

THIEF RIVER FALLS

Times

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Rantanen qualifies for State Swim Meet

A fitting farewell

Sports - Page 1B

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Online learning option in TRF is learning

Staff continue to learn, grow and become better

by David Hill
Editor

A total of 31 students are enrolled in the Northwest Online Learning Academy in School District 564.

While COVID numbers are declining, it's not a distant memory, nor is the memory of online learning. In order to respond to individual students' needs and requirements during this unsettling time, the District implemented an online option for its students.

Danielle Schantz, innovation coach for the District, explained on Nov. 8 to the Board of Education in Thief River Falls that from what they know the families and students in the program all joined for various reasons.

Some may have joined because of COVID, but others may have joined for other reasons.

One of the things the District learned during the online learning experience in 2020 during the COVID outbreak was that some stu-

dents did better with online learning than classroom learning.

Schantz said they've learned a lot since the program began this past fall, including that they had to be more flexible. They realized, she said, that while the original plan called for students who enrolled in the program to stick with it for the entire year, they needed to consider what was best for students and less about the program.

Schantz said the number of students in the program has remained fairly consistent. Ten students left the program, but 10 joined and, Schantz said, they are expecting more to join in the next couple of weeks.

The breakdown of students enrolled in the online option includes 21 students in kindergarten through grade 5, 10 in grades six through eight, and six from other districts, specifically Ada, Win-E-Mac and Crookston.

Schantz thanked the staff for their flexibility and willingness to continue to be tremendous advocates for students. She said they've done a great job of keeping up with their responsibilities, including communicating with parents.

(Continued on Page 11)



Jesse Hickman, a veteran and Lincoln High School social studies teacher, spoke Thursday, Nov. 11 at a Veterans Day program at the school.

Remember "it's not about me"

by April Scheinoha
Reporter

"It's not about me." Jesse Hickman asked attendees to say that sentence aloud while attending the Veterans Day program Thursday, Nov. 11 at Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls.

Hickman, a veteran who served as a combat engineer in the Army Reserves, reminded attendees, no matter if they have served in the military, that they can serve the greater good because, after all, it's not about them.

Relatively few Americans have served in the military. The U.S. Census found that

one in 14 American adults have served in the Armed Forces, Hickman said. Using that number as a guide, he said 93% of adults that a person meets have only a secondhand knowledge of what it means to be a veteran.

Despite the lack of people serving in the military, Americans honor veterans in a variety of ways, including parades, community programs and national holidays. "Based on that evidence, clearly we value service to one's country, but if they're held in such high regard, why are so few signing that dotted line and taking the oath to defend this country?" Hickman asked.

It's not a simple question to answer. While wearing a

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Preparing students for the future And getting jobs



Lincoln High School students in grades 9-12 had a unique opportunity to explore job opportunities in Thief River Falls. Many businesses in the community have been struggling to fill open jobs, so Advance Thief River and the Chamber of Commerce worked with the school to conduct a jobs fair at the school. Above, Alicia Haviland of Sanford Health waves to the camera. Brittney Bimler was engaged in conversation

with a student. A total of 15 local businesses, including Textron, Digi-Key, Green Leaf Assisted Living, Valley Assisted Living, Walmart, Dairy Queen, McDonald's, Johnson's Riverside, Sanford Health, Prairie Community Services, Wired Bean, Taco Johns, Oakland Park Communities, State Farm Insurance, and the School District, participated in the event.

Interesting activities taking place in our TRF schools

Principals share updates about various programs

by David Hill
Editor

Something new was introduced to the Board of Education at its regular meeting in Thief River Falls on Nov. 8. Each of the principals of the three schools in Thief River Falls presented a short update on the activities and progress toward goals.

Challenger Elementary School

Challenger Elementary School Principal Patrick Marolt gave a shout out to Educators Danielle Schantz and Daniel Christensen,

who helped implement Positive And Caring Kids. The purpose of PACK is to build leadership within their fourth and fifth grade students. Marolt said 66 students applied for the two slots per classroom. Marolt said some great students applied and deciding which students to accept was very difficult.

He also said they had 133 students sign up for Booster Club. Things went pretty smooth for the most part, he said.

Franklin Middle School

Tony Greene, the new principal at Franklin Middle School, thanked his staff. He said staff had been doing some work around intentional relationships. He explained this is about expressing care, challenging

growth, providing support, sharing power and expanding possibilities for students. He said they plan to continue that work.

Greene also shared they are discussing bringing back the sixth grade trip. He said they are having conversations about it and have met with Maryfran Twistol, volunteer coordinator. He said he believes it's important to the youngsters.

Prowler Academy has also started up. A breakfast for Art Welter was also discussed. Welter, who has about 40 years of teaching and volunteering in the District, is leaving to be with family.

Scott Brekke, principal at Lincoln High School, said students at Lincoln High School had also honored

Welter during a pep fest.

Lincoln High School
Brekke talked about a couple of classes; one was Natasha Olsonawski's computer science class. Brekke said kids have been developing new mobile apps in the class. He said he got to try some of the apps and had fun seeing the creativity and excitement it generated in students.

Prowler Tank

The school is about to begin the Prowler Tank. Two students presented to a group of five judges and were approved. One student entrepreneur will be focused on floral opportunities, and the other on European mounts (skull mounts in taxidermy). He said the school is excited to see where (Continued on Page 6)

Pennington County prepares for winter with latest purchases

by April Scheinoha
Reporter

Money was spent at the Pennington County Board meeting Tuesday, Nov. 9. Commissioners approved over \$470,000 for a lease and other assorted purchases.

Commissioners ordered a John Deere 770G for 2022. The county will lease the motor grader for six years with an annual payment of \$41,112.45. County Engineer Mike Flaagan said the county is saving

10% by ordering the motor grader now as opposed to ordering it in 2022.

Commissioners ordered a Freightliner chassis for a snowplow truck as well as its related equipment. The chassis costs \$110,633. Ordering the chassis now saved the county about \$8,000, Flaagan said. County leaders expect to receive the vehicle and related equipment in 2022. The other equipment, which includes a box and snowplow-

ing attachments, is expected to cost around \$116,272, but the county is unable to lock in that price.

County Board accepted a \$116,970 Natural Resources Block Grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. The grants are for shoreland, local water management, septic treatment systems and Wetland Conservation Act programs.

The grants are for 2022 and, in some cases, 2023. Peter Nelson, manager

of the Pennington Soil and Water Conservation District, provided an update on the SWCD's projects. He said about 15 sidewater inlets are being installed for Judicial Ditch 25.

The SWCD is also surveying about three to four miles of the outlet of JD 30 since the nearby gravel road is being impacted. Nelson said the SWCD will then determine its options to stabilize that area.

(Continued on Page 11)

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Red Lake man charged with soliciting officer posing as a minor online

A Red Lake man has been charged in Pennington County District Court after he allegedly solicited a Thief River Falls police officer posing as a 15-year-old girl.

Merwin James Hill, 50, has been charged with felony electronic solicitation of a minor. He was arrested.

The charge stemmed from Facebook messages going back to Thursday, Oct. 21, according to the complaint. Hill allegedly contacted the "girl" and exchanged messages until Thursday, Nov. 11. In one conversation, they revealed their ages as 15 and 50. On multiple occasions, he made the conversation sexual in nature and asked her to meet him. Hill asked for pictures multiple times. The officer provided one



Merwin James Hill

nonsexual picture. Hill sent multiple pictures, but none were sexual in nature.

The first sexual conversation occurred Oct. 28 when Hill allegedly asked the "girl" to make out with him. He admitted that he could go to prison for being involved with her.

Days later, on Nov. 4, Hill allegedly talked about the size of his penis and asked if he could engage in oral sex with her. The again asked her about engaging in oral sex.

On Nov. 8, Hill asked the "girl" about her breast size and he wrote that he wished he could touch her genitals. However, he admitted he was scared he would get caught, but he soon asked if she would engage in sexual intercourse with him.

On Nov. 10, Hill began asking whether he could meet the "girl." They agreed to meet the following day at Northdale Oil Square. He was driving a Seven Clans

Casino bus at the time since he was working. Hill never entered the building despite being asked to go inside. Later, he told police that he was late, so he asked her to instead go to McDonald's with him.

Shortly after Hill left the parking lot, law enforcement initiated a traffic stop of the bus. Hill allegedly said the conversations turned sexual because the "girl" brought up masturbation. When told that law enforcement could look up the conversation, he said he was unsure who started the sexual conversations.

Hill admitted asking the "girl" to engage in sex. He noted he knew it was wrong. Hill allegedly said he wanted to get food with the "girl" and possibly have sex with her. He said he had no other conversations with people under age 18. His personal and work cell phones were confiscated. Police planned to obtain search warrants for the phones.

Police receive reports of accidents

Accident: On Nov. 8 at 7:35 p.m., police received a report of an accident in the 500 block of Tindolph Ave. S. At the time of the accident, Josephine E. Adamski of Brooks was backing a 2011 Dodge out of a driveway. Her vehicle then hit a light pole. No injuries were reported.

Driving while impaired: On Nov. 8 at 10:48 p.m., police performed a traffic stop near the intersection of Duluth Avenue and Fourth Street. Carlos Martinez, 35, Thief River Falls, has been charged with DWI. He was arrested.

Accident and failure to yield: On Nov. 12 at 6:58 a.m., police received a report of an accident in the 1500 block of Hwy. 59 S. At the time of the accident, Mackenzie Brooke Schulz of Thief River Falls was driving a 2013 Chevy Silverado southbound on Highway 59. According to the report, she turned left and her pickup

truck collided with a 2013 Ford driven by Mariah Carr of Thief River Falls. No injuries were reported. Schulz has been cited for failure to yield.

These reports include names of those charged,

arrested or cited with various crimes and offenses. Depending upon the circumstances of a case, charges can be, and sometimes are, changed or dropped by law enforcement or attorneys even before the case reaches court.

Readers should also realize that under the American system of jurisprudence, those charged with crimes are innocent until proven guilty of those crimes in a court of law.

Don't let the beep steal your sleep

Carbon monoxide alarms are required to be installed in all single-family homes and multi-family dwelling units. Countless lives have been saved from the dangers of this invisible, odorless and potentially fatal gas, as a majority of states have followed suit with similar legislation and code adoption.

However, alarms don't last forever, and 14 years after Minnesota's first CO alarm requirements were enacted, the public is reminded about the need to replace CO alarms as they approach expiration.

Known as the "silent killer," CO is a colorless and odorless gas that is impossible to detect without a sensing device. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 50,000 emergency department visits and approximately 450 deaths are attributed to accidental CO poisoning in the U.S. each year, making it the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in the country. CO can be produced by any fuel-burning device, including heaters, fireplaces, furnaces, appliances and cooking sources using coal, wood or petroleum products. It's critical to have appliances inspected by certified licensed technicians, educate loved ones on the dangers of CO and develop a family escape plan in the event of a CO emergency.

CO poisoning can cause symptoms such as nausea, headaches, dizziness, chest pain and vomiting that mimic those of many other illnesses, making it difficult to diagnose. In severe poisoning cases, victims can experience disorientation, unconsciousness, long-term neurological disabilities, cardiorespiratory failure or death.

While alarm lifespans may vary by model and manufacturer, back in 2007 and again in 2014, a properly maintained CO alarm had a lifespan of approximately five to seven years. Therefore, CO alarms installed when Minnesota

enacted these requirements are likely now due for a second replacement. As an extra safety measure, most First Alert CO alarms feature end-of-life warning to alert residents to the need for replacement. The end-of-life signal differs significantly from the 85-decibel horn heard in an emergency or during regular testing of the alarm. It also differs from the low-battery chirp, and usually consists of three to five short sounds. Check the back of the alarm, as well as the alarm's user manual, for specific information on these different signals.

"If you can't think of the last time you installed a smoke or carbon monoxide alarm, chances are, it's time to replace your old ones," said Tarsila Wey, marketing director for First Alert. "Installing new alarms, testing them regularly and having and practicing an escape plan are important measures you can take to help protect your family and home. First Alert offers the most advanced CO sensing technologies and latest safety features available, in hardwired, wall mount, plug-in and tabletop versions."

The last few years have seen significant advancements in technology, extending the lifespans of some CO alarms to 10 years.

Important safety steps

In addition to replacing CO alarms as they reach expiration, First Alert recommends the following tips and tools for keeping yourself and loved ones safer from the dangers of carbon monoxide:

• Install alarms. CO alarms are the only way to detect this poisonous gas. The National Fire Protection Association recommends installing alarms on every level of the home and near each sleeping area for maximum protection. Also, make sure the alarms are installed at least 15 feet away from sources of CO to reduce the possibility of nuisance alarms.

• Call 911. If an alarm sounds, leave the home immediately and move to fresh air. Then call 911 and do not go back into the home until the home is inspected and cleared.

What is a good value when buying hearing aids?

Making the decision to get help for your hearing loss is not an easy one. Especially when you consider all of the options available today. From the traditional Hearing Healthcare professionals, the big box stores, the internet, and all of those ads on TV that sound way too good to be true. There are even some that let you give yourself a hearing exam. Options are great, but what we really want to know is, where will I get the best value out of my hearing aids? Does getting the best value mean, getting the cheapest hearing aids possible? If not, then what does it mean?

Value, as defined in the dictionary has many definitions but when it relates to hearing aids, the "value" comes from many years of successfully helping you hear better. After all you didn't just buy hearing aids for them to help you for a little while or to kind of help you sometimes. You made an investment in your hearing health and that investment should last you many years.

All hearing aids are not created equal. The quality of parts used to build the hearing aids vary greatly and the service after the sale varies greatly as well. If we compare this to a car, some cars are built cheap with cheap components to keep the price down. Some hearing aids do the same thing. I've seen a hearing aid in a big box store selling for under \$35. I've also heard of companies where everyone is quoted \$7,000 or more for a set of hearing aids. Just because they cost the most doesn't mean that they are better! But how can you tell what's the best value and what's best for you? I've been helping people hear better for the last 17 years and I can tell you that every person with hearing loss is unique and what I've learned is that the best value comes from getting the right hearing aids for your unique needs and getting them set up to optimize the hearing that you have left. After all, hearing aids are just that. They are an aid. They only have to ability to help you with whatever hearing you have left. They are unable to replace the hearing that is no longer there and unfortunately, as time goes by, a person's hearing loss can change and the hearing aids need to be able to change with you.

This is why I feel strongly that the quality of the follow up service is a very important factor when you're trying to get the most value from your hearing aid investment. For some companies, your service ends the day that you purchase your hearing aids. Some companies offer free service for as long as you have warranty on the hearing aids. There are even companies that have free lifetime service for the hearing aids. There is even a company that has free lifetime service and regularly scheduled appointments to help guarantee the proper performance of the hearing aids. That company is Beltone. My name is Dan Vandeventer and I have been a Hearing Aid Specialist with Beltone for the last 17 years. Along with my wife Kim, it is our goal to give our patients the best value for their hearing aid dollar. Not only do we offer the best hearing aids (Beltone), with the most recent and state of the art technology, we also help find our patients the best deals on those hearing aids.

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TRF man sentenced for forging more than \$18,000 in checks

A Thief River Falls man was sentenced Monday, Nov. 8 in Pennington County District Court after he forged \$18,672.13 worth of checks belonging to six men, four women and a construction company over the course of about a month. Some of the victims came forward after The Times printed an article about the initial charge filed in the case.

Matthew Duane Carlson, 37, was also sentenced on a separate felony drug offense. For that charge, Carlson was sentenced to 21 months in prison. He was ordered to not use or possess firearms, ammunition or explosives for his lifetime unless his civil rights are restored. Carlson was also ordered to pay \$210 in fees and fines.

That charge stemmed from a search at Carlson's home, 928 Tindolph Ave. S., on April 21. According to the complaint, the Pine to Prairie Drug Task Force found a methamphetamine pipe in a couch and suspected methamphetamine bedside in a bedroom. In bedroom dressers, they found a meth pipe, a blue pill and a container with white powder. They also found two safes, which contained a THC vape, suspected meth and drug paraphernalia. In the basement, they found a backpack containing drug paraphernalia. Elsewhere, they found a Whizzinator, marijuana, two bongs, designer baggies and bulk packaging with white powder. The suspected meth weighed about 5.09 grams.

The search was conducted after the PTPDTF spoke with Carlson's live-in girlfriend, Shawna Rai Johnson. She allegedly said Carlson and another man had drugs in a hotel room in Grand Forks, N.D. Johnson believed Carlson had gotten

the drugs in the Twin Cities. She said she had used drugs with Carlson at her home. Johnson allegedly said none of the drugs and drug-related items belonged to her.

Johnson is the sole tenant on the rental lease. Her teenage daughter also apparently lives with her.

Johnson has been charged in connection with that incident. Online court records indicated that she was set to appear in court Tuesday, Nov. 16 for that case.

As part of a separate case, Carlson was sentenced for felony check forgery; felony fifth degree possession of a Schedule 1, 2, 3 or 4 drug; and felony mail theft. For the forgery charge, Carlson was sentenced to 23 months in prison to be served concurrently with all of his other charges listed in this publication. He was ordered to supply a DNA sample. Carlson was also ordered to pay \$210 in fees and fines. The right to restitution has been reserved for 60 days.

Two other sentences of 21 months in prison were ordered for both the drug charge and the mail theft charge. Those sentences are to be served concurrently with one another and all of his other charges listed in this publication. For each of those offenses, he was also ordered to pay a \$50 fee. The same conditions apply with the exception of a lifetime firearms ban related to the drug charge.

Those charges stemmed from a Pennington County Sheriff's Office report stating that two checks, totalling \$2,175, had been written to Carlson and cashed without the account holder's permission in

August. Additional fraudulent checks were found. Carlson was linked to the checks since they were written to him, endorsed with a signature similar to his signature and remotely deposited into his Border Bank account.

A PTPDTF officer obtained a subpoena for Carlson's Border Bank account and bank records, according to the amended complaint. Through the subpoena, the officer learned that two checks, totalling \$1,575, had been written to Carlson from another man's account without his permission.

In addition, the officer learned of a \$1,600 check written to Carlson from a third man's bank account. The man told the officer that he had placed a \$334.17 check to AT&T in his mailbox on Aug. 11. Later that day, the check was missing. The man believed the check had been stolen and reported the incident to his bank.

Besides those checks, three checks, totaling \$6,078.80, were written to Carlson from a bank account belonging to Kistler Construction.

Given the suspected fraudulent deposits, Carlson's account was denied mobile deposit access. The officer learned that Carlson had opened the account Aug. 10 with an initial deposit of \$100 cash. A total of \$11,528 had been deposited into the account. The officer determined that all of the deposits, with the exception of the cash

deposit, were fraudulent. As of Sept. 28, Carlson owed \$7,882.76 to the bank.

The officer obtained surveillance images from Thrifty White Drug in which Carlson could be observed making a \$26.91 transaction on Aug. 23. The transaction was made out of the account.

The officer also obtained surveillance video from the Border Bank drive-thru in which Carlson could be observed withdrawing \$2,000 out of the account Aug. 19. He was driving a silver vehicle similar to a car registered to Johnson, his girlfriend.

The complaint was amended to include the latter two charges, information about a search warrant conducted at his home Oct. 7, and additional checks belonging to other individuals.

During the search warrant, law enforcement found items related to check forgery, including check blanks, paper blanks to make checks, various banking paperwork, a notary public stamp, and mail belonging to other people. They also found a mirror with a white powder substance formed into small lines.

Carlson admitted accessing bank account numbers and using that information to make fraudulent checks with his own name and then cashing them. He said he gained access to at least one account after the post office accidentally dropped off some mail containing a check at his house.

Carlson admitted using the checks at Tractor Supply, Ronnings, Ace Hardware, Home Depot, Hardware Hank, Hobby Lobby and JCPenney. He also used some checks for gasoline. Carlson admitted making checks for his friends to use

in the Twin Cities.

After the check forgery charge was featured in The Times, other victims came forward. They included:

- A woman who had written a \$25 check to Lincoln High School. It hadn't been cashed, but a \$1,100 check to Carlson had instead been written.

- A woman who had sent a \$100 wedding gift to a Thief River Falls resident. She later learned a \$1,200 check to Carlson had instead been written.

- A man who had written a \$150 check to the Thief River Falls Concert Association. He later found it had cleared for \$1,300 and had been written to Carlson.

- A man who had written a \$50 check to his son, a Pennington County resident, for an anniversary gift. He later learned about a \$500 check that had been written to Carlson. He found four other checks, which totalled \$747.51, had also been written to Carlson.

- A woman who learned four checks totalling \$971.77 had been written to Carlson. A picture of one of the checks had been found on Carlson's confiscated phone.

A woman who learned a \$1,000 check had been written to Carlson. She was able to notify her bank before the money had been taken out of her account.

