetime opportunities come along that you just can't resist. Clear Waters Life Center (CWLC) is the recipient of a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, and you are the beneficiary! Friday and Saturday, August 19 & 20, CWLC's Create It! Art Studios in Gonvick will be offering a fabulous workshop which will host seven artist-instructors and their unique art mediums. Each of the hands-on workshops will walk you through the steps to create your own piece to take home.

It starts Friday at 1:00 PM when you will be able to choose from one of four art offerings:
•Acrylic Painting with Nikki Shull
•Wire Wrapping Jewelry with Robin Cunningham
•Paper Making with LeAnne Walberg
•Needle Felting with Karen Stormo
You are invited to stay for the evening when Clear Waters Life Center will have its monthly Friday Night Out with Brick Oven Pizza, 5:00 PM until pizzas are gone, and Raku Firing with Dave Hudson from 7:00-8:30 PM with s'mores and

hot chocolate. Saturday starts with light breakfast at 8:30 AM followed by your choice of:
•Paper Quilling with Nikki Shull
•Wire Wrapping Jewelry (second offering)
•Basket Weaving, Part I, with Eve Sumsky*
•Wool Feather Trees (Felt Trees), Part I, with Rilla Nelson*
*Please note that Basket Weaving and Wool Feather Trees (felt trees) will take up two sessions, Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon.

Workshop...
Continued on page 2

Backpack/School Supply Distribution

There will be a Backpack/School Supply Distribution at Country Faith Church at 46125 - 149th Ave, Clearbrook (from Clearbrook, 1 mile south, 2 miles west on Cty. Rd. 6) on Thursday, August 18th, from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (Doors open at 5:45pm.) FREE Backpacks and school supplies will be available for families who could use a little help with this school expense. If

this is something that could help your family, please come. If you have questions, would like to donate supplies, or would like to receive supplies but are unable to come that night, please call: Country Faith Church 218-776-3367. Backpacks & supplies are given on a first come-first serve basis, so please try and make it to the event.

Don't forget to vote on August 9

Voting in Minnesota counties will take place on August 9th. The sample ballot is printed inside this issue of the Leader-Record. There are four parties to vote for at the State and Federal offices. They include: Republican Party, Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, Grass Roots-Legalize Cannabis Party and Legal Marijuana Now Party. There are two different races in county office. For County Commissioners

in District 3 where Neil Illies is not running. They include five people: Stuart Dukek, Renae Marsh, Douglas E. Anderson, Paul Lessman and Mischa Halberg. For County Sheriff there are three running: Larry D. Johnson, Renee Benson and Darin Halverson. With the Partisan Party Ballot you are only permitted to vote for candidates of one political party. You can't jump from one party to another with your vote.



John Gunvalson by one of the new tracks for their machine on the farm. Cost \$95,000 alone, a little more than the profit John and Paul made in 1972.

It is Fair time this week ,

The 115th Clearwater County Fair begins on Wednesday August 3rd and runs through Sunday, August 7. It is the best fair in the area with free gate and fun, food and friendship throughout the five days. Events will be held in the grandstand starting on Wednesday, August 3 with the Motor-cross races. Thursday is the Rhythm and Riding event at 6:00 p.m. Friday is Baja Racing starting at 6 p.m. Saturday wrestling Show-down Throw down at high noon!

Live Professional Wrestling up close and personal. Senior Citizens of the year will be selected on Saturday, August 6 at 11:00 am at the Stage in the Pines. The Demo Derby will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday night Sunday the grandstand will be filled with smoke, fire and roaring engines with the vintage tractor pull. Corgi Races at noon on Sunday. Just to relax and rest will be free music on the Stage in the Pines at various times at

the fair. A celebration for those near and far that showcases all that the county has to offer. Plenty of things to do and see for young and old such as children's activities, entertainment, food and merchandise vendors, livestock and agriculture competitions, midway rides and much, much more. Worship with you local community. Cowboy Church at the Stage in the Pines. Sunday morning of the fair at 9:00 a.m. See ad in the paper for all the events.



Fifty years of working with wild rice and potatoes from left to right: Paul Imle, John Gunvalson, Jim Gunvalson and Ken Gunvalson. They are in front of one of the newest machines that they have on the farm.

Has it been fifty years?

Two young men met in Grand Rapids. John Gunvalson, a University of MN Crookston student and Paul Imle, a graduate of the University of MN, Twin Cities in plant pathology. They were in the U of M Agricultural Experiment Station with Thomas King the plant pathologist, working with wild rice experimental plots. They decided they would try farming themselves. This was over 50 years ago. They spent the summer of 1971 looking for property to rent. They found 130 acres north of Gully. Paul worked construction and John had money saved from his military service to get them started. The partners had a plow, a single disk, a small tractor, several shovels and they started preparing the land. They were able to burn off what they had scraped together. They hired LeRoy Thorstad to build some dikes on the property and bought seed from Ordean Sundrud, who owned Black Gold Wild Rice. John's brother Ken, a senior in high school, helped the two. In the spring of 1972 when it

came time to flood the paddies that had been made they did not have electricity to pump water up into the paddies. The tractor they used needed gas to be hauled to the site. Paul and Ken had to haul the gas to the riverbank while the ground was still frozen. There was a lot of physical labor compared to 2022. John had broken his leg that winter so he was elected to refuel the tractor as it was needed at all times of the day and night. He lived in a tent they had set up until the water level was high enough for their crop. When the water level was up after hours of pumping, the field was seeded by airplane. The 1972 crop was a good one and the pair were able to payoff their debts and buy some more land of their own. Equipment for the wild rice farm had advanced and some of their early equipment came from California by truck and others by rail car. Through trial and error modifications have been made to cope with the land that they purchased. In 1997, John bought out Paul and his brothers Ken and Jim, who had been in the mili-

tary took on more roles. While Paul had been working with the Gunvalsons, he and his father-in-law Oscar Thorbeck, bought land on the east side of the Gully road and started Pine Lake Wild Rice Farm. That has also expanded and Paul's son Peter now manages that property. Marketing their wild rice was another problem that they had to address. There were also others that were growing wild Rice in the area. Wally Rutkowski, Bob Rouland, Duane Erickson, Doug Robbins, near Kelliher, Velmer Hadama and Skoes to name a few. They formed United Wild Rice Grower Coop. They held meetings and worked on marketing of the wild rice. What started out as a potato warehouse in Clearbrook and bought by Arctic Enterprises of Thief River Falls to manufacture shipping crates for snowmobiles was converted into a wild rice processing plant in 1982. It was owned and operated by the Wild Rice Grower Co-op. **Fifty years...**
Continued on back page



The three Gunvalson brothers have now taken on lesser roles and Ben Gunvalson, son of John Gunvalson and Steve Marsh, son-in law to Jim Gunvalson are now in the business for the next 50 years. From left to right: John Gunvalson, Steve Marsh, Ben Gunvalson, Jim Gunvalson and Ken Gunvalson.

Letters to the Editor

I received a Letter to the Editor in my mail for the Gonvick Volunteer Fire Department. Also stop in and I have the check that she sent.

To the Gonvick Volunteer Firefighters

I read in the Leader-Record the Fire Department is celebrating its 100th anniversary. What a milestone. Congratulations. This was a group near and dear to my dad's (Fran Bagnes) heart and he volunteered with it as long as he was physically able. Aside from fighting fires, I remember the camaraderie among the group, fish fries, pig roasts, parades and of course the infamous fire phone in our house. Your group has been and continues to be a vital contribution to the community and surrounding areas.

Please accept the enclosed donation to honor Daddy's memory to use towards a current need.

Here's to your great work!
Bonnie Bagne Green
The traveling Vietnam wall - what an honor!

Letter to the Editor

The disaster that is the Pine Lake dumpsters:

A trip to the dump these days is one of my least favorite things. It's always been a low choice on the chore list, but it's slipped to the very bottom now. The mess at the new Pine Lake dumpster site is atrocious. There has always been a bit of garbage on the ground, containers and wrappers here and there and of course the junk that people think others may want. Bikes, chairs, tables, appliances, grills, mattress,etc., have no place at the dump. A recent trip to the dump made it look as if people simply toss their loose trash outside of the dumpsters. Papers, containers, rotten produce and other gross things everywhere. Something needs to be done about this unsightly mess. A few ideas could be to have sentence to serve members clean the area once a week, add more dumpsters - there is plenty of room or simply empty the dumpsters more frequently. With Pine Lake residents around on the weekends and the in-town pick up ending the dumpsters are fuller than ever. It's really a shame that such a mess is what you see in this beautiful area that we call home. Let's all take pride in where we live and help keep it clean and beautiful.