Several other victims reported missing checks or their checks were found during a search of Carlson's home. As of Oct. 18, none of those individuals reported any fraudulent checks being cashed.

At the time that the complaint was filed Oct. 18, the investigation was ongoing.



Matthew Duane Carlson

RLF man charged after vehicle theft, chase

by April Scheinoha
Reporter

A Red Lake Falls man has been charged in Pennington County District Court after he allegedly stole a pickup truck and led the sheriff's investigator on a chase through a field. Rayne Austin Villa, 21, had earlier been given a ride by the vehicle owner.

Villa has been charged with felony theft of a motor vehicle, felony fleeing in a motor vehicle and misdemeanor fleeing by means other than a motor vehicle. He was arrested while wearing black rubber gloves.

The charges stemmed from a report that a vehicle had been stolen from the parking lot of Seven Clans Casino, Hotel and Water Park. The theft was reported at 5:56 a.m. Wednesday.

Nov. 10. According to the complaint, the theft occurred between 8 and 9 p.m. a night earlier.

A Wannaska man reported that he had picked up another man along Center Street and given him a ride to the casino. He went inside the casino for 15 minutes and returned to find his 2002

Chevy Silverado was gone. The man had purchased the pickup truck two weeks earlier. Milwaukee tools and other items were inside the truck at the time.

A witness allegedly

reported that Villa had stolen it. The complaint indicated that it seemed the owner knew Villa through a mutual friend.

The owner reported the theft to the casino, but no one came to help him. He later reported the theft to the sheriff's office.

While the deputy was speaking with the owner, he learned that the sheriff's investigator was following the vehicle after the motorist had fled a traffic stop. The investigator followed the pickup truck for a mile into a field. Villa then became stuck in mud and water in a large drainage ditch. He allegedly fled the pickup truck with a backpack. Villa fell after a short distance, got back up again and then laid down in the field.

Villa was allegedly wearing clothing that matched a

description provided by the vehicle owner. He was also wearing rubber gloves. Villa had been carrying a backpack containing a Milwaukee Hackzall, a Milwaukee impact driver and a green case containing bits. Once the battery was removed from the Hackzall, a deputy noticed that the tool featured the last name of the owner. The other items also matched tools that had been located in the pickup truck at the time of the theft.

The backpack also contained reciprocating saw blades and an item that can be used to break into locked vehicles. Most of the reciprocating saw blades were heavily used and multiple blades matched the style of blades Villa allegedly possessed in another case. A scale was also found inside the backpack. It allegedly

contained immeasurable methamphetamine residue.

A BB gun pistol was found in the ditch outside the driver's door. A box of black rubber gloves was found on the passenger seat. A cell phone and two reciprocating saw blades were also found inside the vehicle.

Upon helping tow the pickup truck out of the ditch, a deputy noticed that the catalytic converter had been removed from the vehicle.

Casino security footage showed the owner exiting the pickup truck. It appeared the passenger never exited the vehicle. A little while later, someone started the pickup truck, which then exited the parking lot. It appeared that the bed was full of items.

Felony charges dismissed in Oregon man's separate Enbridge-related cases

Two felony charges were dismissed in separate Enbridge-related incidents. Those dismissed charges are included in the latest edition of the Pennington County Citation Disposition Bulletin. The Times pays for copies of this public information. If it appears in an online forum other than The Times' website (www.trftimes.com), it has been copied.

Pennington County Sheriff's Office case: Robert Adrian Strawser, 22, Eugene, Ore., stay of adjudication for trespassing on critical infrastructure, utility or pipeline and continued, unsupervised probation for one year, \$100 to the charity of his choice and provide documentation to the court, charge of felony theft – temporary control manifesting an indifference

to the rights of the owner dismissed.

Minnesota State Patrol cases: Robert Adrian Strawser, 22, Eugene, Ore., stay of adjudication for obstruction of the legal process and continued, unsupervised probation or one year, pay \$100 to the charity of his choice and provide documentation to the court, a felony charge of attempting to disarm a peace officer, a gross misdemeanor charge of fourth degree assault of a peace officer and a misdemeanor charge of refusal to comply with a lawful order or directive were dismissed.

Kimyotta Latrice Shepard, 38, Thief River Falls, no driver's license, \$135, charges of no proof of insurance and failure to obey a lawful order were dismissed; Travis Gene Wendell, 36,

Goodridge, driving after revocation, \$285; Stanley Robert Ziegler, 56, Grand Forks, N.D., violation of Hands-Free Law – engage in cell phone or video call, \$135; Troy James Taggart, 51, Thief River Falls, expired registration, \$115, charge of no proof of insurance dismissed; Ryan Mitchell England, 19, Thief River Falls, \$65/60, \$125, charge of no driver's license dismissed; Theresa Marie Hagl, 66, Red Lake Falls, 50/45, \$125.

William Payton Halldorson, 19, Walhalla, N.D., 70/60, \$125; Matthew James Lancott, 46, Warroad, no seat belt worn, \$110; Jessica Joy Larson, 30, Fertile, 69/60, \$125; Karyn Viola Jourdain, 42, Red Lake, 65/60, \$125; Myles

Timothy Keefe, 30, Thief River Falls, no seat belt worn, \$110; Timothy Eugene Manning, 62, Red Lake Falls, 65/55, \$125; Chad Donald Parsley, 48, McIntosh, no seat belt worn, \$110; Ronda Joelle Lillienne Rassat, 30, Thief River Falls, no seat belt worn, \$110; Jason Michael Shaul, 28, Shakopee, 65/55, \$125; Ernie Edwin Blackburde, 37, Grand Forks, N.D., driving after cancellation – inimical to public safety, \$385, one year in jail stayed for two years, unsupervised probation for two years.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources cases: Justin Andrew Anderson, 20, Thief River Falls, taking fish without a license, \$185; Justin Scott Norberg, 48, Thief River Falls, knowingly direct/allow/permit a minor to hunt illegally or violate fish and game law, \$185.

Thief River Falls Police Department cases: Paul Joseph Warne, 62, Goodridge, driving after suspension, \$210, driver who isn't owner must later produce proof of insurance if required, \$50; Corbin Devontae Gallow, 20, Sulphur, La., charge of underage consumption dismissed; Trace Joseph Hegel, 36, Thief River Falls, driving after revocation, \$285; Yvonne Mavis McHam, 83, Thief River Falls, charge of public nuisance – storage or accumulation dismissed.

TRF Quilters Guild to meet Tuesday

The Thief River Falls Quilters Guild will meet Tuesday, Nov. 23 at 7 p.m. at the Thief River Falls Evangelical Free Church, 211 Arnold Ave. N. Guests are welcome. Use the back or west entrance.

A short business meeting will be held followed by a program to show a new pattern or technique. Sew and Tell will follow the program. Email trfqiltguild@gmail.com with any questions.

THIEF RIVER FALLS Times

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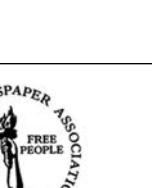
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Mara Hapka, 6, Halma eyes some of the interesting holiday decorations on display at the Holiday Fair. The event, spon-

sored by The Times, was held on Saturday. Early estimates indicate that over 1,600 people attended the event.



The Girl Scouts, 20014 and 20063, had a very good day at the Holiday Fair. The event, sponsored by The Times, attracted over 65 vendors, and as many as 1,600 people to

the Ralph Engelstad Arena on Saturday. Pictured from left are Milly Ortega, Mary Ortega and Aveia Ortega.

Social Security survivors benefits explained

By Brian Rudolph
Social Security Public
Affairs Specialist
Minnesota and
Northern Wisconsin

We are here for surviving family members when a worker dies. In the event of your death, certain members of your family may be eligible for survivors benefits. These include widows and widowers, divorced widows and widowers, children, and dependent parents.

The amount of benefits your survivors receive depends on your lifetime earnings. The higher your earnings, the higher their

benefits. That's why it's important to make sure your earnings history is correct in our records. That starts with creating a my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. A my Social Security account is secure and gives you immediate access to your earnings records, Social Security benefit estimates, and a printable Social Security Statement. The Statement will let you see an estimate of the survivors benefits we could pay your family.

You may also want to visit our Benefits Planner for Survivors to help you better understand Social

Security protections for you and your family as you plan for your financial future at www.ssa.gov/planners/survivors.

Please visit www.ssa.gov or read our publication

Survivors Benefits at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10084.pdf for more information. You can also help us spread the word by sharing this information with your family and friends.

FMS Math League teams compete

The Franklin Middle School Math League teams competed Monday, Nov. 15 in the third meet of the year. Thief River Falls continues to hold the third and fourth positions for the team competition.

Individually, Casey

Nelson leads the league, with Aiyella Hensrud and Ryan Flaagan in the top 10. Tucker Knott is tied in the 11th position.

The entire group is doing well with every team member scoring.



Santas, elves and even gingerbread men were on display and for sale at the Holiday Fair held at the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls. The name of the booth display-

ing these gifts and crafts was "Creations to Annoy My Husband."



Thief River Care Center held a Veterans Day program to honor veterans. Pictured are (front row) John Hesse, Jeff Mercil, James Hjelle, John Nicholson, Orlin Ostby, James Sorter, Donald Harbott; (back row) Earl Hanson, Environ-

mental Services Director Scotty Besserud, Allan Paulson, Robert Mattson and Floyd Johnson. Not pictured are John Grillo and Ed Ehlers. (Submitted)



On Thursday, Nov. 11, Thief River Care Center observed 10 years in its current facility. Pictured are individuals who have been with TRCC since that time, including (from left) Activities Director Lori Thompson; vol-

unteer/Advisory Board member Curt Westlin; Naomi Lee, RN; resident Floyd Johnson; Mary Jo Langlie, LPN; and Sunny Tilahun, LPN. Not pictured is Lisa Monson, LPN. (Submitted)

Talking diabetes awareness

According to the American Diabetes Association, approximately 8% of adults in Minnesota are diagnosed with diabetes, which costs an estimated \$4.7 billion in the state.

For Diabetes Awareness Month this November — Betsy Seaquist, MD, an endocrinologist at the University of Minnesota Medical School and M Health Fairview, talks about diabetes and living with a chronic condition.

Q: What is diabetes?

Dr. Seaquist: Diabetes is a disease where the blood sugar is elevated. It occurs when the body cannot make enough insulin for its needs. In Type 1 diabetes, the cells that make insulin are destroyed by the immune system. These patients must take insulin to live. In Type 2 diabetes, the pancreas does not make the right amount of insulin at the right time and the body's ability to use insulin is also decreased. Sometimes patients with Type 2 diabetes also take insulin, but there are other drugs that can be used.

Q: What are the subtle symptoms of diabetes that should be told to a primary care provider?

Dr. Seaquist: Most people with diabetes are asymptomatic, which is why screening for the disease must be done in populations at risk. If the blood sugar gets high enough, people can lose weight, become very thirsty, drink a lot of fluids and have blurred vision.

Q: What are the risk factors of having diabetes and the current treatment options available?

Dr. Seaquist: Risk factors for Type 2 diabetes include older age, a history of gestational diabetes with a pregnancy, a family history of diabetes, obesity and having Native American, African American, Asian American, Latino or Pacific Islander ancestry. People at risk for Type 2 diabetes can reduce this risk, or postpone the onset of the disease, by maintaining a lean body weight and exercising regularly.

Q: If someone is diagnosed with diabetes, what should they know about the diagnosis?

Dr. Seaquist: Someone diagnosed with diabetes should know the disease is very treatable. At the time of diagnosis, education about what to eat, how much to eat

and exercise is essential. We now have a great variety of drugs and technologies that can help people manage their blood sugars. It is important that patients work with their health care teams to get their blood sugars in a healthy range.

Q: What are you doing in your research and practice to further our understanding of diabetes?

Dr. Seaquist: My independent research focuses on managing the hypoglycemia that commonly occurs as a result of insulin therapies. In my clinical practice, I use a lot of new technologies to help minimize this problem. I have also led clinical trials designed to determine the best way to reduce cardiovascular risk in patients with Type 2 diabetes and to identify the best drug regimen to use in patients with early Type 2 diabetes.

Betsy Seaquist, MD, an endocrinologist at the U of M Medical School and M Health Fairview, specializes in hypoglycemia and the complications of diabetes. Her research focuses on the effect of diabetes on brain metabolism, structure and function.

State looks at preliminary tax levies

The Minnesota Department of Revenue annually releases a list of the preliminary maximum property tax levies that have been reported by local governments and have been passed by local school referenda on November 2, 2021.

The preliminary amounts are used by counties to compute parcel-specific property tax estimates for 2022, which are mailed to property owners in November in the form of Truth-in-Taxation notices. Truth-in-Taxation notices also list Truth-in-

Taxation meeting times and locations for residents.

These meetings, which take place between late November and late December, are an opportunity for Minnesotans to provide input to local leaders on their levies and on how they are proposing to spend tax dollars.

These meetings are required for cities with populations over 500, counties, school districts, regional library authorities, and metropolitan taxing districts.

After input from citizens, local governments must set

their final 2022 property tax levies by December 28, 2021. The final levies can be set lower, but not higher, than preliminary levies. The department will release final property tax levy information in February.

For 2022, preliminary property taxes statewide will increase \$502.4 million, a 4.5% increase. Last year, preliminary statewide property tax increases totaled \$271.4 million, a 2.5% increase, and last year's final levy increase was 2.1% (\$225.2 million).

Cities - The 2022 preliminary property tax levies for cities will total approximately \$2.964 billion compared with a final levy of \$2.782 billion in 2021, a 6.6% increase.

Counties - The 2022 preliminary property tax levies for counties will total approximately \$3.616 billion compared with a final levy of \$3.488 billion in 2021, a 3.7% increase.

Townships - The 2022 preliminary property tax levies for townships will total approximately \$285

million compared with a final levy of \$278 million in 2021, a 2.7% increase.

Schools - The 2022 preliminary property tax levies for schools will total approximately \$3.523 billion compared with a final levy of \$3.367 billion in 2021, a 4.6% increase.

Special Taxing Districts - The 2022 preliminary property tax levies for special taxing districts will total approximately \$441 million compared with a final levy of \$413 million in 2021, a 6.8% increase.

Truth-in-Taxation notices do not include the results of levy referenda for operations or capital projects by 64 of Minnesota's school districts. The results of these referenda are included in the summarized data. Statewide, 45 of the 64 referenda at least partially passed.

The preliminary property tax levy information for local governments and schools is available on the Department of Revenue Property Tax Reports and Data website.



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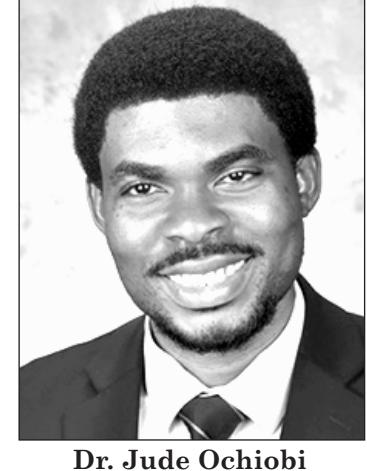
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Ochiobi joins RiverView Health



Dr. Jude Ochiobi

RiverView Health welcomes Dr. Jude Ochiobi to its medical staff. Ochiobi will practice in Crookston and Red Lake Falls. He joins fellow internal medicine specialists Dr. Bosun Fashoro and Dr. Maneesh Kanal.

A graduate of the University of Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, Ochiobi completed an internal medicine residency at Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, North Chicago, Ill. He also holds a Master of Public Health degree from Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, Canada. In addition, he is a commissioned officer in the United States Army Reserve Medical Corps.

Ochiobi has particular interests in preventative care and sports medicine.



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Megan Chromy of Arctic Cat visits with a student about a tool used at Arctic Cat. Monday, Lincoln High School students in grades 9-12 had a unique opportunity to explore job opportunities in Thief River Falls. Many businesses in the community have been struggling to fill open jobs so Advance Thief River and the Chamber of Commerce worked with the school to conduct a jobs fair at the school.

Interesting activities/Continued

(Continued from Page 1)
Prowler Tank is going and what it will mean to young entrepreneurs. Brekke said it's something that hasn't been done before.

Creating apps

Another class being offered this year is sports officiating. The school district has been having a hard time finding officials for any activity, so they talked with Mike Biermaier, activities director, and they came up with an option, which, Brekke said, was possible only because they have one of the best officials in all of northern Minnesota in Mike Gullingsrud. Gullingsrud is going to be teaching the class. About 20 kids are signed up right now. He will be teaching officiating for football, volleyball, boys and girls basketball, softball and baseball. The kids will learn a lot about them and hopefully by the time they complete the class, they will be able to do some junior high games.

The school moved up the course catalog deadline by a month. This will prevent some dragging on into the summer, Brekke said, and speed up the process of selecting classes.

When the Board of Education approved 10 more minutes per day that opened up some additional opportunities, Brekke said the school is going to put an additional 10 minutes in the second block. Right now, the school has "skinnies," which is half a block - two 45-minute blocks. Now the school is adding 10 minutes into the second and that will create a 45, a 45 and a 90. So, the first block will be a full 90 minutes, second or third could be a skinny or a full block, fourth or fifth could be a skinny or a full block, and then they go into

the final block. This is creating more opportunities. In music, Brekke said, instead of two credits students have to take for a full year; it's now going to be one.

Josh Watne named dean of students at FMS

Superintendent Donita Stepan reported that Josh Watne had accepted the District's offer to serve as the dean of students at Franklin Middle School. Watne will be taking over the duties of Dr. Tony Greene, who accepted the duties of principal at the school after Principal Bob Wayne retired.

Vaccinate all staff?

The status of a Nov. 4 OSHA rule requiring employers of 100 or more employees to be vaccinated is not clear at this point.

Stepan said they are waiting for clarification because they aren't sure how or whether it applies to public schools. She said she has to anticipate that the requirement will go through, and all will need to be vaccinated or tested. Nothing, she said, is set in stone at this time.

On Nov. 5, 2021, the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a COVID-19 Vaccine or Testing Emergency Standard (ETS) effective Dec. 5, 2021 that requires employers with 100 or more employees to require employee vaccination or regular testing and masking. In Minnesota, the Minnesota OSHA agency (MN-OSHA) has 30 days to adopt the ETS or "just as effective measures."

Many questions have arisen and the situation is evolving daily. Court challenges have been filed that may delay implementation and/or affect provisions in the ETS. MN-OSHA must

complete its process.

The school district is closely monitoring the situation and will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Agreement with Principals

Tentative agreements have been reached with the principals' group. The District expects details to be settled by the next board meeting.

eSports?

eSports may become a new option for students in School District 564. Biermaier explained they are exploring an option to increase participation in activities and one option would be eSports.

eSports describes various activities like competitive video gaming, and drone racing.

Biermaier said it's a huge array of activities, and when he said gaming, he said "appropriate" video games. He said he was aware of a company providing support to several schools in North Dakota.

But first, Biermaier would pursue a grant through the Minnesota State High School League Foundation to offset student activity fees. He was uncomfortable describing who it would be for, but said it would help students who don't quite qualify for free and reduced.

Mary Anderson retires

The Board of Education accepted the retirement of Mary Anderson after 21 years as a special education teacher at Franklin Middle School, effective Dec. 31. Misty Hempel, vice chairperson on the Board of Education, thanked her for her many years, and noted that 21 years was awesome.

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A trip down memory lane ~ 1981



A DANCE ROUTINE will be presented by this group of girls at the annual fall music concert Friday at 8 p.m. in the Goodridge School gymnasium. "Las Vegas Night" is the concert theme this year, according to Jodi Bergland, music instructor at the

school. Members of the dance group (left to right) include Cheri Nelson, Michelle Henrickson, Cheri Tharaldson, Janita Sigerud, Lisa Kriel, Susie Johnson, Dawn Anderson and Jennifer Langan.

Times for Toddlers ...

How to foster that valuable personal resource - creativity

Creativity is the ability to originate ideas, to redefine old situations with new perspectives, to find new solutions to old problems, and to see new relationships between seemingly unrelated objects, ideas or actions. We often think of creativity as an artist's special ability to translate thoughts, words or actions into a new form. But creativity should be a part of everyone's life beginning during the preschool years.

Creativity is a valuable personal resource. Because the world is rapidly changing, we cannot predict the needs of the future. One of the most important tools you can give your child is the ability to shift gears and take a new approach in the fact of change.

(Contributed by the Early Childhood Family Education Department of School District 564.)

ACTIVITIES

Fine-Feathered Holder

This fine-feathered Thanksgiving project holds plenty of treats! To make one holder, cut six inches off the top of a brown paper lunch bag and save the bottom part. Cut six 2" x 5" strips of brown construction paper. Fringe each strip along one side. To both the front and

back of the bag, glue three strips (fringe down) so that they overlap slightly. Bend the fringe upward.