Hello,
I work closely with volunteers and sponsoring groups in the surrounding communities to host blood drives to help local patients in need. Unfortunately because of extreme staffing shortages, we are not able to hold the annual September blood drive in Clearbrook this year.

Please help us communicate the word sometime in August, as we realize many rely on the newspaper to sign up. If you could help us encourage donors to search our website for other events in the area, we'd appreciate it. They can either go to donros.vitalant.org or call toll free 877-25-VITAL.

Thank you and have an AWEsome day!
Katie Bartelson
Senior Account Manager
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3231 11th Street South
Fargo, ND 58104

Calendar winners
Winners of June 2022 Clearwater County Fair Calendar Raffle have been announced.
July 4, 2022, Signe Bergeron of Bagley, won \$100.
July 11, 2022, Alice Lewis of Bagley, won \$100.
July 18, 2022, Joe Konicek of Delano, won \$100.
July 25, 2022, Mary Ann Erickson of Bagley, won \$100.

Letter to the Editor

I'm with an organization called Stories Behind the Stars and our mission is to write a story about every US Service person lost during World War II. I'm researching Edward J. Isackson, who grew up in Leonard. When I use newspapers.com, I'm not able to find a single article about him. I'm hoping someone can go back into your archives and see if you have any articles about him.

He graduated from Clearbrook High School in 1938, joined the Army Air Corp in February 1943 and spent most of that year in flight training. He was awarded his wings and was commissioned in December 1943. In the spring of 1944, he was deployed overseas to Italy and the 15th Air Force as a replacement pilot, then assigned to the 325th Fighter Group. He was lost during an escort mission on 10 August 1944. He was not quickly found, and the Army declared him dead in August 1945. His family had a Memorial Service for him in May 1946. He was later found and was brought home in the spring of 1950.

I gave you these dates hoping this will help narrow down where to look for articles about Edward. His mother Judith passed away in May 1923. If you have anything about her death, this will be helpful also.

Thank you for your time and assistance,

John B. Mier
Sent this back to him.
Judith was born to Gustaf Gustavson and Sarah Isrelson, both born in Sweden.

She died May 1, 1923
She had seven children
Edward, who died in the service.

One son Gustaf was lost at sea

Daughter Ruth died in 1933
Other children were Roy and Lester, twins, Edla, Esther
John and Judith are both buried in Sinclair Cemetery four miles east of Leonard.

Thank you for getting back to me and for the information. Since Edward flew in the same unit my Uncle Ray flew in when he was lost, I try to obtain as much as I can to fully tell the story of our fallen from WWII.

Thank you again,
John



Corrine's Corner

By Corrine Richards

Customer Appreciation
lunch will be held at Y92 in Clearbrook on Friday, August 5, 2022. Hotdogs, Old Dutch Chips and Pepsi or Coke will be served between the hours of 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m. They give thanks to their customers who have been doing business with them.

Clearwater County Fair is August 3,4,5,6,7. The summer is going by very fast.

Massage Solutions will have an Open House on Friday, August 5 from 3 to 5 in Clearbrook.

Merseth family is celebration 125 years of ownership on the family farm on August 6 at 3:30 p.m.

Be ready for Leonard Hard Times Bash this year. It will be held Saturday, August 27. That will be along with the 100th an-

Cowboy Church

Cowboy Church is returning to the Stage in The Pines at the Clearwater County Fair on Sunday, Aug, 7 at 9:00 a.m. - seating available for all but bring a lawn chair if you would like to!

FREE ENTERTAINMENT
AT THE PINES - Free Stage musicians needed - contact Twila or Ron Swenson to grab your slot. Call 218-694-2437

Five seats to be on School Board election ballot

There are four positions on the board of Education for Clearbrook-Gonvick School District on the November ballot. The filing period begins on August 2 and will close August 16. The filing fee is \$2.00

The seats to be on the ballot in November are currently occupied by Randall Bodenstiner, Corey Petterson, Vanessa Gustafson, Scot Abel and Jill Nelson. Two are for a two-year term and three are for a four-year term.