Cut a brown head, a yellow beak, a red wattle and tail, and white eyes with black centers from construction paper, then glue the red tail on one end of the unfringed side and the completed head on the other unfringed side. Fill the completed holder with treats, such as pretzels or bags of candy corn.

Gobble, gobble!

SCAVENGER HUNT

For next week's Activities feature, you will need your time.

(Contributed by Discovery Place Early Learning Center)

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Q: What is the key to a good dinner?

A: A tur-key.

BOOK OF THE WEEK

There are thousands of books written for young children every year and many are available for you to borrow from a public library or can be purchased from a bookstore or online. Here are a classic children's book or two that your family might enjoy:

Davis, Nancy. *The First Thanksgiving: a Lift-the-Flap Book*. Simple text and colorful illustrations tell the story of the first Thanksgiving Day.

Bunting, Eve. *A Turkey for Thanksgiving*. Mr. and Mrs. Moose try to invite a turkey to their Thanksgiving feast.

VIDEO VARIETY

In addition to the books that are available for your family, there are also many

movies and documentaries that may make you laugh and inspire you, as well. Here is one classic choice: *The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot about That! Fun Feathered Friends*. Let's journey with Sally and Nick and the Cat to make feathered friends, imagine that!

First, meet the fastest creature in the world! Who is it, you ask? It's Perry the Peregrine Falcon. Watch as he flies up to 150 mph, even when diving for food! Then play dress-up with Sally. Her favorite hat has lost all of its feathers—where can she find more? It's time for a trip to Feathery Flats to meet Puranay the Peacock! He has plenty of feathers and can teach us all about them. Birds are only the start of this trip with the Cat. Take a look at what's

inside, and hold onto your hat!

WONDERS OF THE WEB

The Internet has long been available to supplement your parenting knowledge and skills. This is one web location that your family might enjoy: Thanksgiving activities, crafts, and foods. <https://www.familyeducation.com/entertainment-activities/thanksgiving>

Remember that you can also visit the website of your local public library to find out more about local library services. Libraries in much of northwest Minnesota are listed on the Northwest Regional Library website: <http://www.nwrlib.org/> (With assistance from the Thief River Falls Public Library.)

On the Other Hand ...

Exploring a giant, gorgeous glacier



by
Megan E.
Fuhrer

On the Other Hand is written by students attending Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls.

Last summer, my family and I took a trip to Alaska. We did many things on that trip, including hiking on a glacier.

My family drove to the camp, which was a cluster of cabins and yurts. We were introduced to our tour guide, Ben, and gathered some equipment for the hike. We were given helmets, boots, and crampons. Crampons are metal spikes that attach to the bottom of our boots. They're like heavy-duty cleats. The camp was pretty far away from the glacier, so Ben drove us closer to it. We then left the van and began our hike.

The glacier, called Matanuska, is much bigger than it might appear. One might think that the whitish-blue ice is all the glacier is, but the grey, rocky landscape surrounding the visible ice is part of the glacier as well. The majority of the ice is covered by earth. The glacier is beautiful, but it is also dangerous. There are giant cracks in the ice that a person could fall into, puddles that look harmless but descend several feet down, and thick mud that could suck a person under.

To keep us safe, Ben had us walk single file behind him. He led us through the grey, rocky landscape and toward the whitish-blue ice.

Positive Thoughts ...

Separate Thanksgiving from Halloween



by Dan
Bartsch

I talked about this last year, but it is still a good topic to talk about. I want to talk about how we go from celebrating pumpkins and spooks of Halloween to the trees and presents of Christmas basically one minute after Oct. 31 and we skip over the fourth Thursday in November, which is Thanksgiving.

Well, I guess I was exaggerating when I said one minute after Oct. 31 as this year I started to see Christmas ads on TV and it was a day after Labor Day. I guess companies knew then that it was going to take a while to deliver our presents in time. But, getting back to Thanksgiving, I don't know how it went from a day of giving thanks to the Black Thursday and Friday shopping holiday, or T-minus 30 days until the man with the sleigh comes to town.

If we would have known what we know today, I think we would have had a lot more fun projects at school to make for our parents. The

only real classroom project I remember doing was with brown construction paper. We would trace our hands on the paper, and then try not to cut out ourselves with those "sharp" school scissors. With a touch of color and a little more drawing, ta-da, Tim Turkey would be born. Tim Turkey would then be hung on the refrigerator next to the A- you got on your social studies test, which you were lucky wasn't an F because the teacher had a sense of humor when you answered "bag of jawa" when you meant Sacagawea. Plus you got two days off from school and work just to enjoy a turkey dinner. I believe that we should still respect and honor the holiday of Thanksgiving if for nothing more than just that.

Well, I think the media can help separate Thanksgiving from Halloween and Christmas. They made the movie "Groundhog Day" with Bill Murray and separated that from Valentine's Day. I think they should play "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles" with John Candy and Steve Martin all November. It's a wonderful movie based on ... right, Thanksgiving. Well, I hope you have a good day, and as always, God bless.



Every year, Kenny Beauchane, a paraprofessional who has worked in the School District for over 53 years, sets up a Veterans Day display at Challenger Elementary School. This year, Beauchane was assisted by Brady Anderson and Caleb Wilson. The two students are wearing Beauchane's father's military uniform from World War II. (Submitted)

History: Paving of streets cost \$261,305

1921 - One Hundred Years Ago

-Due largely to a higher school levy, the total city tax rate was raised to 104.1 mills, compared to 89.2 mills for 1920.

-Total cost of paving 22 blocks in the business district has been placed at \$261,305 by the engineer in charge.

-A parent-teacher association has been formed with Mrs. H.W. Froehlich as president.

1971 - Fifty Years Ago

-Two young men from Greenbush and Roseau lost their lives early Tuesday morning when their car left the road during a high speed chase with a Thief River Falls police car on Highway 32 north of the city.

-Jim Gunstad of the Thief River Falls Future Farmers of America chapter took first place in the Future Farmers of America Region I public speaking contest, held as part of the Region I Future Farmers of America leadership conference at the United Methodist Church.

-Walls are now rising for Northland Village, Thief River Falls' newest housing

complex taking place on a four-acre site on Eighth Street, east of the river.

-The Lincoln High School Drama Department will present "The Haunting of Hill House" next week.

1981 - Forty Years Ago

-The local teachers' strike, which lasted 22 days, ended this week.

-Oliver "Skip" Swanson and Ellsworth Jorgenson have been elected to the Pennington County Fair Board.

-The 15th annual free International Coin, Antique, Stamp, and Hobby Show will be held in Thief River Falls this weekend.

1991 - Thirty Years Ago

-The fire at the Marshall County Central High School has been ruled accidental.

-Lincoln High School's fall play will be "The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood."

-Dr. James Haviland has been named provost of Northland Community College.

2001 - Twenty Years Ago

-The new movie, "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," will be shown at the Galaxy Twin Theater in Thief River Falls on Friday,

Nov. 16.

-The Thief River Falls Regional Airport will be receiving a metal detector and an x-ray machine to help ensure a safe environment aboard flights, a result of concerns stemming from the Sept. 11 attacks.

-The 25th Annual Holiday Fair in Thief River Falls will include exhibitors from throughout Minnesota and North Dakota and will be held in the City Auditorium.

2011 - Ten Years Ago

-The 35th Annual Thief River Falls Holiday Fair was held Nov. 12 at the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls with 67 vendors and over 1,500 attendees.

-The Thief River Falls Regional Airport Authority is recommending that Great Lakes Aviation take over subsidized Essential Air Service at the airport.

-The Thief River Falls Homeless Task Force, at its final meeting, made the recommendation that, although there is a homeless population in the area, a homeless shelter here is not financially practical.

inside, and hold onto your hat!

WONDERS OF THE WEB

The Internet has long been available to supplement your parenting knowledge and skills. This is one web location that your family might enjoy: Thanksgiving activities, crafts, and foods. <https://www.familyeducation.com/entertainment-activities/thanksgiving>

Remember that you can also visit the website of your local public library to find out more about local library services. Libraries in much of northwest Minnesota are listed on the Northwest Regional Library website: <http://www.nwrlib.org/> (With assistance from the Thief River Falls Public Library.)

Nursing homes down over 220,000 jobs

The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL), representing more than 14,000 nursing homes and assisted living communities across the country that provide care to approximately five million people each year, released a report recently showing long term facilities are suffering from the worst labor crisis and job loss than any other health care sector. Nursing homes alone have seen its industry's employment level drop by 14 percent or 221,000 jobs since the beginning of the pandemic.

While hospitals, physicians' offices, outpatient care centers and other health care facilities have reached or surpassed pre-pandemic staffing levels, nursing homes and assisted living communities are still experiencing substantial job losses according to the latest October employment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Mark Parkinson, president and chief executive officer of AHCA/NCAL said that these workforce challenges for nursing homes and assisted living communities could be attributable to multiple factors.

"As many caregivers are getting burned out by the pandemic, workers are leaving the field for jobs in other health care settings or other industries altogether. Chronic Medicaid underfunding, combined with the billions of dollars providers have spent to fight the pandemic, have left long-term care providers struggling to compete for qualified staff. We desperately need the help of policymakers to attract and retain more caregivers, so that our nation's most vulnerable have access to the long-term care they need," said Parkinson.

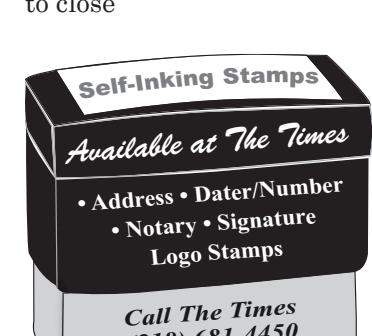
Comparing the latest BLS employment data released last week with pre-pandemic employment back in March 2020 shows nursing homes have lost the most jobs than any other health care sector.

AHCA/NCAL released a survey of long-term care providers earlier this year showing that the labor crisis is worsening and impacting access to care for vulnerable seniors:

- 86% of nursing homes and 77% of assisted living providers said their workforce situation has gotten worse in recent months

- 58 percent of nursing homes are limiting new admissions

- 78 percent of nursing homes and 61 percent of assisted living communities are concerned workforce challenges might force them to close



Virgil Erickson, 91

Holt - Virgil Erickson, 91, of Holt, passed away on Friday, November 12, 2021 of natural causes at his home in East Valley Township, Marshall County.

Virgil Dale Erickson was born on November 5, 1930 in East Valley Township, the son of Eneas and Olga (Olson) Erickson, on the farm homesteaded in 1889 by his grandparents, Hendrik and Kerstin Erickson from Sweden. He attended grade school at the Ringbo Country School, one year of high school in Holt, and graduated in 1948 from Newfolden High School, Newfolden. He enrolled in a welding class at the vocational school in Thief River Falls after high school.

Virgil worked for various farmers in the Stephen area, picked potatoes in the fall, and also worked for his uncle Hilmer Erickson in the blacksmith shop in Holt, and farmed the home place. In 1961 he started working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge near Holt and retired in 1993 after 32 years of service. He was actively serving as clerk of East Valley Township, an office he held for 47 years.

On December 31, 1960 Virgil was united in marriage to Cathy Oxford at St. Benedict's Catholic Church in White Earth and they were blessed with six children. Virgil and Cathy met at a dance in Waubun, when he was working as a camp ranger at Camp Waubun-aquatic Boy Scout Camp east of White Earth.

A dedicated farmer all his life, Virgil took pride in his hard work ethics and raised his family to honor that legacy. He was proud of his ability to plant straight rows, raise quality beef cattle, and was honored to have 4th and 5th generation family farmers work alongside of him. He was especially proud of the accomplishments of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also was a proud supporter of his wife's music, The Cathy Erickson Band.

A quote from a granddaughter's posting sums it up: "thankful God let you have: ONE more harvest, ONE more birthday, ONE more deer hunt, ONE more

David Durgin, 77

Reynolds, ND - David N. Durgin, 77, of Reynolds, North Dakota, died Thursday, November 11, 2021 in Valley Senior Living on 42nd St., Grand Forks.

David Durgin was born on August 14, 1944, in Badger, to Vernal and Cora (Modahl) Durgin. In 1947 Cora was united in marriage to Ralph Dowers who David loved as his father. David grew up in Thief River Falls and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1962. He attended Bemidji State University and graduated in 1966.

In 1965 David married June Goplin in Warren. Their sons, Brian and Jay, were born in Thief River Falls where they lived until moving to Moorhead in 1976. On July 21, 1984 David married Barb (Gulson) in Thompson, ND and shortly after moved to Reynolds, ND. David worked at Acme Electric in Grand Forks for over 30 years as a purchasing agent.

David loved the outdoors

Sons of Norway to hold "Prepare for Christmas" event

Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge will hold a special "Prepare for Christmas" kids program on Monday, Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. at the Thief River Falls Eagles Club. Community children and parents are invited to attend.

This year, instead of crafts, the lodge is focusing on Christmas books for chil-

family get-together, before HE took you to Heaven."

Virgil is survived by Cathy, his loving wife of 60 years; 5 children, Sheila (Russ) Holtan of Oakwood, ND, Timothy (Teri Walraven) Erickson of Cabot, AR, Patrick (Tami Coltom) Erickson of Bemidji, Mary Jo Erickson Sturman of Grand Forks, ND, Andy (Shawna Antony) Erickson of Garfield; daughter-in-law, Corie (Bill) Erickson-Oliver; 17 grandchildren, Katrina (Larry) Tollefson, Kassi (Scott) Winge, Tyler Erickson, Travis (Amber) Erickson, Justine (Dalfred) John, David (Brandy) Erickson, Lorie (Michael) Anderson, McKayla Erickson, Dr. Hailey Erickson, Sara (Brady) Hand, Zoey Erickson, Allison (Michael) Slominski, Jesse (Toni Jo) Sturman, Sgt. Billy Sturman, Madyson, Sydney and Harley Erickson; grandson-in-law, Danny (Natasha) Piché; 15 great-grandchildren, Brooke and Brody Tollefson, Maysie and Keenan Srnsky, Brock, Lexi and Bryce Piché, Lydia and Louis Slominski, Luke and Parker Sturman, Rylie Erickson, Ava John, Natalie and Malia Anderson, plus a Slominski baby due any day; one brother, Floyd (Ellen) Erickson of St. Paul; brothers-in-law, Larry Schiltz of Minnetonka, Harry Oxford of Hoyt Lakes, Kenneth Oxford of Hanley Falls; sister-in-law, Pauline Oxford of St. Paul; and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Virgil was preceded in death by his parents, Eneas and Olga Erickson; his grandparents, Hendrik and Kerstin Erickson; sisters, Violet Becklund and Ione Schiltz; son, Paul; granddaughter, Kelsey (Holtan) Piché; brother-in-law, George Oxford; and brother-in-law and special hunting friend, Russell Becklund.

May his legacy live on in the lives of his family.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Middle River, with Father Duane Pribula officiating.

Visitation will take place at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Middle River, two hours before the funeral services on Saturday, November 20, 2021. Burial will take place at the Holt Cemetery, Holt, following lunch and fellowship at the Middle River American Legion Post 444.

Condolences may be sent at www.johnsonfuneralservice.com. A00003B2021NV17

and enjoyed spending time with his family at their cabin on Spider Lake as well as the hunting shack in Northern Minnesota. David was an avid Sioux hockey fan and also enjoyed attending his grandchildren's various activities. David had a wonderful sense of humor and an infectious laugh that could light up any room.

David is survived by his wife, Barb; sons, Brian (Rochelle) Durgin, Jay (Monique) Durgin; brothers, Daniel (Andrea) Dowers, and Scott (Susy) Dowers; grandchildren, Emily, Zach, and Rowan; as well as several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Susie Miller; his brother, Darryl; and sister-in-law, Charlene.

The family would like to thank the staff at Valley Senior Living for their excellent care and support of David.

Memorial Services were held on Monday, November 15, 2021 at Amundson Funeral Home, Grand Forks. An online guestbook is available at www.amundsonfuneralhome.com. A00003B2021NV17

There will be reading stations for anyone, young or old, who wants to hear a good Christmas story read aloud. Treats will be served to all. All Snorre Lodge members are encouraged to participate as well and the November meeting will be held at 7 p.m. following this Christmas book event.

Kathryn Sundstedt, 71

Thief River Falls - Kathryn Ann (Dunrud) Sundstedt, 71, of Thief River Falls, died on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at Oakland Park Communities, Thief River Falls.

Kathryn was born on April 28, 1950 to Kenneth and Marcella (Rose) Dunrud in Grafton, ND. Their family moved to Viking when Kathy was a child. She attended elementary school in Viking and graduated in 1968 from Newfolden High School in Newfolden. She was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith.

In September of 1967 Kathy was set up on a "blind date." This was when she met Wayne Sundstedt, who would be the love of her life. On August 10, 1968 they were united in marriage in Argyle at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. They lived in a few places before settling down in Thief River Falls where they had their two daughters.

Kathy had several jobs while raising her girls. While she was living in the Thief River area, some of the jobs Kathy worked were at Northwestern Bell as an operator, in a café and at Tastee Freeze.

In 1982 Wayne took a job in Montevideo and moved the family there. In 1984 Kathy attended Granite Falls Vo-Tech where she graduated from the medical secretary program. In 1986 she took a job working with Prairie 5 Community Action. She spent most of her years there working as the Fuel Program Manager. For 28 years, she liked her job and loved her work family. She retired in 2014. After Wayne died in April of 2012, Kathy accomplished many things she never thought she could do and was proud of it, as were her daughters.

Visitation will be from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, November 21, 2021 at Johnson Funeral Services, Thief River Falls, and 1 hour before the service on Monday, November 22, 2021.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, November 22, 2021 at St. Bernard's Church, Thief River Falls.

Burial will be at a later date.

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Harold Kees, 68

Red Lake Falls - Harold Kees, 68, of Red Lake Falls, passed away Friday, November 12, 2021 at Altru Hospital in Grand Forks, ND.

Harold Kees was born May 30, 1953 in Thief River Falls, the son of Vernon and Lillian (Scharmer) Kees. He attended elementary school in Thief River Falls and Lincoln High School. Harold farmed with his father.

On May 3, 1974 Harold married Sheryl Pederson and to this union, two children were born: Jeremy and Krista.

Harold worked for Ben Hible Gas Station, Hydramac, farmed on the Don Miller farm, Wahpeton, ND and worked at Dan Jolly Trucking for 32+ years, logging over 2,000,000 miles. He also owned Kees Boarding Home.

He enjoyed spending time with family and friends. He especially enjoyed his yearly vacation trips with his two sisters, Vivi and Laverne. He was always the life of the party and enjoyed making people laugh. In his younger years, he played drums in

In 2016 she sold her house in Montevideo and moved in with her daughter in Belgrade. Then, in 2017, she moved back to Thief River Falls to be closer to her mother and her siblings.

Kathy enjoyed bowling, traveling, cross stitching, crocheting, shopping, playing Bingo, visiting family and friends, and helping others. She enjoyed making cross stitch pictures and crocheting afghans and giving them to family and friends. She was a very loving, caring and giving person. She was an avid Vikings fan. Win or lose, she never wavered from loving the Minnesota Vikings.

She is survived by her daughters, Lisa (Daran) Solbreken of Clear Lake, and Sarah (Thomas) Lee of Belgrade; four grandchildren, Tiana Solbreken of Glenwood, Jacob Solbreken of Brooten, Tyler Lee of Belgrade, Madison Lee of Belgrade; mother, Marcy Dunrud of Thief River Falls; siblings, Karen (Randy) Krantz of Karlstad, Mike (Teri) Dunrud of Viking, Steve Dunrud of Viking, and Craig (Roxanne) Dunrud of Viking; a brother-in-law, Harlow Johnson of Thief River Falls; plus many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, cousins, and beloved close friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne; father, Ken; mother-in-law, Gladys Rogers; father-in-law, Wilhelm Sundstedt; and sister-in-law, Gloria Johnson.

Visitation will be from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, November 21, 2021 at Johnson Funeral Services, Thief River Falls, and 1 hour before the service on Monday, November 22, 2021.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, November 22, 2021 at St. Bernard's Church, Thief River Falls.

Burial will be at a later date.

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the band Country Roads.

Harold was a member of Zion Lutheran Church.

Harold is survived by his daughter, Krista (Jared) Alby of Thief River Falls; daughter-in-law, Kelly Kees of Carlos; sisters, Vivian Knutson of Thief River Falls and LaVerne Sorenson of Bozeman, MT; grandchildren, Aden, Aliyah, Austin, Lilly, Trista and Jaxson; great grandchildren, Hailey and Kohlton; several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He is preceded in death by his son, Jeremy Kees in October 2021; and his parents.

The funeral service to celebrate Harold's life will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at Zion Lutheran Church, Thief River Falls, with Reverend Mark Helgeland officiating.

Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery, Thief River Falls.

Visitation will be 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. with a 7 p.m. prayer service on Friday, November 19, 2021 at Johnson Funeral Service in Thief River Falls. Visitation will also be one hour prior to the service on Saturday at Zion Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be sent at www.johnsonfuneralservice.com. A00003B2021NV17

Earl Sanders, 82

Embarrass - Earl K. Sanders, 82, of Embarrass, passed away Thursday, October 28, 2021 at his home.

He was born on July 4, 1939 in Highland, Minnesota to Elvin and Selma (Sundahl) Sanders and was a U.S. Army veteran.

Earl married Carol Wells on December 30, 1967 in Embarrass. He worked for Erie Mining Company and retired from LTV Steel as a heavy equipment operator.

He was a member of Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass and Quayle-

Shuster-Truman-Muhich American Legion Post 241 in Aurora.

Survivors include his wife, Carol; two sons, Alan and Steven (Amber); one daughter, Aimee (John) Anderson; eight grandchildren, Amanda, Harley, Jessica, Michelle, Brittnie, Ash, Coltan and Erin; and one great-grandson, Mekiyah; and was loved by other family members.

A Celebration of Life was held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass, with Pastor Brian Birk officiating.

A private family burial will be at a later date.

Arrangements are with the Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

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Eva Bernard, 92

Halstad - Eva Mae Bernard, 92, died on Friday, November 5, 2021 at the Halstad Living Center, Halstad.

Eva Mae (Tucker) Bernard was born January 4, 1929 to Umria and Nettie Tucker in Webster County, Iowa. As a child, the family moved to the Chatfield, MN area. Eva graduated from Chatfield High School in 1946. While in high school, she earned several academic awards, served on the high school newspaper, and worked at the Silver Grille.

On January 15, 1947, she married Leonard Bernard at the Chatfield Methodist Church. They made their first home on the Basil Bernard farm near Pleasant Grove. In 1950 Leonard and Eva bought their farm west of Chatfield and spent time in Johnsondale, CA with the Loren and Edna Bernard family, where the men worked in a lumber camp.

Eva was a homemaker and busy farm wife in Chatfield. While living there, she did the books for the Co-op Oil Station, was active in the Methodist Church Ladies group, Christmas Tea and Bazaar, Eastern Star, Homemakers Club, bake sales, Pleasant Grove Riders Saddle Club, and a 4-H leader for the Pleasant Grove Producers 4-H Club. Combined with her years as a leader in the Halma Ideal 4-H Club, she was honored for 30 years of 4-H service. She moved to Karlstad in October 1970 and was active in the Baptist Church, Hospital Guild, and served on the Hospital Board.

After Leonard's death on July 4, 1971 she studied and got her real estate license and continued his business for several years. She also worked and later retired from the Karlstad Nursing Home Activity and Dietary Departments. She had a talent for numbers and did income taxes for other people into her 80s.

She enjoyed going to the cafe for coffee with her

May her memory be blessed.

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Donna Kotaska, 92

Fargo, ND - Donna Kotaska, 92, of Fargo, ND, formerly of Thief River Falls, passed away on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at Edgewood

Vista Assisted Living in Fargo, ND. Donna Marie Foerster was born February 10, 1929 at home in Edie Township, ND near Conway, the daughter of Joseph and Marcella (Coughlin) Foerster. She was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith. She attended grade school at Conway and graduated from Walsh County Agricultural and Training School.

On June 10, 1947 Donna was united in marriage to John B. Kotaska.

She was an active member of St. Bernard's Church, Thief River Falls. Donna liked sewing, crocheting, knitting and cross-stitch. She also enjoyed going camping and fishing with her family. She also liked researching family trees and

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T.H.E. BUS ROUTES & SCHEDULES

Tri-Valley Heartland Express

Please Read! All routes will arrive approximately between 10 and 11 a.m. All Routes Are Now Guaranteed! Please call by 3:00 p.m. the day before to reserve your ride.

All services will continue to be provided for the needs of grocery, pharmacy, etc. transportation.

Pennington, Marshall & Kittson Counties (800) 201-4342 Option 3

Thursday, November 18: No service

Friday, November 19: No service

Monday, November 22: Grand Forks

Tuesday, November 23: Thief River Falls

Wednesday, November 24: No service

Polk, Red Lake and Clearwater Counties (800) 201-3432 Option 3</

Andrew Gildea, 64

Woodbury - Andrew J. Gildea, Esq. passed away suddenly on November 5, 2021 at the age of 64.

Born on April 4, 1957 in Woonsocket, RI to Captain Joseph A. Gildea and Dr. Sheila Murphy Gildea, Andrew was a loving husband, son, brother, uncle, cousin and god-father. He lived a faithful life, devoted to his family and this country. Andrew was a gentleman scholar and patriot to his core. His brilliant mind and quick wit touched everyone he met.

Virtually every Gildea/Skjerven family gathering centered on Andrew's stories and jokes. He had an astonishing, photographic memory and could always be counted on to build obscure details of art, history and literature into a conversation.

Generous with his time and intellect, Andrew opened doors as often as he could for his loved ones, and, when those doors did not open easily, he knocked them down.

During his youth, Andrew and his family crisscrossed the country throughout his father's career as a Naval Officer. Before college, Andrew attended eight different schools and was a leader at each and every one, as evidenced by the fact that he was elected Homecoming King and Student Body President at Peninsula High School in Gig Harbor, Washington, where he also became a National Merit Scholar. He was a multi-season athlete and Captain of Peninsula's varsity water polo, swimming and football teams.

Andrew proudly attended the University of Virginia where he joined the editorial board of the Cavalier Daily. It was there he sharpened his encyclopedic knowledge of sports statistics and history.

After graduating from UVA, Andrew joined the staff of the Republican National Committee, where his passion for politics and democracy took deep root. There he developed a close relationship with Sen. Bob Dole who later asked Andrew to serve as a Special Liaison to his Presidential Campaign.

Several years later, Congressman Arlan Stangeland, who served Minnesota's 7th Congressional District, recruited him away from the RNC. He served as Con-

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Richard "Rick" Johnson, 67

Thief River Falls - Richard "Rick" Dwayne Johnson, 67, died on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at his residence in Thief

River Falls. Rick was born on October 24, 1954 to Marvin and Lillian (Fogleman) Johnson in Richlands, VA. The family moved to Red Lake Falls in 1968 followed by a move to Bemidji a few months later in 1969. In 1974 the family moved to Thief River Falls and Rick entered the military, serving in both the United States Army and Navy.

In 1973, Rick was united in marriage to Joyce Witten in Virginia; to this union was born their son, Brian Johnson, in 1977. While Rick was in the Navy they lived in California. Rick was honorably discharged from the military.

They moved to Thief River Falls in 1978 where he worked for Woodland Construction. In 1982 they moved back to Kingsport, TN where he opened his own business, Three Star Motors, and resided there until 2010

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Walmart was taking applications and offering advice during a jobs fair at Lincoln High School on Monday. Lincoln High School students in grades 9-12 had a unique opportunity to explore job opportunities in Thief River Falls. Many businesses in the community have been struggling to fill open

jobs, so Advance Thief River and the Chamber of Commerce worked with the school to conduct a jobs fair at the school. Walmart employees visiting with students included, from left: Shawn Miller, Alexis Dennis and Catherine Seaverson.

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TIME and Ally Financial honor Thief River Falls dealer

Steven Lillestol Wins national recognition for community service and industry accomplishments

The nomination of Steven Lillestol, dealer principal at Thief River Ford in Thief River Falls, for the 2022 TIME Dealer of the Year award has been announced by TIME.

Lillestol is one of a select group of 47 dealer nominees from across the country who will be honored at the 105th annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Show in Las Vegas on March 11, 2022. The announcement of this year's annual award was made by Viktoria Degtar, global chief revenue officer, TIME, and Doug Timmerman, president of Dealer Financial Services, Ally Financial.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is one of the automobile industry's most prestigious and highly coveted honors. Recipients are among the nation's most successful auto dealers who also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to community service. Lillestol was chosen to represent the

Minnesota Automobile Dealers Association in the national competition – one of only 47 auto dealers nominated for the 53rd annual award from more than 16,000 nationwide.

"I greatly appreciate my employees and everything they do for our customers," nominee Lillestol said. "And when you give of yourself to your community, the rewards are self-evident in the success of your business. I never participate for selfish gain but rather always remain genuine and humble."

Lillestol earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Mankato State University (now Minnesota State University, Mankato) in 1982. His first job out of college was manager of F&I (Finance & Insurance) at Hansen Ford in Grand Forks, N.D. His mentorship with the store's owner, Jim Hansen, would greatly influence the trajectory of his career.

"Settling down with my wife, Keri, and infant son, I felt it was time to get a 'big boy' job and this looked to be a good fit for my college degree," he said. "Jim Hansen liked me immediately and offered the position to me."

And while he was told he would likely burn out after two years, Lillestol persisted, and was moved to Hansen's Chrysler dealership, also in Grand Forks, as general manager in 1991.

"I enjoyed the freedom of running the store and learning more about the whole operation of a dealership, including sales, service, parts, marketing and community relations," he said. He also talked to Hansen about opening his own location and in 2001, he found the right opportunity in Thief River Falls.

"The dealership needed a whole lot of love, but to me, it was a diamond in the rough," Lillestol said. "I just knew it was going to work out. I will always be grateful to my wife, our children and my many mentors that supported and helped me along this path of becoming a first-generation car dealer."

As a new resident of Thief River Falls, Lillestol felt it was important to get involved with the community and his love for his adopted hometown has only grown stronger these last 20 years. He is most proud of his work with the Sanford Thief River Falls Medical Center, for which he was a board member for 10 years, as well as chair for three years.

"We now have dialysis in the facility, a new hospital with adjoining clinic and a licensed psychiatric hospital, the Sanford Thief River Falls Behavioral Health Center," he said.

Lillestol is also an

ambassador and advocate for economic advancement in Thief River Falls and currently serves on the city's Community Development Advisory Board. "We review and make recommendations to the city council for loans for commercial expansion, storefront renovations, energy enhancements and job creation and retention," he said. "One of our most satisfying initiatives was dispensing micro-emergency loans for small businesses during the pandemic, which has helped more than 30 businesses."

A member of Trinity Lutheran Church and the Rotary Club of Thief River Falls, Lillestol also lends his time and talent to the Blandin Community Leadership Program, which works to strengthen communities in rural Minnesota, and the North Country Food Bank in East Grand Forks.

"It has been so rewarding to be a first-generation car dealer," he said. "I was able to buy a dealership, run it successfully, give back to my community and I'm still around 20 years later."

Dealers are nominated by the executives of state and metro dealer associations around the country. A panel of faculty members from the Tauber Institute for Global Operations at the University of Michigan will select one finalist from each of the four NADA regions and one national Dealer of the Year. Three finalists will receive an additional \$5,000 for their favorite charities and the winner will receive an additional \$10,000 to give to charity, donated by Ally.

In its 11th year as exclusive sponsor, Ally also will recognize dealer nominees and their community efforts by contributing \$1,000 to each nominee's 501(c)3 charity of choice. Nominees will also be recognized on AllyDealerHeroes.com, which highlights the philanthropic contributions and achievements of TIME Dealer of the Year nominees.

"In cities and towns across the country, auto dealers make a big economic impact—going the extra mile to strengthen their communities," said Doug Timmerman, president of dealer financial services, Ally. "It's an incredible achievement to be nominated for TIME Dealer of the Year. The program not only recognizes leadership in business and customer service, but also a commitment to giving back and doing it right."

Lillestol was nominated for the TIME Dealer of the Year award by Scott Lambert, president of the Minnesota Automobile Dealers Association. He and his wife, Keri, have three children and five grandchildren.

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TRF online learning option learns

(Continued from Page 1)
 Schantz explained they went into the program at the last minute this fall and really didn't know what to expect. One of the first things they learned was that the rigor of the program was too difficult. The second thing they learned was to appreciate the role of parent support. They've done a lot to help, said Schantz.

Some of the other things they've learned was that laptops were working better than iPads, student success was very much linked to student participation, intake and IEP meetings were necessary to success, and communication was very important.

Schantz said they continue to learn, grow and become better at their craft.

Many said Schantz, believe the best place for students is in the school, but that's not true for all students. Many students and

parents are thankful for the option.

If it weren't for this program, some students may have been lost. One parent attending the meeting Monday spoke up and said that they were looking at signing their children up with another District until they heard of this option. She also agreed that initially the rigor was too difficult, and that if it weren't for the aptly named "success coaches," they might have given up. She thanked Schantz and her team for their hard work.

While the program is more flexible in accepting students at any time during the year, it's not an easy or simple process to enroll or exit.

The intake process requires long conversations so that everyone involved in the decision understands the demands, requirements and options.



Organizers of the Holiday Fair Show in Thief River Falls on Saturday described traffic as very steady. Early estimates indicate that over 1,600 people attended the event. There were over 65 vendors. The Times sponsored this year's event.

MDH offers holiday recommendations

The Minnesota Department of Health is noting that as the country comes up on the end-of-year holidays, it finds itself at a difficult point in the pandemic. Vaccination numbers continue to rise, and the recent authorization of vaccinations for kids ages 5 to 11 is encouraging. On the other hand, the highly contagious Delta variant is driving Minnesota's COVID-19 case numbers to an alarmingly high level. Hospitals remain crowded, and there are still many fellow Minnesotans who do not have vaccine protection.

With that in mind, MDH is encouraging all Minnesotans to think carefully about their holiday plans. It's important to connect with family and friends, and no one wants to miss out on another holiday season. At the same time no one wants to be the one who passes a potentially deadly virus along to loved ones. Minne-

sotans can reduce the risk and still enjoy the season by following the guidance on CDC: Holiday Celebrations.

The recommendations include the following:

- Get vaccinated if eligible. It protects the individual AND it protects those around them – especially those under age 5 who cannot get the vaccine.

- Wear well-fitting masks over nose and mouth if in public indoor settings and if not fully vaccinated, and even if individuals are fully vaccinated if the community is experiencing substantial or high levels of COVID transmission. This is especially important if a member of a household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated.

- Remember that outdoors is safer than indoors.

- Avoid crowded, poorly ventilated spaces.

- If an individual is sick or has symptoms, do not host or attend a gathering.

- Get tested if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have had a close contact with someone who has COVID-19:

Find testing locations in Minnesota

Individuals considering traveling for a holiday or event should visit "CDC: Travel" to help decide what is in the best interest of them and their family.

The CDC still recommends delaying travel until individuals are fully vaccinated, and provides testing recommendations for those who are planning to travel.

Remember masks are mandatory on public transportation, including buses and airplanes.

Individuals gathering with a group of people from multiple households and potentially from different parts of the country, should consider some additional precautions prior to gathering (e.g., lay low before you go, avoid crowded indoor spaces, get tested) to further reduce risk.

County approves purchases

(Continued from Page 1)
 The SWCD and Northland Community and Technical College have partnered to survey 53 outlets in the SWCD. NCTC students have flown drones with lidar over the outlets to compare their appearances over the

Report all unusual activity

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is asking everyone to report unusual activity. On Monday, Nov. 15, the CBP issued the following statement:

"With the winter season in full swing, hunters are hitting the woods along with snowmobilers and skiers. We hope all hunters have a safe hunting season and wish everyone luck on their hunts this year. We also hope that everyone stays safe on their snowmobiles and skies, or whatever outdoor activity you are enjoying this winter."

"Grand Forks Sector shares over 860 miles of international border with Canada. Much of which is prime hunting land that thousands of people enjoy every year. We want to remind everyone who is spending time near the border while engaging in outdoor activities, that if you see something, say something. If you suspect illegal cross border activity, please call 1-800-982-4077, this is a direct line to our dispatch center, they will be able to reach out to the nearest Border Patrol Station and dispatch an agent to your location. If you have an emergency, please dial 911."

"If you see something, say something is so important," said Grand Forks Sector Chief Patrol Agent Anthony S. Good. "The folks who frequently visit the remote border areas for recreation and work know when something is out of place or does not belong. By making that call, you never know what type of criminal activity you could be preventing."

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The next County Board meeting is scheduled Tuesday, Nov. 23 at 5 p.m. at the Justice Center.

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The secret of healthy aging is not as big a secret as one might think

by John Grimaldi
for AMAC

It's not easy growing old. However, if you want to live to a ripe old age, you have to work at it; you have to make a promise to yourself to take care of your mental health as well as your physical health.

"The ability to grow as old as you can begins when you are young and healthy and continues long after you officially become a senior citizen. As we aged, some of us traded in healthy lifestyles for easier, unhealthy routines. But it's never too late to make a commitment to turn things around, even if you already are a senior citizen," said Rebecca Weber, chief executive officer of the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC).

You already know that exercise is an important part of aging well; surely your doctors, your friends and family have told you. But there is nothing to be afraid of. Surely, you can take a daily walk, no matter how far or fast you walk. Some exercise is better than no exercise. The idea is to

keep moving, according to Weber.

The Centers for Disease Control states: "As an older adult, regular physical activity is one of the most important things you can do for your health. It can prevent many of the health problems that seem to come with age. It also helps your muscles grow stronger, so you can keep doing your day-to-day activities without becoming dependent on others."

It's important also to get plenty of sleep. The recommendation of most health experts is that seniors need at least seven hours of undisturbed sleep each and every night. There is convincing medical evidence that exercise and a good night's sleep are both important elements of brain health.

"Experts used to think brain development peaked in late adolescence and it was all downhill from there. They believed if a person lost brain cells due to problems like a head injury, stroke, or substance abuse, nothing could be done to restore memory and brain function. Now, thanks to

discoveries in neuroscience, we know that the brain can grow new cells and form new neural connections. Like our muscles and other body parts, the brain can rebuild itself through repeated use and exercise," said the health experts at Kaiser Permanente.

In fact, according to Kaiser Permanente, sleep is key to preventing memory loss as are activities that focus on mental and physical health.

You should also focus on your "social health," suggested AMAC's Weber. We've had a year and a half of social isolation and there is more to come before we see an end to the COVID pandemic. But it is important that you pay attention to your human need for social interaction.

COVID notwithstanding, Harvard Medical School says: "Research increasingly shows that strong social ties are crucial to your brain health. Socializing can stimulate attention and memory and help to strengthen neural networks. You may just be laughing and talking, but your brain is hard at work. This increase in mental activity pays off over time ... Scientists have found that people with strong social ties are less likely to experience cognitive decline than people who spend most of their time alone. In fact, one large study, which included some 12,000 participants, suggests that when people are lonely, their risk of dementia rises by as much as 40%."

What you eat is also important for your physical and mental health. For example, they don't call fish brain food for nothing. Fish such as salmon, trout, albacore tuna, herring, and sardines are rich in omega-3 fatty acids. "Your brain uses omega-3s to build brain and nerve cells, and these fats are essential for learning and memory," according to the Internet site Healthline.



Dennis Kainz (left) and Ron Winter were among the veterans who carried flags Thursday, Nov. 11 at a Veterans Day program at Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls.

Remember "it's not about me" /Continued

(Continued from Page 1) military uniform, veterans give up many of the freedoms they're agreeing to protect. Those freedoms include freedom of speech, basic privacy and some of their rights to a jury trial, Hickman said.

Veterans, especially those serving in the military for long periods of time, those on overseas deployments and those serving during warfare, miss events that others take for granted. "They miss the little things that all of us get to experience every year — births, birthdays, family picnics, graduations, weddings, college graduations," Hickman said.

Veterans may give up their lives or health in service to this country. Some may struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, alcoholism and/or substance

abuse.

"Veterans are 50% more likely to be homeless," said Hickman. "They are one-and-a-half times more likely to commit suicide. They are substantially more likely to have their marriage end in divorce."

However, people are still signing up to join the U.S. military. For Hickman, it was continuing a family tradition as his dad, brother, and most of his uncles and great uncles served in the military. "I also wanted to test my ability," said Hickman, who added it was a way to pay for college.

There was also another reason for Hickman, his dad and brother to join the military. Hickman suspected other veterans joined for that same reason — an unspoken responsibility that boiled down to the phrase "It's not about me."

"You believe that you need to help maintain peace, so this great American experiment can continue on, right?" said Hickman, an LHS social studies teacher.

That experiment, started about 250 years ago, has been pushed forward by generations. Hickman noted veterans take an oath to protect all Americans because they deserve to continue enjoying the rights granted to them and they believe there is hope for tomorrow no matter how bitter or divided the country seems. They realize that experiment is worth preserving and worth the cost.

With that in mind, Hickman encouraged everyone to realize "it's not about me" and find what they can do to contribute to the greater good for everyone.



Vendors saw a steady flow of shoppers at the Holiday Fair in Thief River Falls on Saturday.