Candidates for these officers must be an eligible voter, must be 21 years of age or more upon assuming office and must be a resident of the school district. They must not have any other affidavit on file for any other office at the same primary.

The general election will be on Tuesday, November 8.

niversary. They usually have a parade so you can get your unit ready for the fun in Leonard.

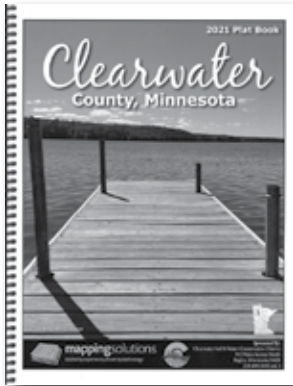
If you are wondering about Breakfast on the Farm this year. It has been canceled because of construction near the farm. It will be held next year again. Construction work has hampered several things the past few summers plus COVID..

Joke Time ...

Ole,the Norwegian hired man, was called into the bedroom of the lady of the house. "Ole," she said, "take off my dress." Ole complied. "Now, Ole... take off my stockings." Ole did. "Now, Ole take off my brassiere and panties." Again Ole obeyed. "Now, Ole, " said the Boss' wife. " Next time you go into town, you wear your OWN clothes"

From my mail...
Did you lose a key fob last weekend? Our kids found a key fob on Saturday evening on North Shore Drive. We asked around and did not find the owner. I am wondering if it was dropped at the CLAA meeting on Saturday. If it's yours, please call 303.842.5748

Platbooks now Available at Richards Publishing 239 2nd Ave. Gonvick



\$30.00

Office hours:
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

to claim it.

From my mail...

Received a card from Glen Aaknes in South Milwaukee, WI. His paper service in the mail is really getting bad. We are trying to see what is keeping the papers from getting there in 2 to 3 weeks. Pony Express might be an alternative.

Susan Roland of Fosston sent her thanks for a great read every week. Thank you

Received a letter from Jerry Morris from Lakewood, Co. He was sending his renewal check for the wonderful newspaper. He usually stops in and pays in person but this year due to the price of gasoline, He will forego his annual trip to Minnnesota.

He also went on to say, "I want to let you know that your paper is such a joy to read and it helps me keep in touch with my dear friend in Northern MN. I

do so look forward to reading the paper from front to back. Also, I have to say that the people in northern, MN are the greatest and nicest people anywhere. I do hope that your newspaper will continue forever. Looking forward to another year of keeping up with my old friends.

The Library Link in Gonvick is open three days a week. Check out various items or order what they don't have in stock for you. Or call 487-6220 to request something to be ordered for you. Hours are Monday 9 to 11 am, Wednesday 3 to 5 pm and Thursday 4 to 7 pm.

Clearwater County Service on T.H.E. Bus. Rider alert; County wide; 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. Bagley: 10 am - 4:30 pm 1st, 3rd Saturday. Bemidji: 2nd, 4th Friday. Ride reservations to Bemidji must be scheduled by 3 pm the day prior to the trip. Call 800-201-3432.

SERIOUSLY?

You'RE NOT SUBSCRIBING TO THE LEADER-RECORD? You should!



START DATE _____ Please check appropriate box:
☐ 6 mo. in-county ☐ 1 yr. in-county ☐ 1 yr. out-of-county
☐ 6 mo. out-of-county ☐ Snowbirds ☐ Website only

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- Wedding & Birth Announcements • Editorials
- Theology in the Trenches by Kathleen Kjolhaug
- Letters to the Editor

And Much More! Mail to PO Box 159 Gonvick, MN 56644

\$30⁰⁰ (year) in Clearwater County
\$40⁰⁰ (year) out of Clearwater County
\$20⁰⁰ (6 months) in Clearwater County
\$24⁰⁰ (6 months) out of Clearwater County
\$35⁰⁰ Snowbirds
\$25⁰⁰ Website only
OR website access is FREE to all mail subscribers

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____

CLEARWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Leonard Centennial 1922-2022
Leonard MN Residents, 1961: included in the photo are: Mrs. Ernest Pond, Donna Pond, Niva Berg, Mrs. Bob Archibald & son Chris Archibald, Mr. & Mrs. Harlan Olson, Harry Olson, Patty Olson, Christine Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Cavot and Christine, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Olson, Annie Bauman & Ardell, Mrs. Russ Simonson, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Olson, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Olson, Stella, Howard and Helen, Mrs. Stella Walden



Leonard Centennial 1922-2022
The Leonard Lathe and Box Factory. In the photo are: David Payne, Henry Ehlers with his horses Prince and Barney, Ernie Pond, Andy Shoemaker, Burtin Hanson, Harold Nystrom, ? Dokken, Pete Martinson, Hugo Rhen, Harris Halvorson, Ernest Strand, Eric Anderson, Gust Johnson, James Hagen, Francis Sparks, Fred Johnson, Herman Hagen, Alex Halvorson, Carl Sjogran, Julius Larson, Raleigh Parks. (Not pictured was George Swenside who was in the hospital after losing some of his fingers in a mill accident.) Sometime before 1930?

Come & Enjoy the 115TH CLEARWATER COUNTY FAIR



August 3 -7 • Bagley MN

FREE GATE • FUN • FOOD • FRIENDSHIP

Continuing our tradition of excellence!

AN ARENA FULL OF COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS!

Indoor and outdoor places are for rent! Go to clearwatercountyfair.net for details

Motocross Races!

**Wednesday, Aug. 3
6 p.m. in the
Grandstand**



High flying excitement brought to you by DMC Motorsports of Brooks

Admission
Adults \$15
Youth \$10

HORSES AND RIDERS IN ACTION!

Thursday, Aug. 4 in Grandstand

Rhythm & Riding 6:00 p.m.

Baja Racing

Souped-up Trucks and Cars race around a course filled with humps and bumps!

6 p.m. Friday in the Grandstand

Admission: Adults \$15; Youth \$10

DEMO DERBY AT THE FAIR!

6 p.m. Saturday, August 6

• Bone Stock Full Size • Ironman Welded • Mid-size

Registration 2:00-5:00 p.m. Saturday

Rules can be found on the WFO Derby

Promotions Rules Facebook page



All questions regarding rules, drivers, and pit crew can be addressed to
TYLER MILLER AT (218) 686-7488

Admission per show: Adults \$15, Age 12 and Under \$10

**Open Horse
Show**

9 a.m. Saturday

*Free Music on
the Stage in the Pines!*



Senior Citizens of the Year!

~ Two will be named ~ One Man & One Woman

Saturday, August 6 • 11:00 a.m.
at The Stage in the Pines



Smoke, Fire & Roaring Engines!

Vintage Tractor Pulls

In the Grandstand

3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 7

Tractors 40
years old or
older.

Entry fee: \$10 per
hook-up. Register at
Fairgrounds Noon-2
p.m.

Admission: Adults
\$15; Youth \$10



Northern Star Elite NSE

Pro Wrestling
Since 2003

Saturday, August 6th in Grandstand

Admission: Adults \$10; 12 & Under \$5

Pictures and Autographs will also be available!

Corgi Races

**12 p.m. Sunday
August 7**

Admission is
Free Will Donation



FLEA MARKET & CRAFT SHOW

"In the Pines" (West side of the fairgrounds)

9-4 Saturday, Aug. 6

Items including: Repurposed Furniture, Rock Shop, Custom Embroidery, Quilting, Crafts, Jewelry, Dolls, Vinyl Decals, Homemade Soap, Dishes, Baked Goods, Books, & lots more!

For more information contact: Laura @ 694-2656



ARMBAND NIGHT

Wednesday, Aug. 4

\$20 to ride

6-10 p.m.

BUY AT CARNIVAL

ENJOY THE FUN & VISIT THE MIDWAY AUGUST 3-7

Family of Fun Shows! Advance Carnival Ride Tickets on Sale thru 5 p.m. August 3

10/\$20 ~ 1 TICKET FOR 1 RIDE GUARANTEED!



The Imle and Gunvalson families have grown over the past 50 years. Some of them were present at the 50th anniversary event that was held last Friday evening.

Fifty years...
Continued from front page

In 1988, it was purchased by Anhauser Busch who bought the plant and began processing and packaging operations

year around. They developed and operated by the Gourmet House name. Since 1999, Riviana Foods Inc purchased the Gourmet House and in 2004 Riviana was purchased by Ebro.