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SCOTT DCAMP

Sports Editor

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Second Section

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Rantanen punches ticket to state swimming meet

Prowlers finish fifth in section meet behind eight section placewinners

Thief River Falls junior Kendal Rantanen finished second in the 100 backstroke to punch her ticket to the 2021 Class A State Swimming and Diving Championships.

Rantanen added a fifth place finish in the 100 butterfly to lead the Prowlers who finished fifth overall in the section meet with eight top-eight individual finishes. "Kendal Rantanen making it to state is such an exciting experience for not just her, but our team," said Thief River Falls Head Coach Danielle Spiten. "She works so hard and is really deserving of this accomplishment. It was a little touch and go there for a while. Kendal got fifth in the fly. She was in second or third going into the last 25 yards but ended up with a bad cramp in her shoulder. She still had to swim the backstroke and the 200 freestyle relay, and we

weren't sure that her shoulder would hold out, and the field was really close going into the backstroke. But, in the end, she had great technique and was able to push through the pain to clinch a spot to state in the back."

Joining Rantanen as section placewinners are Maren Espe, who finished third in the 100 breaststroke and fourth in the 100 freestyle; Brianna Berg, sixth in both the 50 and 100 freestyle; and Ava Budish, seventh in the 50 and eighth in the 100 freestyle.

"Brianna and Ava placing top 8 in the 50 is a sign of so much potential for our team next year," Spiten said. "Both girls are back again next year, and both are just going to continue to get faster. We are hoping to add them to the state roster next year. Both also placed in the 100 freestyle. We are going to have a strong group of

freestyle swimmers next year."

"Maren Espe was right up in there fighting for a spot to state. She tied for third in the breast and got fourth in the 100 free," Spiten added. "Next year, Maren is going to be the athlete to beat in the breaststroke and we can't wait to watch her improve. Again, we added another great 100 freestyle race to our roster on Saturday. We are rethinking relays for next year already and looking to make our free relays really strong."

Also earning top-eight finishes were the 200 medley relay team of Budish, Espe, Rantanen and Berg, who finished fourth; the 200 freestyle relay team of Berg, Espe, Budish and Rantanen that finished a couple seconds away from a state tournament spot in third place; and the 400 freestyle relay team of Vanessa Thibert, Gretta Grzadzielewski, Aniyah Fields and Breanna Lee that swam to a fifth place finish.

Falling short of top-eight but still making it to the second day of sections were Grzadzielewski, 11th in the 200 freestyle; Olivia Schmidt, 14th in the 200 freestyle and 11th in the 500 freestyle; Caitlyn Ellison, 10th in the 200 IM and 10th in the 100 butterfly; Livia

[Continued on page 2]

TRF SPORTS

Thursday, Nov. 18

■ Hockey - LHS Girls vs. Bemidji at REA 7:30 p.m.

■ Swimming - State Meet at U of M Aquatic Center TBD

Friday, Nov. 19

■ Swimming - State Meet at U of M Aquatic Center TBD

Saturday, Nov. 20

■ Swimming - State Meet at U of M Aquatic Center TBD

■ Wrestling - NCTC at Augie Invitational 9 a.m.

Monday, Nov. 22

■ Basketball - NCTC Men at Concordia College JV 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 23

■ Basketball - NCTC Women at M State 5:30 p.m.; NCTC Men at M State 7:30 p.m.

■ Hockey - LHS Girls at Bemidji 7:30 p.m.

[Continued on page 2]



Maren Espe came close to making it two state qualifiers for the Prowlers. Espe swam to a third place tie in the 100 breaststroke and added a fourth place finish in the 100 freestyle during the 2021 Section 8A meet.



Kendal Rantanen, center, will represent the Thief River Falls girls swimming team at the Class A State Swimming and Diving Meet Friday and Saturday at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center. Rantanen finished second in the 100 backstroke to qualify for state. She also placed fifth in the 100 butterfly and was part of two relay teams for the Prowlers. Rantanen is pictured with coaches Danielle Spiten and Tim Cutler. (Photo by Stacy Lee)

Girls hockey falls to Pirates in season opener

Thief River Falls dropped its girls hockey season opener, falling 7-1 to the Crookston Pirates at the Crookston Sports Center Thursday night.

The Pirates outshot the Prowlers 8-1 in the opening period but led just 1-0 on an Aleah Bienek goal at the 12:39 mark of the opening frame.

The Pirates began finding the net more frequently in the second period. Samantha Sanders scored 1:35 into the second period to make it 2-0.

The Prowlers got an unassisted goal from Quinn Kenfield at 2:43 to make it 2-1, but it was all Pirates from there. Crookston scored two more goals in the second period from Grace Fischer at 7:21 and Brekken Tull at

14:33 to take a 4-1.

The Pirates added three more goals from Ashlyn Bailey, Bienek and Reese Swanson in the third period to round out the scoring.

Recording assists for the Pirates were Swanson (2), Tull, Addison Fee (2), Morgan Nelson (2), Rylee Solheim (3) and Bienek.

The Pirates finished with 23 shots on goal, outshooting the Prowlers 23-11.

Bella Berzinski got the start for the Prowlers and finished with 16 saves while taking the loss.

Kailee Magsam finished with 10 saves in the win for the Pirates.

The Prowlers were back in action Tuesday night, hosting Detroit Lakes for their home opener.

Scoring

	1	2	3	T
Thief River Falls	0	1	0	1
Crookston	1	3	3	7

First period - Crookston, Aleah Bienek (Reese Swanson, Brekken Tull) 12:39.

Second period - Crookston, Samantha Sanders (Addison Fee, Morgan Nelson) 1:35; TRF, Quinn Kenfield 2:43; Crookston, Grace Fischer (Rylee Solheim) 7:21; Crookston, Brekken Tull (Rylee Solheim, Aleah Bienek) 14:33.

Third period - Crookston, Ashlyn Bailey (Morgan Nelson) 2:28; Crookston, Aleah Bienek (Reese Swanson, Rylee Solheim) 3:39; Crookston, Reese Swanson (power play) (Addison Fee) 11:01.

Shots - TRF 1-7-3 - 11; Crookston 8-8-7 - 23.

Power plays - TRF 0/1; Crookston 1/2.

Penalties - TRF 2 (4 minutes); Crookston 1 (2 minutes).

Goalie saves - TRF, Bella Berzinski 16; Crookston Kailee Magsam 10.

A fitting farewell

by Scott DCamp
 Sports Editor

Former Thief River Falls assistant wrestling coach and Lincoln High School art instructor Andrew Youngblom provided a fitting farewell for the Thief River Falls wrestling program in the form of a mural that will be displayed within the Thief River Falls wrestling room.

Youngblom arrived in Thief River Falls in the fall of 2017 and it was known from day one that his time in town would be limited. His wife, Kalli, is an executive team leader with Target and the position requires her to relocate periodically. In 2017, Andrew and Kalli relocated to Grand Forks, N.D., after she was assigned to the Grand Forks Target store.

Youngblom coached for two years in Webster, S.D., before moving to Grand Forks. He applied for several jobs in the Grand Forks area. "I got offered multiple jobs - I was lucky - and I chose to drive a little farther and have a little farther commute to be at Thief River and I'm glad I did," Youngblom said.

"Wrestling was a big part of it," Youngblom added. "The interview went really well

and it just seemed like a place that I really wanted to be."

A native of Mora and son of Mora Head Coach Tom Youngblom, Youngblom was

a state champion wrestler for Mora during his senior year in 2010. He continued his wrestling career at Division I South Dakota State.

During Youngblom's four

years in Thief River Falls, the Prowler wrestling program reached the section championship match twice, taking second in Section 8AA in both 2020 and 2021. The

Prowlers also qualified 22 individuals for state, with seven state place winners including a state championship win by Brady Kasprick during Youngblom's time with

the program.

During the 2019-20 season, Youngblom began taking photos while coaching in the corner. Most of the photos in

[Continued on page 2]



Former Lincoln High School art instructor and assistant wrestling coach Andrew Youngblom poses next to a mural that he recently completed for the Prowler wrestling program. Youngblom coached wrestling in Thief River Falls from 2017-2021.

Northland goes 1-1 at Minnesota West Triangular



Northland heavyweight Dylan Valencia uses a front headlock to control Ridgewater's Johan Rodvik. Valencia pinned Rodvik in 2:58.

A fitting farewell/Continued

[Continued from page 1] the mural were taken by Youngblom, with the exception of one from Times Sports Editor Scott DCamp, using a 50-millimeter lens on a mirrorless digital camera.

"I just started taking photos, I think it was only two years ago," Youngblom said. "I started bringing my camera out while I was coaching and just taking photos down in the corner. I collaged all of those into that composition."

The mural is three feet tall and 15 feet wide. It uses three separate five-foot aluminum panels.

"It started off by just going through photos that I had taken," Youngblom said.

"I arranged them in Photoshop and came up with a composition that I was happy with and then I went to paint."

Youngblom can't say for certain how long the project took to complete.

"I didn't really get a long stretch to work on it because I was moving and we had a baby," Youngblom said. "I worked on it for an hour or two hours at a time. It took months but it wasn't like it was 40-hour weeks."

Youngblom is now teaching in the northern Twin Cities suburb of Lino Lakes, but he is not currently coaching anywhere.

"I'm looking around and probably will be helping out

a bit, but kind of taking the winter off this year," Youngblom said.

Youngblom returned to Thief River Falls on Sunday to deliver the mural and say goodbye to coaches and wrestlers that he worked with over the previous four years. He also ran a fall pre-season training session for the Frontier Wrestling Club.

"I'm going to miss it a lot," Youngblom said. "I didn't really want to leave in the first place but I was starting to do this and it felt like this was a bit of closure to leave an enjoyable chapter."

Youngblom is now teaching in the northern Twin Cities suburb of Lino Lakes, but he is not currently coaching anywhere.

"I'm looking around and probably will be helping out

90-year-old hunter takes down eight-point buck

George Erickson, 90, Viking, shot an eight-point buck Thursday, Nov. 11 on land that he has hunted for the past 75 years.

The Erickson family has been hunting the land for nearly 100 years. Hunting began in the family with George's stepfather Egbert Malberg in 1925.

When Egbert married George's mother Clarissa Erickson in 1943, they purchased property in Comstock Township, roughly

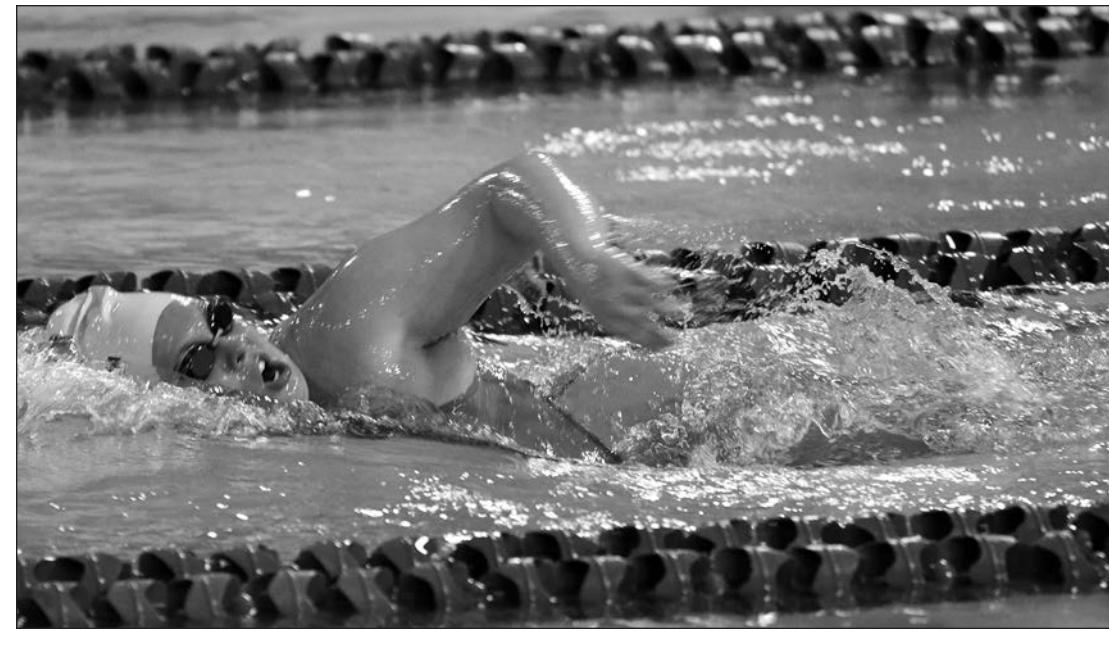
ly 10 miles west of Viking. The first organized hunt was in 1943, with the Malberg, Erickson, and Swanson families. (The Swansons were Clarissa's half siblings).

George was 13, and although he wasn't old enough to buy a license, he walked along in the hunt.

He even purchased a new buck knife from a sporting magazine for \$3.50 for the occasion. He still uses the knife today.

In 1945, George was able to purchase his first hunting license and join in the hunt. This same property west of Viking is still owned by the Erickson family and has been continually hunted since 1943 as a family and by Egbert and neighbors before that.

At 90, George has hunted every year with the exception of 1955 and 1961, when he and his wife Emma and kids lived in Milwaukee. George will be 91 on Jan. 23.



Two Thief River Falls swimmers competed for the Prowlers for the last time at the Section 8A meet Friday and Saturday. Pictured in the top photo, senior Breanna Lee competes in the 200 IM preliminaries on Friday. Pictured in the bottom photo is senior Jaymin Klosterman also competing in the 200 IM preliminaries. (Photos by Stacy Lee)

The Northland Community & Technical College wrestling team went 1-1 at the Minnesota West Triangular Thursday, Nov. 11.

It was the first dual meet action of the season for the Pioneers, who fell 27-24 to the Ridgewater Warriors in the night's opening dual before bouncing back with a 30-18 win over host Minnesota West.

Freshman Jake Davis led the Pioneers with a pair of wins by fall on the night to improve to 5-1 on the season. Davis pinned Lane Lemble of Ridgewater in the opening dual and he added a first period win by fall over Kyler Gremm of Minnesota West in the second dual.

Heavyweight Dylan Valencia made his debut

with a win by fall over Ridgewater's Johan Rodvik and he improved to 2-0 with a win by forfeit against Minnesota West. Also going 2-0 on the day was Justin Doby, who accepted forfeits in both duals.

Freshman Mason Iverson went 2-1 on the day, claiming a win by forfeit against Ridgewater in the dual meet before adding a 15-4 win over Ridgewater's Richard Jones in an extra match. Iverson's lone loss was a 6-0 overtime setback against Minnesota West's Ethan Kovars.

Ridgewater 27, Northland 24
125: Double Forfeit 133: Ayden Rienhardt (MWC&) over Isaiah Arredondo (NC&T) (Dec 6-3) 141: Jacob Vogel (MWC&) over (NC&T) (For) 149: Jake Davis (NC&T) over Kyler Gremm (MWC&) (Fall 0:39) 157: Brandon Zuniga (NC&T) over Ryan Fierro (MWC&) (Fall 2:55) 165: Damon Ashworth (MWC&) over Gabe Ryappy (NC&T) (Fall 1:50) 174: Justin Doby (NC&T) over (MWC&) (For) 184: Anthony Widmer (NC&T) over (MWC& (For) 197: Ethan Kovars (MWC&) over Mason Iverson (NC&T) (SV-1 6-0) 285: Dylan Valencia (NC&T) over (MWC&) (For)

165: Justin Doby (NC&T) over (RICO) (For) 174: Fischer Drury (RICO) over Gabe Ryappy (NC&T) (Fall 4:20) 184: Maxwell Whitney (RICO) over Anthony Widmer (NC&T) (Fall 0:25) 197: Mason Iverson (NC&T) over (RICO) (For) 285: Dylan Valencia (NC&T) over (RICO) (Fall 2:55)

149: Extra: Timothy Thurman (NC&T) over Sawyer Varpness (Ridgewater College) (Fall 2:47); 197 Extra: Mason Iverson (NC&T) over Richard Jones (RICO) (MD 15-4).

Northland 30, Minnesota West 18
125: Double Forfeit 133: Ayden Rienhardt (MWC&) over Isaiah Arredondo (NC&T) (Dec 6-3) 141: Jacob Vogel (MWC&) over (NC&T) (For) 149: Jake Davis (NC&T) over Kyler Gremm (MWC&) (Fall 0:39) 157: Brandon Zuniga (NC&T) over Ryan Fierro (MWC&) (Fall 2:55) 165: Damon Ashworth (MWC&) over Gabe Ryappy (NC&T) (Fall 1:50) 174: Justin Doby (NC&T) over (MWC&) (For) 184: Anthony Widmer (NC&T) over (MWC& (For) 197: Ethan Kovars (MWC&) over Mason Iverson (NC&T) (SV-1 6-0) 285: Dylan Valencia (NC&T) over (MWC&) (For)

Norskies are swept by GM Ice Dogs

The Thief River Falls Norskies are back in action after not playing during the month of October. The Norskies opened their November slate with a trip to Spooner, Wis., the weekend of Nov. 5-6 and they were swept by the Wisconsin Lumberjacks, falling 3-1 in game one (Nov. 5) and 5-3 in game two (Nov. 6).

On Saturday, the Norskies played their first home series since the Sept. 17-18 weekend, but they were unable to halt their losing streak. The streak now sits at four games after the Dryden GM Ice Dogs swept the Norskies, claiming game one by a 7-2 score on Saturday night, and 4-2 on Sunday afternoon.

Scoring

	1	2	3	T	
Dryden	3	4	0	7	
Thief River Falls	0	0	2	2	
First period	1	Dryden, Ware 4 (Jacques, Frattinger), 4:43 (PP), 2, Dryden, Henry 4 (Bull, Jacques), 12:22, 3, Dryden, Earl 4 (Benfield), 18:04. Penalties-Ware Dry (tripping), 1:13; Kimble Dry (roughing), 3:55; Van Gurp Trf (unsportsmanlike con-			
Second period	-	Dryden, Frattinger 4 (Ware, Bardos), 1:16, 5, Dryden, Lee 4 (Aair), 1:56, 6, Dryden, Frattinger 5 (Benfield), 6:34, 7, Dryden, Henry 5 (Ware), 10:29. Penalties-Van Gurp Trf (elbowing), 12:20; Ware Dry (tripping), 13:17.			
Third period	-	Thief River Falls, Mitchell 1 2:22 (PP), 9, Thief River Falls, Frost 1 (Thompson, Dickie), 2:50 (PP). Penalties-Earl Dry (holding), 0:26; Jacques Dry (cross checking), 2:22; Takats Dry (tripping), 5:22; Bardos Dry (bench minor), 19:38.			
Fourth period	-	Thief River Falls, Dryden 14-22-8-44. Thief River Falls 2-7-9-18. Power plays - -Dryden 1/3; Thief River Falls 2/6.			
Shots	-	Dryden 14-22-8-44. Thief River Falls, Lone 2-3-0-0 (19 shots-14 saves); Mason 0-2-0-0 (25 shots-23 saves).			

Scoring

	1	2	3	T
Dryden	1	1	2	4
Thief River Falls	0	2	0	2
First period	-	Dryden, Ware 4 (Jacques, Frattinger), 4:43 (PP), 2, Dryden, Henry 4 (Bull, Jacques), 12:22, 3, Dryden, Earl 4 (Benfield), 18:04. Penalties-Ware Dry (tripping), 1:13; Kimble Dry (roughing), 3:55; Van Gurp Trf (unsportsmanlike con-		
Second period	-	Thief River Falls, Dickie 1 3:09 (PS), 3, Dryden, Koivisto 8 (Bardos, Ware), 7:28, 4, Thief River Falls, Thompson 3		

duct), 3:55; Dickie Trf (slashing), 4:30; Schindel Dry (fighting, game misconduct (fighting)), 13:54; Martin Trf (fighting, game misconduct (fighting)), 13:54; Thompson Trf (tripping), 15:43.

Second period - -4, Dryden, Frattinger 4 (Ware, Bardos), 1:16, 5, Dryden, Lee 4 (Aair), 1:56, 6, Dryden, Frattinger 5 (Benfield), 6:34, 7, Dryden, Henry 5 (Ware), 10:29. Penalties-Van Gurp Trf (elbowing), 12:20; Ware Dry (tripping), 13:17.

Third period - -8, Thief River Falls, Mitchell 1 2:22 (PP), 9, Thief River Falls, Frost 1 (Thompson, Dickie), 2:50 (PP). Penalties-Earl Dry (holding), 0:26; Jacques Dry (cross checking), 2:22; Takats Dry (tripping), 5:22; Bardos Dry (bench minor), 19:38.

Fourth period - -1, Dryden, Ware 5 (Bardos, Frattinger), 19:10. Penalties-No Penalties

Second period - -2, Thief River Falls, Dickie 1 3:09 (PS), 3, Dryden, Koivisto 8 (Bardos, Ware), 7:28, 4, Thief River Falls, Thompson 3 (Oppenrude), 15:23 (PP). Penalties-Martin Trf (slashing), 4:46; Benfield Dry (tripping), 8:14; Takats Dry (cross checking), 10:43; Takats Dry (slashing), 13:44; Frattinger Dry (cross checking), 17:07; Muswagon Dry (slashing), 20:00.