Ebro Foods, S.A. is the leading company in the Spanish food processing sector. Ebro Foods is the world's largest producer of rice and the second biggest producer of pasta.

Riviana Foods, staff and growers were present at the celebration last September on the expansion of the facility's storage capacity by over 50 percent. They eliminated the need for outside storage. Each of the new bins can hold 2.2 million pounds of wild rice. Enrique Zaragoza, President and CEO of Riviana US spoke at that meeting that there are exciting things that is happening and coming in the future for the Clearbrook facility. The marketing for the local growers is in the hands of Riviana Foods, Inc. which is North America's largest processor, marketer and distributor of wild rice.

More changes were done at Gun-

valsons farms. They also went into other crops, Peteland Red potatoes, Yukon Gold potatoes. Their main two crops are wild rice and potatoes.

The three Gunvalson brothers have now taken a lesser roles and Ben, son of John and Steve Marsh, a son-in law to Jim are now in the business for the next 50 years. Last summer they completed the building of an 80 x 100 foot building that will make it easier to repair all the equipment that needs.

It is still a lot of work but a lot easier than 50 years ago when John and Paul first started out.



After 50 years it was time to retire Johns combine.



Kourtnei, Hank and Ben Gunvalson are taking over the reigns of the Gunvalson Farm and Peatland Reds. They were all at the special event for the 50th anniversary party last week.



New boiler for the LIRPF.



New boiler for J. Neils Sawmill project

The J. Neils Sawmill project has advanced significantly over the past

10 years, which has caused some growing pains for those involved with the project. One of those pains that has become increasingly visible is the lack of steam generation capacity. The recent addition of the steam log turner in 2019 has further exacerbated this problem to the point where we can only run the sawmill for 45 minutes before running out of steam (pun intended). So for the past several years, club members have been on the lookout for an affordable boiler that could be used to augment our current steam generation requirements. The Lake Itasca Region Pioneer Farmers came across

an opportunity to purchase a 100HP Leffel Scotch Marine boiler in June of this year from the Pioneer Engineers Club of Indiana. The boiler was located in Rushville, IN and was intended to power a stationary engine located in a sawmill. The project lost traction and the boiler sat unused for over 10 years. The Pioneer Engineers Club of Indiana decided to abandon the project, which included selling the 100HP Leffel boiler.

The boiler was delivered to the LIRPF showgrounds Saturday July 16th by Stan Morgan (C.D. Haugen Trucking Inc.) of Deer River, MN. Leading Edge Mechanical Inc. of Park Rapids, MN provided crane service to lift the boiler off the trailer. The new boiler - manufactured in

1949 - is in excellent condition and closely matches our existing 117HP Scotch Marine boiler manufactured by Washington Iron Works in 1926.

Included with the purchase of the boiler were (2) injectors, duplex water pump, water column and 30ft of smokestack.

Additional funding will need to be secured before installation of the new boiler can begin. It will take significant funds to make the needed modifications to our steam plant as only a licensed pipefitter with a pressure pipe license can make the modifications. Additional concrete and building construction will also be needed. It is hoped several grants can be applied for to help cover these costs.

You won't face cancer alone.

At Sanford Health, the best medical minds work together for you — using our combined experience to personalize your care based on your genetics and cancer type.

Our specialized cancer team is here to guide you through every stage.

Visit sanfordhealth.org to learn more about our cancer services in Bemidji.



Ross McBride, MD
Radiation Oncology



Elie Chalhoub, MD
Medical Oncology/
Hematology



Jonathan Sande, MD
Medical Oncology/
Hematology



Nichole Hassebroek, CNP
Medical Oncology/
Hematology



Elle Holloway, PA-C
Medical Oncology/
Hematology



Heather Czywczynski,
APRN, CNP
Medical Oncology/
Hematology

SANFORD
JOE LUEKEN
CANCER CENTER



This unusual 1946 Chevy Coupe was found by owner Larry Sorenson of Gonvick in Brad Bjerke's field. The floor was rusted out and the exterior had hail damage. Larry and his wife Jeannie restored it during "these last two winters of Covid." Larry explained, "My goal was to restore it so it was different from anyone else's." The restored vehicle has a 400 Chevy pickup motor and a 350 turbo transmission. He added, "I've had it up to 90 miles per hour!"