Third period - -5, Dryden, Takats 6 (Kimble, Benfield), 16:43, 6, Dryden, Takats 7 (Frattinger), 18:31 (SH EN). Penalties-Ware Dry (interference), 1:35; Mitchell Trf (high sticking), 6:19; Koivisto Dry (head contact - major, game misconduct (head contact)), 18:25.

Shots - Dryden 19-12-14-45. Thief River Falls 13-15-6-34.

Power plays - -Dryden 0/2; Thief River Falls 1/6.

Goalie saves - -Dryden, Belley 3-6-10 (34 shots-32 saves). Thief River Falls, Mason 0-2-0-0 (44 shots-41 saves).

YOUTH HOCKEY

Bantam B

■ Saturday, Nov. 13 - TRF 12, Crookston 6. TRF goals - Carl Sandahl (2), Ryan Flaagan, Spencer Hempel, Bodhi Mossestad, Zeb Hermelech (2), Chase Hansens, Jace Maslowski, Kaleb Mehrkens, Cole Johnson, Conner Cleven; TRF assists - Chase Hansons (2), Bodhi Mossestad, Jace Maslowski, Alex Hanson; TRF goalie saves - Carson Wappula 21.



George Erickson, 90, Viking, shot this eight-point buck Thursday, Nov. 11 on hunting land located 10 miles west of Viking. The Erickson family has been hunting the land for nearly 100 years. (Submitted photo)

Rantanen punches ticket to state swimming meet/Continued

[Continued from page 1] Harbott 15th in the 100 butterfly and 15th in the 100 breaststroke; and Klosterman, 11th in the 100 backstroke.

"This section meet was one of the most successful ones we have had in a long time," Spiten said. "For the first time since I have been coaching, we had an athlete make it to finals in every event. That is a huge accomplishment. The girls left the meet energized for next season, and already asking what the workouts are going to be like next year."

Park Rapids won the team title, outscoring runner-up and section meet host Detroit Lakes 483.5-407.

Section 8A Finals

■ Team Scores: 1. Park Rapids 483.5; 2. Detroit Lakes 407; 3. Fergus Falls 331; 4. Perham/New York Mills 256; 5. Thief River Falls 239.5; 6. Fosston/Bagley 127; 7. Warroad/Roseau/Greenbush-Middle River 121; 8. Crookston 78.

■ 200 Medley Relay - 1. Detroit Lakes 1:58.91; 2. Fergus Falls 1:59.11; 4. Thief River Falls 2:02.75;

■ 200 Freestyle relay - 1. Park Rapids 3:49.44; 2. Detroit Lakes 3:54.38; 5. Thief River Falls 4:16.67.

Section 8A

■ Backstroke - 1. Addison Lauwagie, Park Rapids, 1:04.20; 2. Taylor Ziemke, New York Mills, 25.28; 2. Addison Lauwagie, Park Rapids, 25.66; 6. Brianna Berg 27.00; 7. Ava Lauwagie, Park Rapids, 56.91; 4. Maren Espes, 59.77; 8. Ava Berg 59.77; 10. Caitlyn Ellison 1:15.56; 15. Livia Van Gurp Trf (elbowing), 12:23.

■ 100 Freestyle - 1. Emma Vrieze, Park Rapids, 56.43; 2. Taylor Ziemke, Perham/New York Mills, 56.91; 4. Maren Espes 58.81; 6. Brianna Berg 59.77; 8. Ava Berg 59.77; 10. Caitlyn Ellison 1:00.95.

■ 100 Freestyle - 1. Faith Hamm, Detroit Lakes, 1:03.44; 2. Lexi Gerdens, Detroit Lakes, 1:03.44; 3. Olivia Grzadzielewski, Thief River Falls, 1:05.71; 11. Jaymin Klosterman 1:13.13.

■ 100 Breaststroke - 1. Madi Gerdes, Detroit Lakes, 1:08.43; 2. Lexi Gerdens, Detroit Lakes, 1:10.35; 3. Maren Espes 1:15.42; 15. Livia Van Gurp Trf (elbowing), 12:23.

■ 400 Freestyle relay - 1. Park Rapids, 1:43.72; 2. Fergus Falls 1:44.42; 3. Thief River Falls 1:46.67.

■ 100 Backstroke - 1. Addison Lauwagie, Park Rapids, 1:04.20; 2. Kendal Rantanen, Thief River Falls, 1:05.71; 11. Jaymin Klosterman 1:13.13.

2020-21 Thief River Falls

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT



Pictured from left to right are members of the Thief River Falls varsity girls tennis team: front row - Bell Hamre, Avery Skaar, Ingrid Anderson, Braylee Wienen; second row - Emma Christianson, Janae Johnson, Abigail Flaagan; third row -

Stephanie Dagg, Paige Weets, Jacey Novak, Dani Niebuhr, Katheryn Melby, Brooklyn Broadwell and Alaina Lunseter; back row - Co-Head Coach Shawna Spears. (Not pictured is Co-Head Coach Michael Magnusson.)

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Breakfast

Monday: Kix, whole wheat toast, apple juice
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 Wednesday: Oatmeal, whole wheat toast, orange juice
 Thursday: Closed for Thanksgiving
 Friday: Closed

Lunch

Monday: Chicken noodle soup, crackers, bologna sandwich, Mandarin oranges
 Tuesday: Whole wheat cheese pizza, corn, peaches
 Wednesday: Macaroni and cheese with ham, green beans, bread and butter, pears
 Thursday: Closed for Thanksgiving
 Friday: Closed

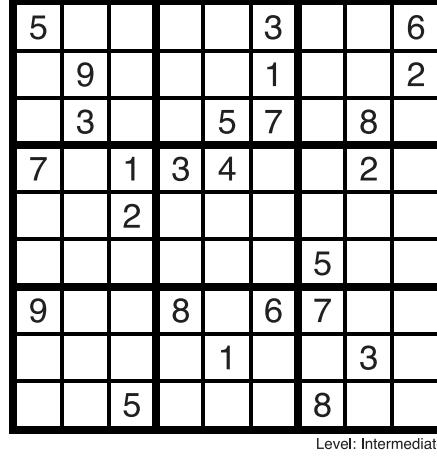


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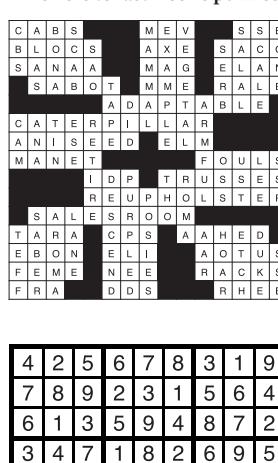
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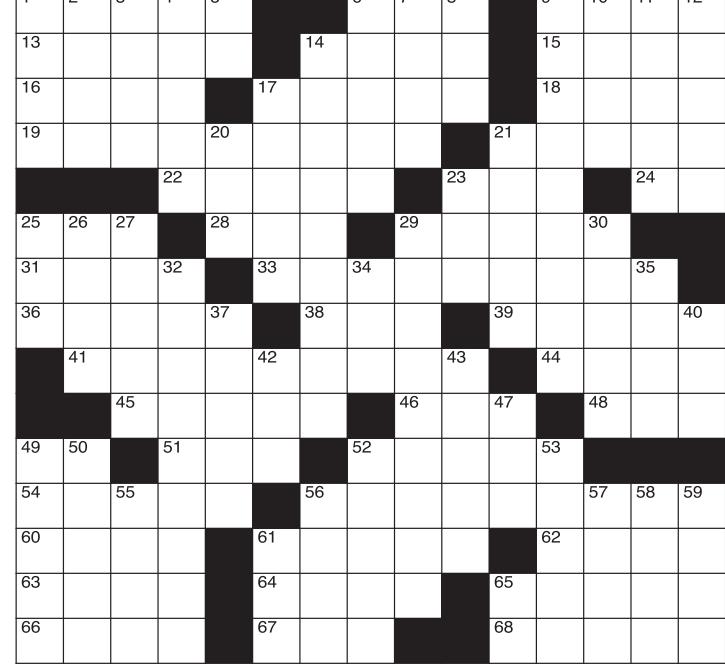
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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



Level: Intermediate



CLUES ACROSS

1. German philosopher
6. A type of stock trading (abbr.)
9. Cincinnati ballplayers
13. Deerlike water buffaloes
14. Island
15. Jewish calendar month
16. Round Dutch cheese
17. Unstressed syllable of a metrical foot
18. A restaurant needs one
19. Decent behaviors
21. Groans
22. Works hard
23. Upset
24. A sound made in speech
25. One point east of due south
28. Boxing's GOAT
29. Whittles
31. Tailless amphibian
33. Surrounded
36. Doesn't stay still
38. Copycat
39. Four-door car
41. Morally correct behavior
44. Something that is owed
45. Pasta needs it
46. Ant-Man's last name
48. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
49. Small period of time (abbr.)
51. Woman (French)
52. On or around
54. Fencing swords
56. Fonts
60. A command in the name of the court
61. Sprays with an irritant
62. Georgetown athlete
63. Dry or withered
64. Sign of injury
65. Tracts of land (abbr.)
66. 365 days
67. Physique
68. Icelandic poems

CLUES DOWN

1. Bodily substance
2. Internal
3. Provoke or annoy
4. Type of lounge chair
5. Losses
6. Makes less severe
7. Identifies a thing close at hand
8. Group of blood disorders (abbr.)
9. Rebuilt
10. Ancient Greek City
11. American investigative journalist
12. Partially melted snow
14. Take shape
17. Mexican beverage
20. Patti Hearst's captors
21. Jacobs and Summers are two
23. Disfigure
25. Scientists' tool (abbr.)
26. Ill-mannered person
27. Overhang
29. Famed rat catcher
30. Passover feast and ceremony
32. Equal to 10 meters
34. Central processing unit
35. Chinese native religion
37. Unfermented juices
40. "To the __ degree"
42. Frozen water
43. Medieval circuit courts
47. 1,000 cubic feet (abbr.)
49. Gossipy
50. Shopping is one type
52. Palmlike plant
53. Partner to "oozed"
55. Welsh name meaning "snow"
56. Popular Mexican dish
57. It helps power devices
58. Reddish-brown wildcat
59. Impertinence
61. Legal financial term (abbr.)
65. Atomic #52

MENUS

School Lunch - Week of November 22-26

Challenger Elementary School Thief River Falls

Weekly menus are posted on social media. See school website for daily updates.

Breakfast

Daily cereal options are available. Milk and juice available every day. Fruit options change daily.

Menu unavailable.

Lunch

Milk choices available daily. Fruit options change daily.

Monday: BBQ rib patty on a bun, seasoned steak fries

Tuesday: Taco in a bag: taco meat, shredded cheese, taco fixings, salsa

Wednesday: Chicken tenders, country gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, biscuit

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Franklin Middle School Thief River Falls

Weekly menus are posted on social media. See school website for daily updates.

Breakfast

Daily cereal options are available. Milk and juice available every day.

Menu unavailable.

Lunch

Pizza options: Big Daddy Primo pizza, 5" round pizza, French bread pizza, cheesy pull-aparts, pepperoni and cheese Bosco stick, stuffed crust pepperoni.

Other entree options: Uncrustable, Italian sub sandwich, turkey, ham and cheese sub sandwich, chicken wrap.

Salad bar fruit options: Gala apple, kiwi, diced pears, diced peaches, bananas.

Salad bar veggie options: Spinach salad, romaine lettuce, cucumbers, Carrot sticks, fresh cauliflower, green pepper sticks, edamame

Monday: BBQ rib patty on a hoagie bun, diced onions, sliced pickles, EverCrisp fries

Tuesday: Taco bowl: taco meat or chicken fajita strips, shredded cheese, roasted corn and black beans

Wednesday: Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, country gravy, corn, biscuit

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Lincoln High School Thief River Falls

Weekly menus are posted on social media. See school website for daily updates.

Lunch

Grill Line changes daily: Hamburger patty on a bun, chicken patty on a bun.

Monday: BBQ rib patty on a bun, seasoned steak fries

Tuesday: Super nachos: taco meat, brown rice, nacho cheese,

Challenger Elementary School

black bean fiesta
 Wednesday: Chicken tenders, country gravy, mashed potatoes, garden peas, biscuit

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Goodridge Schools Goodridge

All breakfasts are served with 1%, skim milk and juice. Fruit bar offered daily. All lunches are served with 1%, skim and chocolate skim milk. Salad bar offered daily. Menus is subject to change.

Breakfast

Menu unavailable.

Lunch

Menu unavailable.

Marshall County Central School Newfolden

All breakfasts and lunches served with juice, low fat/fat-free milk and fruit. All bread products served are whole grains. An alternative of cereal is available every breakfast.

Breakfast

Monday: Toast, cereal
 Tuesday: Breakfast pizza, peaches

Wednesday: PopTart, granola bar, yogurt, applesauce

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Lunch

Monday: Chicken strips, fries, pineapple, cookie

Tuesday: Tater tot hotdish, corn, dinner roll, grapes

Wednesday: Chicken fajita, tortilla, refried beans, fresh peppers, mixed fruit

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Viking Elementary School

All breakfasts and lunches served with juice, low fat/fat free milk, and fruit. All bread products served are whole grains. An alternative of cereal is available at every breakfast.

Menu is subject to change.

Breakfast

Monday: Cereal, toast

Tuesday: Scones

Wednesday: Cereal, toast

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Lunch

Monday: Pizza, corn

Tuesday: Pancakes, sausage

Wednesday: Chicken patty, fresh veggies

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Red Lake County Central Elementary School Plummer

Milk and fruit are served with all meals. Bread, cereal and juice are served with breakfast.

the opening prayers, and

Sharron J. read the Children's Prayer. Secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved. General Orders and committee reports were read. The readmittance of a previous Auxiliary member was approved.

President Jan R. opened the meeting, and one officer was absent. Renee G. read

the opening prayers, and

Sharron J. read the Children's Prayer. Secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved. General Orders and committee reports were read. The readmittance of a previous Auxiliary member was approved.

A member won life membership at the member dinner in October. The blood

drive sponsored by the Auxiliary was successful. The charter was draped for the passing of a member in October. A Veterans Day program was held at Lincoln High School on Nov. 11. An entry in the Patriot Pen Contest will be passed on to District for further competition. The attendance drawing was won by Candace N. and the door prize by Dee W.

Breakfast

Monday: Scrambled eggs with sausage

Tuesday: Toast with PB&J

Wednesday: Cinnamon roll

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Lunch

Monday: Hamburger on a bun, cheese, pickles

Tuesday: Nachos, toppings

Wednesday: Ham and cheese on a bun, chips

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Tuesday: Pumpkin or banana bread, yogurt or Greek yogurt

Wednesday: Pancake wrap

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Lunch

Monday: Chicken strips, curly fries, broccoli

Tuesday: Hot dog on a bun, baked beans, baked chips

Wednesday: Meatballs, mashed potatoes with gravy, dinner roll, carrots

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

St. Bernard's Thief River Falls

Milk and fruit are served with all meals. Bread, cereal and juice are served with breakfast.

Breakfast

Monday: Waffles

Tuesday: Cereal choice, toast

Wednesday: Cereal choice, toast

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

Lunch

Monday: Hot dogs, baked beans, celery/carrot sticks, applesauce

Tuesday: Spaghetti, romaine lettuce/tomatoes, garlic bread, oranges

Wednesday: Diced chicken gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, biscuits, mixed fruit sauce

Thursday: No school

Friday: No school

St. John Lutheran School Thief River Falls

Milk & fruit are served with all meals.

Lunch

Monday: Cereal, toast with PB&J

Senior Meals

Meals on Wheels Thief River Falls



Representatives of Oakland Park Communities visited with students at Lincoln High School on Monday. High school students in grades 9-12 in Thief River Falls had a unique opportunity to explore job opportunities in Thief River Falls. Many businesses in the community have been struggling to fill open jobs, so Advance Thief River and the Chamber of Commerce worked with the school to conduct a jobs fair at the school. A total of 15 local businesses participated in the event.

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Web: www.almaflc.org

Sunday sermons recorded on www.facebook.com/almaflc.

In case of a need, call Pastor Dennis Gray at 218-874-2101.

Sunday, November 21: 9:30 a.m. - Worship; 10:45 a.m. - Coffee fellowship followed by Sunday school and adult Bible Study and discussion

Tuesday, November 23: Thanksgiving Service at 7 p.m.

ABUNDANT LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

LeRoy Flickinger, Pastor
1602 Pennington Ave.,
P.O. Box 522, Thief River Falls
Phone: (218) 681-2300
Web: abundantlifefrc.com

Sundays: Service at 9:30 a.m.; Coffee & Fellowship at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

BETHLEHEM AND NAZARETH LUTHERAN PARISH - ELCA

202 Marshall Avenue, Holt Box 39, Newfonden
Bethlehem Office: (218) 874-7115
Nazareth Office: (218) 449-3856
Office Hours: Bethlehem - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Wednesdays; Nazareth 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays.

web: www.bethlehem-nazareth.org
www.facebook.com/BethlehemNazareth-Lutheran-Churches-19423180617551
YouTube: Bethlehem and Nazareth Lutheran Church

Wednesday, November 17: Bible Study - Bethlehem at 10:30 a.m.; Nazareth Council at 7 p.m.

Sunday, November 21: 9 a.m. service at Bethlehem; 11 a.m. service at Nazareth; Sunday School 9:45 a.m. at Nazareth; Sunday School 10 a.m. at Bethlehem; Confirmation at Nazareth 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 23: Bethlehem Basement Angels meet at 9 a.m.; Thanksgiving Service at 7 p.m. at Nazareth

BLACK RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Frank Ehling, Pastor
Sheila Michaels, Pastor
15952 110th Street SW, Red Lake Falls

Sundays: Worship at 8:30 a.m.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Frank Ehling, Pastor
Sheila Michaels, Pastor
PO Box 8
405 Water Street, St. Hilare
Phone: (218) 964-5750

Sundays: Worship at 10:30 a.m. under current precautions.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF BLESSED SACRAMENT, ST. EDWARD, ST. JOSEPH

Father George Noel, Pastor
Phone: (218) 289-1735
Email: gnoel@gmail.com

Blessed Sacrament: Mass on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m., Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sundays at 8 a.m. and live streamed.

St. Joseph's: Mass on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m., Sunday Mass at 9:45 a.m.

St. Edward's: Mass on Fridays at 5:30 p.m., Sunday Mass at 11:30 a.m.

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH MT. OLIVE, NAZARETH, OAK PARK, ST. PETRI

Jeff Merseth, Pastor
Rt. 1, Box 156C, Oklee
Phone: (218) 796-5130
<http://clparish.com>

Services and sermons can be found at: www.facebook.com/clearwaterlutheranparish

Wednesday, November 17: Wednesday School from 5-7 p.m.; Ladies Aid 7 p.m.

Saturday, November 20: Mt. Olive Worship with Communion at 9 a.m.

Sunday, November 21: St. Petri: Worship at 8 a.m., Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.; Nazareth: Worship at 9:45 a.m., Sunday School at 8:30 a.m.; Oak Park: Worship with Communion at 11 a.m., Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.; Confirmation Questioning

COMMUNITY CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

Pastors: Curtis Jacobson, Tom and Jennifer Ramsey
Highway 1 East, Thief River Falls
Phone: (218) 681-2285

Saturdays: Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30 a.m.

Sundays: Worship at 10 a.m.; Sunday School at 10 a.m.

Fellowship dinner 2nd Sunday of each month.

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

Nathan Satchwill, Pastor
PO Box 816, Thief River Falls
using the facilities of

Faith Lutheran Brethren Church at 601 Dewey Avenue N, Thief River Falls
Phone: (218) 689-2937
www.cornerstonetcfr.org

Saturdays: Sunday school/Bible study at 3 p.m., meeting at 4 p.m.

EAGLE'S VIEW CHURCH, OUTREACH CENTER

Roger Schmitz, Pastor
111 Fourth Street East, Thief River Falls
Phone: (218) 686-5962

Sundays: Worship service at 10 a.m.

EPHANY STATION

Matty Tows, Lead Pastor
Mary Sieckert, Interim Worship Leader
Pete Lee, Discipleship Pastor
403 Main Avenue North, Thief River Falls

[Web: www.ephanystation.com](http://www.ephanystation.com)

Wednesdays: Prayer works at 6:30 a.m.

Sundays: Worship at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Evening at 6 p.m.

Mondays: Prayer works at 6:30 a.m.

Tuesdays: Celebrate recovery from 6 to 8 p.m.

EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Bryan Dickson, Interim Pastor
1425 Third Street East, Thief River Falls
Phone: (218) 681-4449

[Web: www.tfcovchurch.org](http://www.tfcovchurch.org)

Sundays: Worship at 9:30 a.m.

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

Lead Pastor Kevin MacLean,
Associate Pastor Kent Hudson
211 Arnold Ave. N., Thief River Falls
Phone: (218) 681-3855

[Web: www.tfcfc.org](http://www.tfcfc.org)

Sundays: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

FAITH LUTHERAN BRETHREN CHURCH

Tim Carlson, Interim Lay Pastor
601 Dewey Ave. N., Thief River Falls

Sundays: Worship at 10:30 a.m.

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Ollie Urdahl, Pastor
157 West Iowa Ave., Newfonden

[P.O. Box 185, Newfonden](http://www.tfcovchurch.org)

Phone: (218) 684-6611

Sundays: Worship at 9:30 a.m., Sunday school at 10:30 a.m.

OAK RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thief River Falls

Phone: (218) 681-1824

Sundays: Worship at 9 a.m.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Highway 1, 7 miles east of Goodridge

[Phone:](http://www.tfcovchurch.org) (218) 681-4643

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To request sermon manuscripts to be mailed to you, call 681-4643, email oursaviourfaclf@mncable.net, or send a letter to P.O. Box 269 in Thief River Falls.

Tuesdays: Women's Bible study at 9 a.m.

REINER LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH - AFLC

Alex Amiot, Pastor

2075 Hwy. 59 SE, Thief River Falls

Phone: (218) 681-4643

Wednesdays: Confirmation at 5:30 p.m., FLY at 6:30 p.m., adult Bible study at 7 p.m.

Sundays: KTRF Radio broadcast at 8 a.m., Worship at 9:30 a.m., Sunday school at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesdays: Women's Bible study at 9 a.m.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Highway 1, 7 miles east of Goodridge

[Phone:](http://www.tfcovchurch.org) (218) 681-4643

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DAVID HILL
Editor
e-mail: dhill@trftimes.com

Editorial opinion published under this heading is intended to stimulate thinking and discussion among our readers. Unless specified otherwise, the editorials are written by Editor Dave Hill and do not represent opinion of other staff members. Opinions in items from other publications may not coincide with the editor's own views but are offered for their general interest.

It's happy Thanks-Christmas?

Next time you're out and about and see a friend or acquaintance, you might be tempted to take a deep breath and say, Happy-Thanksgiving-Merry-Christmas all in a jumble or Merry-Thanksgiving-Christmas or some other combination. It seems that one minute after Halloween we've skipped Thanksgiving and are preparing for Christmas. Maybe we could shorten this period of time and celebration to Thanks-Christmas.

At first glance, it seems the holidays have finally been combined into one long eating and shopping frenzy of celebration. What I'm describing isn't exactly a war on Christmas or Thanksgiving. I assume that culture and traditions remain intact. It is, however, a sign of something else.

A couple of weeks ago, President Biden laid out the beginning of his administration's plan to "save Christmas," announcing that it had reached a deal to keep the Port of Los Angeles operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in order to clear its massive backlog of cargo. In spite of this massive effort to "save Christmas," we've all been warned to shop early.

A couple of weeks ago, the president challenged journalists to explain the supply chain disruptions. Hmmm. There was some laughter among journalists. He's right; it is complex. Let me try. I was visiting with someone the other day who had ordered granite from a foreign country. It was important for the type of granite and that's why they ordered it from where they ordered it. In any event, he explained they've been waiting and waiting. Months have gone by. He explained he understood that the quarry shut down a month or so after the pandemic shut down everything. It was a month or so after the U.S. shut down and it took a month for the quarry to catch up with the orders they already

had. As the months of the shut-down continued, the quarry had to lay off staff. Recently, orders started coming back. They couldn't start up right away however because they had to find staff and train the staff. They then got behind.

We've all seen the ships backed up at ports. Of course, after a short delay during which the quarry caught up with the orders, it had to shut down again because they didn't have any shipping containers and couldn't get product to the intended destinations.

It all reminds me of an accordion. Yes, the musical instrument. Out and in, out and in, and it's making quite a racket. It's not being played very well, at all.

That's about as close to an explanation I can offer.

What's that have to do with Thanks-Christmas? Because of the supply chain delays, we've been told we had better start our shopping early - really early. In my opinion, this is really blurring the lines between Thanksgiving and Christmas. It might also make the problem worse.

Why? Slate, a news organization, creatively explained the supply chain problem as follows: "It's important to understand that the Great Supply Chain Snarl of 2021 isn't just a logistical Rubik's Cube waiting for some inventive solution. Instead it's better understood, to a large extent, as the downside of the success we've had supporting the economy through the pandemic. The core problem is simple: Americans are currently buying a record amount of stuff, and that spending binge is crashing the transport and warehousing network meant to move it all."

If I understand this correctly, to end the supply chain issues we should slow down our shopping, which will slow the accordion-like response. Yes, I like my accordion analogy. By the way, I know where you can buy one. Give me a call.

Letter: Thanking a good Samaritan

To the Editor:

Thank you for the kindness of a stranger isn't sufficient. I recently attended the Falls Cinema to see *No Time to Die*. As I was about to leave, a stranger asked if I would like him to toss my popcorn and trash. I was

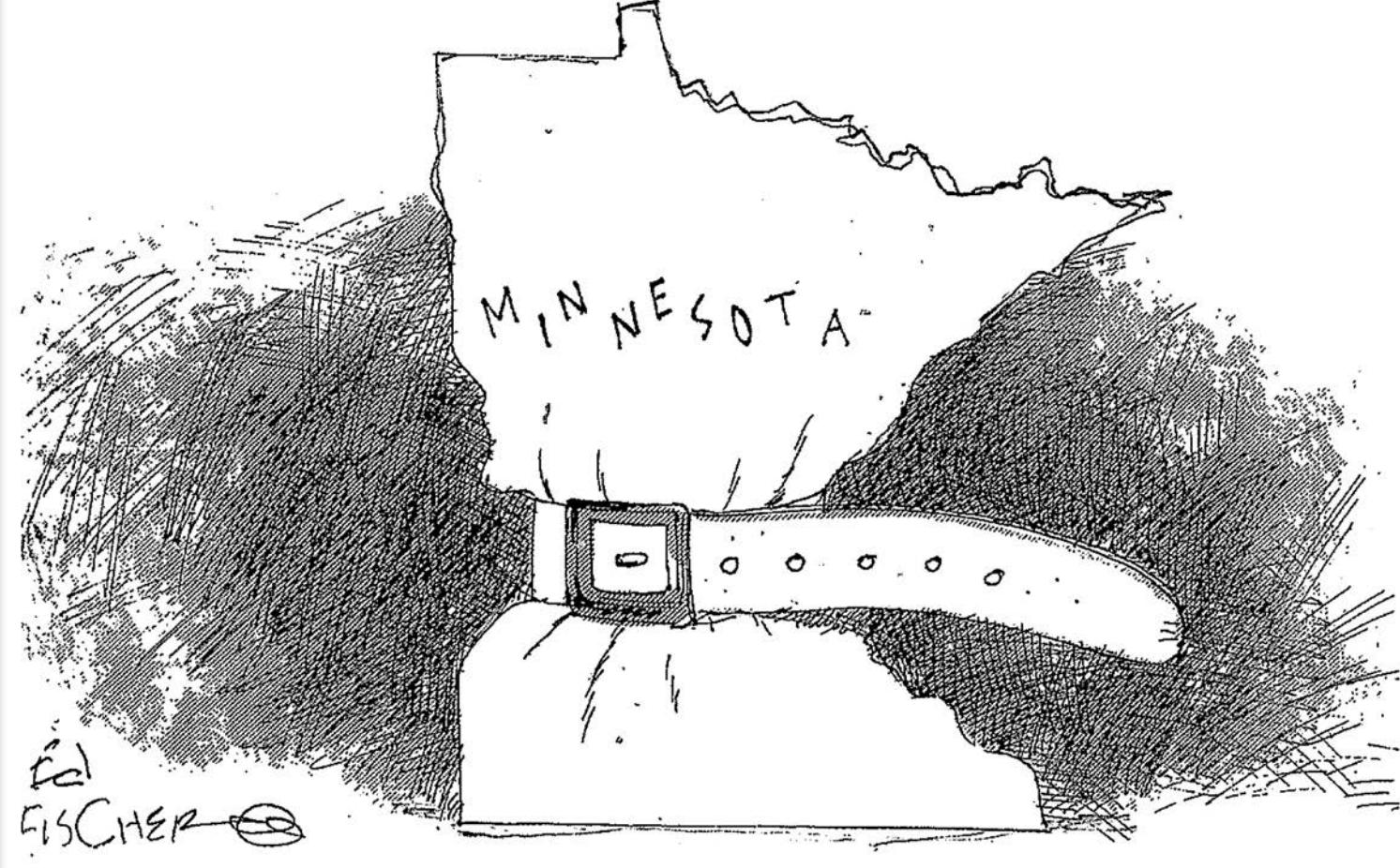
pleased with his thoughtfulness and said, yes, please. I am on oxygen and thought a full tank of oxygen would be enough to last through the movie, but when I stood to walk down the steps I realized I was out of oxygen. This same stranger carried

my cart to the bottom of the steps, dashed to my car, carried in a new tank of oxygen, waited for me to get it set up, took the depleted tank, and walked me to my car. He again asked if there was anything else he could do for me.

I wish I had asked him for his name. I didn't, but am so grateful for his help. As I said, thank you isn't sufficient for his thoughtfulness and kindness.

Ivette D Garrett

Thief River Falls



Because of kidnapped missionaries, future missionaries should consider the costs

by Glenn Mollette

The missionaries consisting of 16 Americans and one Canadian kidnapped by the Haitian "400 Mawozo" gang Oct. 16, is extremely scary. The gang has threatened to kill the humanitarian Christians if a million dollar per person ransom is not fulfilled. The group consists of men, women, children and an eight-month-old baby.

These missionaries have sacrificed their time and paid their own way to go to the poorest place in the Western Hemisphere to try to spread God's love and save some souls. In turn, the missionaries are experiencing a nightmare like they've never imagined. They're imprisoned and being threatened with a bullet in the head.

Most of us will never get over seeing journalists being beheaded and tortured in Syria and Iraq by the barbaric Islamic extremist group called ISIL. Burning people alive and beheading others were too graphic and gruesome to ever be forgotten.

Why do journalists, mis-

sionaries and humanitarian aid workers go to such places to risk kidnapping, rape, torture and unimaginable deaths? There is always the belief that "it will not happen to me." Some might view such a trip as a vacation.

Years ago, I traveled to a third world country on a "missionary trip" with others thinking it would be a nice break. I've never worked so hard in my life.

Sadly, the 17 missionaries in Haiti are undergoing a cruel experience that may end with the cost of their very lives. What are they thinking now? What is going through the minds of the little children who traveled to a world to help others and spread God's love?

Haiti has been the site of years of humanitarian efforts. The United States and other countries have given billions of dollars to help Haiti. Sadly, hurricanes, political unrest, underdevelopment and extreme poverty have all made for a sad scenario.

How much money would the world have to give to Haiti to make life better for this nation? This is a ques-

tion no one can answer because usually aid is a short-term solution. We spent a trillion dollars in Afghanistan and they aren't any better off today.

Good missionary people went to Haiti with good hearts for helping others in the name of God's love.

They went to share a message they hoped would bring about change and better lives. They may now lose their lives.

Christians point to Jesus as the model for such missionary efforts. He came preaching and teaching in an effort to demonstrate and spread God's love and it cost him plenty - his life, executed in public on a cross.

There are some Christians today who, like Jesus, are willing to risk their lives for the sake of others. Did these men and women literally go to Haiti taking their children with them truly believe they could be killed? Would they purposefully do this to their children? Who convinced these people that such a trip with small children was a good idea?

My goal here is to simply

say, think about such trips to places like Haiti, Afghanistan, Iraq, northern Nigeria and numerous other countries are not vacation spots. Foreign travel may sound exotic and adventurous, but consider the possible cost.

Many missionaries and Christian workers have paid the ultimate price in order to spread the gospel of Christ. Only eternity will reveal what their selfless sacrifice has meant to those whose lives they impacted.

By chance, if you decide such an international trip is not for you, don't feel bad. Consider helping in an American inner city, Appalachia or maybe your own neighborhood. Service at home is needed across America.

Let's pray for the safety of these missionaries and for those negotiating their release. May God help them and all who may consider such endeavors.

Glenn Mollette has been on numerous international humanitarian and missionary group trips.

Hear Glenn Mollette every weekday morning EST at 8:56 on XM radio 131.

Senators ask Canada for parity in border testing requirements

Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Susan Collins (R-ME), Chuck Schumer (D-NY), and Mike Crapo (R-ID) sent a letter asking the Canadian government to help address challenges created by its border testing policy, asking for parity in the testing requirements. The senators specifically highlighted Canada's policy that vaccinated travelers entering the country present a negative pre-arrival molecular coronavirus test, which can be expensive and may deter individuals from traveling between the two countries.

The senators heard the testing protocols required by the Canadian government to enter the country will make it costly. They noted this expense could discourage tourism. The timing of the test results are also challenging. The senators referred to the economic importance of travel between the two countries.

The full text of the letter is as follows:

"As the northern U.S. border opens to vaccinated travelers and tourism this week, we commend the Canadian government for its early and consistent efforts to fully reopen the U.S.-Canada border. While there is much to celebrate, we ask that the Canadian

government help address the challenges created by coronavirus (COVID-19) testing requirements that could slow travel between the U.S. and Canada.

"We have heard from constituents that the testing protocols required by the Canadian government to enter the country will make it costly for individuals to travel between our two nations. Currently, the Canadian government requires vaccinated travelers entering the country to take a pre-arrival molecular COVID-19 test, which can be costly. This expense could discourage tourism and will be prohibitively expensive for individuals who regularly travel across

our northern border, including those in Minnesota, Maine, Idaho, and New York.

"While some travelers may have access to free or discounted tests, the timing of test results will prove challenging to navigate. We applaud the steps Canada has taken to ease cross border travel restrictions and urge the Canadian government to now remove testing requirements for vaccinated travelers and to engage with U.S. authorities regarding any concerns.

"It is important for both of our nations' economies that fully vaccinated individuals are able to travel between Canada and the U.S. with ease."

Area post offices may be renamed

Friday, Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach (MN-07) led the entire Minnesota House delegation in introducing two bipartisan bills to rename post offices in the 7th Congressional District.

"I'm proud to have the support of the Minnesota delegation in renaming two post offices after local

POLICIES

Letters To The Editor: The staff of *The Times* encourages written responses to editorial comment or letters with original thoughts or ideas of general interest. Letters should be intended for publication in *The Times* exclusively; letters sent to multiple publications will generally not be accepted. Right is reserved to edit letters for length and clarity and to reject letters deemed to be promotional in nature, promote violence or in poor taste. Letters should not exceed 650 words in length.

If individuals request their letters printed "as is" they will be deemed a paid advertisement and must appear in a box.

Letters Must Be Signed: All letters must be signed and contain an address or phone number of the writer so authenticity can be verified.

Signatures must appear on letters published. The staff believes that there is greater credibility in letters signed in print and will not withhold names of writers from publication.

Responses Invited: Letters critical of individuals or other entities may be shown to those individuals or representatives of those entities in advance of publication with an invitation by newspaper staff for response in the same issue as the original letter.

Corrections: If an error is made in news or advertising publication, the staff encourages readers to call it to our immediate attention by calling 681-4450. We will attempt to correct the error or clarify the misunderstanding in the next issue.

Deadline: The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. on Mondays.

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heroes," said Rep. Fischbach. "These bills would rename the Vergas Post Office after Jon Glawe,

a veteran who dedicated 36 years to delivering mail in Vergas, taking over the route of his late father, and the Oklee Post Office for Coya Knutson in honor of the first female elected to Congress from Minnesota."

Friday, Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach (MN-07) led the entire Minnesota House delegation in introducing two bipartisan bills to rename post offices in the 7th Congressional District.

"I'm proud to have the support of the Minnesota delegation in renaming two post offices after local

Thief River Falls Times/Northern Watch

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Violence Intervention Project, serving victims of domestic and sexual violence in Red Lake, Pennington, Marshall, Kittson and Roseau Counties, is seeking a full-time Executive Director with both proven management and leadership experience. The Executive Director will: supervise 15 to 18 employees, prepare and monitor an annual organizational budget, secure grant funding to serve VIP's clients, lead local fund-raising efforts in support of VIP's mission, conduct regular staff meetings promoting professional development and teamwork. Starting salary commensurate with experience.

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viptr@violenceintervention.org

Submit a resume with references and a statement of qualifications to: Personnel Committee

Violence Intervention Project,
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- Complete reporting and auditing requirements in a timely manner
- Set and track departmental goals and objectives
- Provides direct resident care when necessary
- Investigates resident complaints
- Collaborates with physicians
- Oversees department budget
- Maintains stocked inventory of nursing supplies
- Develop, implement, and monitor a Quality Assurance program within nursing department
- Keep informed of new developments, current practices, and trends in medical science so that changes can be affected when and where applicable

POSITION QUALIFICATIONS:

- Current MN RN license required
- CPR certification required
- 3 years' experience working in long-term care setting preferred
- Experience in managing staff, administration, or has been a Director of Nursing in a geriatric setting preferred
- Must be able to work effectively with minimal supervision, have strong communication skills, and ability to lead a group of people in completing tasks
- Ability to handle confidential information discreetly and appropriately
- Ability to develop and implement plans for program/department operations
- Knowledge of current federal and state regulations
- Ability to provide patient care if needed
- Knowledge of general nursing theories and practices
- Knowledge of new developments in the field of geriatric care.

Please see our website at
www.oaklandparktrf.com or
call 218-681-1675 for more information.

Apply online or in person at
123 Baken St., Thief River Falls, MN

A&W
ALL AMERICAN FOOD®
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Full-Time &
Part-Time Help

Pay starting at \$14.00 per hour
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Stop in and apply today at the A&W
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1930 Hwy 59 SE Thief River Falls 218-681-7441

*Must quit on good terms or fund is void.

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JOIN OUR TEAM!
Full Time Pharmacy Tech in TRF

Preferred Skills: Good Communication, High Attention to Detail and Providing Excellent Patient Care.

Submit cover letter and resume
to careers@gohugos.com

\$2,000 HIRING BONUS!

Bring your skills and experience in farming, manufacturing, warehouse work, machine operation, maintenance, or the grain/seed industry to D&D Commodities!

We have the following full-time positions open for the

Monday – Friday, 8 am – 5 pm shift.

Machine Operator • Maintenance Worker

Mill Operator • Forklift Operator

Includes competitive wages, great benefits (health, life, disability, dental, etc.), paid time off, holiday pay, a 401k employer contribution and more.

View job description and apply at
www.ddcommodities.com, in person
or call 218-478-3308 for an application.

We are an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other characteristic protected by law. Hiring bonus conditions apply.

Domino's Is Hiring Delivery Drivers
Days/Nights/Weekends
Earn up to \$25 per hour
or more!
Apply in person or at jobs.dominos.com
209 Brooks Ave. N., Thief River Falls

MATTRACKS
RUBBER TRACK CONVERSIONS

Mattracks, the industry leader in rubber tracks and conversions for four-wheel drive vehicles, is seeking career-minded employees to add to its already impressive workforce in Karlstad, MN

IN-HOUSE SALES POSITION(S)

Fast-growing international company has full-time positions available in its sales department with an above average base salary, commission, bonus, and possible travel opportunities. Applicant will be trained on products and must possess good communication skills, be well organized, energetic and be self-motivated to identify the customer's needs. Sales experience and computer skills required.

OTHER AVAILABLE OPENINGS

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- Supply Chain Coordinator
- Machine Operators
- Production Assistant
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Mattracks is proud to offer a Competitive Salary, Medical, Dental and Life Insurance, PTO, UTO, Retirement Plan - Full-time, Monday-Friday, 8AM - 5PM

APPLY ONLINE AT WWW.MATTRACKS.COM/CAREERS

HIRING
• Part-Time Janitor

2 days a week, 8-10 hrs./day

Days can be flexible

For application call 218-683-9353

(leave message)

or email lindholmwelding@gmail.com

Lindholm Welding
1325 N. Main Ave., Thief River Falls, MN

ALTOZ®
CENTRAL BOILER®
WOODMASTER®

Order Audit / Coop Advertising

Central Boiler, Inc. is seeking an energetic person to become an integral part of a fast growing company. The individual in this position will receive, prepare, enter, and audit orders in addition to daily coop submissions. Candidate must exhibit strong computer skills, strong communication skills and demonstrate an attention to detail and accuracy. Must work well in a team environment and on an individual basis.

Qualified applicants can download an application and mail, fax, or e mail resume to:

Central Boiler Companies, Inc.

Human Resources

20502 160th St., Greenbush, MN 56726

Phone: 218-782-2575

Fax: 218-782-3998

Email: employment@centralboiler.com

CentralBoiler.com

Altoz.com

WoodMaster.com

CEG

Consolidated Equipment Group LLC

Currently Hiring:
Production Workers

\$1000
Sign On
Bonus

Consolidated Equipment Group, LLC is currently hiring Production workers. Production workers should have experience in any or all of the following areas: Welding, Powder Paint and Assembly. Applicants should be capable of lifting 50 pounds, be detail oriented, show a mechanical aptitude and be willing to flex where needed. Consolidated Equipment Group, LLC is a leading manufacturer of skid steer and compact tractor attachments and has been designing, building, and selling quality equipment for over 70 years. Large Night Shift Differential and 4 day work week! We offer a competitive benefits package that includes medical, dental, vision, disability, life insurance, paid time off, as well as a 401K plan with 3% company contribution.

Please apply at: www.erskineattachments.com/careers

The following position is available in School District #564, Thief River Falls, Minnesota:

HEAD COOK

Location: Lincoln High School

Effective: Immediately

Hours: 7.75 hrs/day – student days

Duties: Supervises main dish and coordinates tasks of other food service staff preparing and serving meals according to MN Dept. of Health and National School Lunch Program standards. Keeps daily production records, HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) records, and performs other similar tasks of cooking- including cleaning, ordering, inventory, receiving food and supplies, supervising the meal accounting program and preparing meals for special events.

Requirements: Minimum of High School Diploma, and must have successfully completed the Serve Safe Class. Strong management and organizational skills. Experience in quantity cooking, ability to operate a computerized meal accounting system and good public relations skills are a must. Must have a commitment to the highest possible customer satisfaction. Employee will be standing and/or walking for most of the work shift. Work involves heavy lifting.

Wage and Benefits: Per negotiated contract

Application Deadline: Open until filled

On-Line Application and other available opportunities

can be found on the District web site:

<http://www.trf.k12.mn.us> > Employment

Providing a community partnership focused on quality learning.

Independent School District 564 is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

218-681-4450

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SERVICE WRITER

Chev-Buick dealership looking for person to communicate with customers to schedule service work, provide estimates and to process repair orders after repair work is completed in the service department. Our customer satisfaction is our top

OFFICE & ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST

TRF CAMPUS

- Job Title: Office & Administrative Specialist
- Location: Thief River Falls, Aerospace Site
- Work Schedule: Monday-Friday, Days

At Northland Community and Technical College, we have a GREAT BENEFITS PACKAGE! Our generous benefits include sick leave, personal leave, Paid Parental Leave, low cost medical and dental insurance with low deductibles, a Pension Plan, 457(b) and 403(b) retirement plans and other retirement investment options, pre-tax medical and dental expense (with roll-over option) and dependent care accounts, employer paid life insurance, short- and long-term disability, as well as professional development and a tuition waiver program for employees and their dependents, etc. We promote the health and well-being of our employees and take work/life balance seriously.

Application Procedure: Submit your cover letter and resume on-line at <http://mn.gov/mmb/careers>, as paper applications will not be accepted. Apply for this position on-line using the following Job ID 49866

Review of Applications Begins: 10/27/21

NORTHLAND

COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

An Affirmative Action/
Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and individuals
with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

DEPENDABLE
HELP WANTED

DUTIES INCLUDE: Working On The Automatic Inserter, Bagging, Mailing Newspapers and Various Other Duties Around Busy Newspaper Shop. Opportunities for Advancement.

REQUIREMENTS: Ability To Lift 60 Lbs. Repetitively; Willingness to Learn. Must Be 18 Yrs. Or Older. Criminal Background Check a Valid Driver's License required.

STOP IN AND FILL OUT AN APPLICATION AT

Thief River Falls
Times**NORTHERN**
WATCH

324 Main Avenue North • Thief River Falls, MN • (218) 681-4450

Night Advocate

Violence Intervention Project serves victims of domestic and sexual violence and is located in Thief River Falls. VIP is seeking an advocate for evening-overnight and weekend shifts. Night Advocate typically works 2 to 4 shifts a month. This position fits nicely with most day jobs. These shifts include 8 hours of paid sleep time with advocate available to return to duty if needed. Applicant must have a belief in non-violence, a commitment to empowering others, possess excellent interpersonal and listening skills, the ability to work with diverse populations and to respond in a constructive and supportive manner to individuals in a crisis situation. Advocate provides on-site support services for clients, completes intake/departure forms, assists clients with various applications and court papers, and takes crisis line calls. Advocate also performs housekeeping and light maintenance duties and follows procedures to maintain building security. Training and team support are provided. Applicant must be able to pass a criminal background check. Applicant may or may not have experienced domestic violence.

Pick up or call for an application at
Violence Intervention Project,
218-681-5557 or send a resume to
director@violenceintervention.org.

The following position is available in School District #564, Thief River Falls, Minnesota:

COMMUNICATION ARTS
TEACHER

(Long-Term Substitute)– Middle School

Thief River Falls Public Schools has an opening for a Long-Term Substitute Communication Arts Teacher at Franklin Middle School effective approximately March 21, 2022 – June 6, 2022. Come join our team, where you will work with other talented faculty and staff. TRF Schools values educators who display a willingness to grow professionally, to be active members of our learning community and to build positive relationships with students, parents, and colleagues.

Duties:

- Teach communication arts to middle school age students
- Administer middle school communication arts curriculum consistent with district goals and objectives
- Conduct ongoing assessment of student learning and modify instructional methods appropriately
- Maintain a system for accurate and complete record-keeping, grading and reporting requirements
- Work with all staff in supporting student success

Qualifications:

- Proper MN licensure (as defined by PELSB)
- Successful prior communication arts teaching experience in grades 6-8 preferred

Salary and Benefits:

Per Negotiated Contract

Application Deadline: Open until filled

On-Line Application and other available opportunities
can be found on the District web site:
<http://www.trf.k12.mn.us> > Employment

Providing a community partnership focused on quality learning.
Independent School District 564 is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

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ALWAYS AHEAD®**CENTRAL**
BOILER

Full & Part-Time Positions in our Greenbush and Red Lake Falls Locations:
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\$2,500
HIRING BONUS

Starting pay up to \$21.00/hr. based
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Apply online at CentralBoiler.com
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HAY AND STRAW FOR SALE: Call or text LeRoy Ose 218-689-6675. 12P481103p

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23x35", 0.008" Thick, 75¢ Each. Available At The Times, 324 Main Avenue North, TRF. (Call Ahead To Check Availability And For Large Quantities.) Call 218-681-4450.

Want to Rent

First Generation Farmer Looking To Buy Or Rent Farmland And Expiring CRP. Call Nathan, 414-477-3413

Help Wanted

BLACK CAT
SPORTS BAR & GRILL

is seeking applicants for

FT & PT COOKS

Evenings and weekends
Experience preferred but willing
to train the right person.

COMPETITIVE PAY!

Apply in person to AI
at 1080 Hwy 32 South
Thief River Falls
(No phone calls please)

Help Wanted

HIRINGFull-Time
Welders & Laborers

10 hour shifts

Monday - Thursday

Holidays, Vacation,

Health Ins.

Benefits After

Probationary Period

For application email:
briar@lindholmwelding.com
or stop at

Lindholm Welding

1325 N. Main Ave.

Thief River Falls, MN

NOW HIRING: Tire Technician And Mechanic. Triangle Tire, Red Lake Falls. Call Arick, 218-253-2817

H & S CONSTRUCTION

is looking for:

- CONCRETE LABORERS
- CONCRETE FINISHERS
- CONCRETE FOREMAN

Excellent Pay & Full Benefits

CALL 218-686-9308**Thief River****SALES
CONSULTANT**

Thief River Ford is looking for a Sales Consultant to join our winning team! The Sales Consultant is responsible for working with customers to identify their vehicle needs while ensuring each customer has a satisfactory dealership experience.

Thief River Ford offers an aggressive pay plan, paid time off, retirement program with company match and a positive work environment that comes from a family owned business.

If you are a people-oriented person and would enjoy working in a professional environment, perhaps a career in sales is for you!

Apply in Person
between 9 am - 5 pm or
email your resume to
kevin@thiefriverford.com

Oakland Park is looking to add dedicated, reliable and compassionate caregivers to our team!

We are currently accepting applications for the following positions:

Part-Time AM Shift Cook

(32 hours per pay period)

We offer flexible scheduling, competitive wages, shift differential, weekend call in bonuses, and great benefits including: 401k, and affordable health, vision, dental and life insurance.

Please see our website at
www.oaklandparktrf.com or
call 218-681-1675 for more information.
Apply online or in person at
123 Baken St., Thief River Falls, MN

HUGO'S
• FAMILY MARKETPLACE.

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Full & Part Time Associate Positions in TRF:

- Service Counter • Dairy • Deli
- Bakery • Meat (incl. Experienced Meat Cutter)
- Online Shopping • Caribou Coffee

Apply online at
www.gohugos.com/careers

RNs and LPNs

North Valley Health Center is currently seeking full-time and part-time RNs and LPNs to work in the hospital setting.

Positions require a current Minnesota license. ACLS and PALS certification, acute care and ER experience preferred but will train. Positions will have rotating shifts, including holidays and every third weekend. Competitive pay and benefits.

Please email cover letter and resume to Jill.Lysford@northvalleyhealth.org or mail to:

North Valley Health Center
Attn: Jill Lysford
300 W. Good Samaritan Drive
Warren, MN 56762
Equal Opportunity Employer

HUGO'S
• FAMILY MARKETPLACE.

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Management Positions in TRF:

- Customer Service Manager

Submit cover letter and resume to careers@gohugos.com

**PENNINGTON
HEALTH SERVICES**

DBA Thief River Care Center

• FT/PT Housekeeping & Laundry

• FT/PT Activity Aide

• FT/PT CNAs, PM & NOC

\$2,000 SIGN-ON BONUS

\$18.03 STARTING

• FT/PT Nurses PM & NOC

\$3,000 SIGN-ON BONUS

\$23.02 STARTING FOR LPNs

• Shift differential

• Experience pay

• Nursing scholarship

Apply online at www.phs.srhs.org**SPECIAL EDUCATION
TEACHER** – Middle School

Thief River Falls Public Schools has an immediate opening for a Special Education Teacher at Franklin Middle School. This position will support a diverse group of students with disabilities. Come join our team, where you will work with other talented faculty and staff. TRF Schools values educators who display a willingness to grow professionally, to be active members of our learning community, and to build positive relationships with students, parents, and colleagues.

Duties:

- Design and implement instruction tailored to meet the unique needs of students requiring special education services
- Work on general education teams and provide collaborative special education services with general education teachers
- Collaborate with paraprofessionals by effectively directing and delegating their workload
- Maintain proper records, communication, and planning

Qualifications:

- Special education license or the ability to obtain licensure required
- Multiple licensures preferred
- Knowledge and experience with due process requirements for special education services preferred

Application Deadline: Open until filled

On-Line Application and other available opportunities
can be found on the District web site:
<http://www.trf.k12.mn.us> > Employment

Providing a community partnership focused on quality learning.
Independent School District 564 is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

LOOKING TO HIRE

Thief River Glass is looking for hard working individuals to fill the following positions:

- Glaziers • Auto Glass

• An Experienced Construction Worker

Benefit package offered

Thief River
GLASS
NGA Certified Installer Inc.

Please Apply in person

418 Atlantic Ave N.

218-681-1333

**HELP
WANTED**

Production Workers at TRF Pallet, making wood pallets and crates.

Call Dan
at 218-689-0508

NOW HIRING**OPERATIONS SPECIALIST**
HAZEL LOCATION

This position comes with amazing benefits!

Health, dental, vision, hearing and life insurance

Paid vacation

Profit sharing

401K

Company-funded pension

Long/short-term disability

APPLY AT JOBS.CHSINC.COM

Help Wanted

HELP WANTED

Customer Service & Deli

Full- or Part-Time ALL SHIFTS

STARTING WAGE

\$13.00/hr



Graveyard Shift

11 P.M. - 6 A.M.

2-3 Nights per Week

Starting \$13.00/hr



17107 Hwy 59 NE • Thief River Falls

For Rent

SUMMERFIELD PLACE of Thief River Falls +55 - 1 bedroom apartment available. Central air, washer/dryer, dishwasher, microwave, heated parking, elevator, guest suite, community room. Heat and water paid. Call 218-681-5194. 89tfc

Greenwood Terrace Apartments

in Thief River Falls

is accepting applications for immediate 1 Bedroom openings

Must be 62 or older or 18 with Handicap/Disability

Rent is based on income

Certain restrictions apply

Contact DW Jones Management

218-547-3307

TTY 711

or our website www.dwjonesmanagement.com

SUMMERFIELD MULTIFAMILY APARTMENTS in Newfolden and TRF: 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments Available. Central Air, Washer/Dryer In Apartment, Heat Paid. Call 218-681-5194. 20103c

One-Bedroom Apartment: Heat And Water Paid, Close To Uptown, Available Now. 218-686-0738

Office and Retail Space Available

Downtown Thief River Falls

For more information call Kyle

218-523-3173

5-Bedroom, 2-Bath House On Big Corner Lot In St. Hilaire: Available December 5. Storage Shed, Dishwasher, Refrigerator & Stove, Washer/Dryer. \$1500/Month, \$1000 Deposit, \$300 Non-Refundable Pet Deposit. All Utilities Included. Call 218-689-1312 For Viewing Appointment. P4t95p

For Rent

3-Bedroom Mobile Home, Countryside, Court: \$600/Mo, No Pets/Smoking, Pay Own Heat/Utilities. References Required. 218-684-4780 P4t92c

2-Bedroom Apartment: Available December 1, Close To Arctic Cat And Digi Key. Call 218-689-4302 T2t94p

River Point, Sherwood Park, & Southwood Park Townhomes

in Thief River Falls

Oakwood Homes

in Karlstad

Prairie Rose

in Red Lake Falls

Have Immediate openings.

Certain restrictions apply

Contact

DW Jones Management

218-547-3307

or our website www.dwjonesmanagement.com

Equal Housing Opportunity



2 BEDROOM APARTMENT FOR RENT:

At 601 13th Street W. \$630 per month. No pets, no smoking, no lease. Call 218-686-9308. P8t95c

1-Bedroom Mobile Home:

Washer/Dryer, No Pets/Smoking, Pay Own Heat/Utilities. References Required. 218-684-4780. No Texts! P4t95c

Riverside Terrace

Riverside Terrace Apartments

is accepting applications for

1-bedroom apartments

located at 225 S Labree Ave, Thief River Falls, MN.

Our community features

affordable housing for

persons 62 years of age

and older, or those with a

disability and within

income guidelines.

Call 218-681-7657

for more information

LEGALS

November 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

FOR WATER TREATMENT

CHEMICALS FOR THE WATER SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

CITY OF THIEF RIVER FALLS, MINNESOTA

The City Council for the City of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, shall receive sealed bids for water treatment chemicals. Bids will be received by the City of Thief River Falls, at the City Administrator Office, P.O. Box 528, 405 East Third Street, Thief River Falls, MN 56701 until 2:00 PM, November 30, 2021 at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Specifications covering the materials to be furnished are on file at the office of the Superintendent of Water Systems, 305 Pennington Avenue South, P.O. Box 528, Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701, (218-681-3809) and may be obtained from that office upon request.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check or bidder's bond acceptable to the City of Thief River Falls in an amount equal to at least five

(5) percent of the total amount of the bid, payable without condition to the City of Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

In case the successful bidder fails to enter into and complete a contract as required by law, within the specified number of days after the award of the contract, such check or bond will be forfeited to the City of Thief River Falls as liquidated damages.

The City Council of the City of Thief River Falls, Minnesota reserves the right to hold all bids for a period of forty-five (45) calendar days after the date of opening the bids and may reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularities, and to award the contract as it deems to be for the best interest of the City of Thief River Falls.

Dated the 26th day of October, 2021.

/s/ Angie Philipp

City Administrator

CITY OF THIEF RIVER FALLS

November 3, 10, 17, 2021

PUBLIC HEARING

County Ditch #16

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF PENNINGTON

In the Matter of the Order of the Pennington County Board of Commissioners for action on the partial abandonment of a public ditch designated as follows and named as County Ditch No. 16, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes \$103E.806.

The Pennington County Board of Commissioners, acting as the drainage authority, has received a petition dated September 24, 2021 requesting partial abandonment of the following legally described portions of the County Ditch #16 legal drainage system:

Commencing at or near the northeast corner of the southwest quarter of Section 10 in Township 152 North, of Range 42 West, then running northwesterly through the northwest quarter of said Section 10, to the northwest corner of the northwest quarter of said Section 10.

The names of the owners of the lands that are affected in Pennington County by said drainage system are as follows, to-wit: Michelle & Lynn Baker, Robert Baune, Randy & Brenda Brekkestran, Daniel & Ashley Christensen, CHS Inc, Thelma Culkins Life Estate, Jeffrey & Stacy Davidson, Myles & Kathryn Alberg, Kevin & Beth Ballard, Chad Beito, Andrew & Willow Brekke, Garrett Casey, Leslie & Donna Cote, Renay Anderson, Brian Barth, Jason & Cori Bregier, Joshua & Randy Brekkestran, Cenex Harvest States Coop, Wade & Jamie Cota, Nathan & Darcie Dalager, Delphine & Cynthia Determan, Paul & Marc Donarski, Thomas & Ann Fernholm Trustees, Dana Flesche Trustees, Kenneth Gieseke, Nicolle Ellison, Murray Engelstad, Robby & Jill Farbo, Benjamin & Jeannie Fisher, Jerima & Sarah Glanzler, Frederick & Violet Gran Life Estate, David & Kerri Flatland, James Grant, Eunice Grove Life Estate, Jeremiah & Ann Hasnedi, Jerry & Ruth Hasnedi, Hinrichs LLC, Harlow C. Johnson Trustees, Colleen & Garth Kaste Trustees, Bryan & Victoria Grove, Earl & Eileen Hoefer Trustees, Rawlins & Marlene Houske Life Estate, Gilene E Johnson, Heather & Andrew Harbott, Helle Bros Farms LLC, Gary Holmgren, Gran, W & Dorothy E Johnson Trustees, Todd M & Tammy L Johnson, KBS Properties LLC, Linda Kolseth, Raymond & Katherine Kvalvog, Gary Johnsrud, Roger & Denise Johnsrud, Garth & Colleen Kaste, Dale & Carol Kolseth, Duane & Judith Kotrba, Norman & Linda Lindemoen, Mitchell Loe, Robert & Debbie Martell, Merritt's Driveline Service & Leasing LLC, Timothy & Deborah Molstad, Dianne Nelson & Van Odegaard, Shirley Odegaard Life Estate, Maverick Ottesen, Maynard & Connie Manke, Debra McCarthy & Duane Wiskow Trustees, Daniel Meyers, Lonnie & Patricia Mott, Laura L Nelson, John Palmquist, Ruth Pederson, Kevin Malwitz & Brandi Asleson, Evan & Gloria Mapes, Minnesota Power Coop, Bradley & Darcy Nelson, Chelsey Olson, Carl Peterson Jr, David A Peterson, Neil D & Nicole E Peterson, Ruth A Peterson, Pribyl Hay & Straw LLP, Thomas Pribyl, Kailin & Nicholas Radeke, Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Arlene Peterson, Robert & Jennifer Proulx, Timothy Raiter, Raymond A Peterson,

Stuart & Margaret Peterson, Michael Pribyl, William Puppe, Ricky & Sharon Reese, Robert & Kristine Robson, Ruby Schroeder, Larry & Dianne Seurer, Alan & Carol Spilde, Arlene & Robert Strom, Trustees, Dwight Syverson, Herbert Torstveit, Lynell & Robert Wayne, James & Roxanne Rondorf, Jim & Renae Seibel, Michael Snyder, Marlene Snetting, Merle Sortberg, James & Patricia Smitsky, Wayne & Adam Swanson, Douglas & Diane Torbla, Jeremy & Laura Williams, Wallace Rondorf, Gary & Marita Senum, Bruce & Delrae Skalsky, Jeffrey Spiering & Tina Langevin, Justin Steinbrink, Darren & Cassandra Torkelson, John & Lori Waldal, Kevin & Vicki Yagge.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 23rd at 4:00 p.m. at the Pennington County Justice Center, County Boardroom, 141 Main Avenue South, Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701. Said public hearing will be held in person and via Zoom. If you desire to attend the public hearing in person, you will be required to adhere to all policies issued by the Pennington County Board of Commissioners that are effective as of November 23rd, 2021 as it relates to in-person gatherings (i.e. wearing of a mask and/or social distancing, etc.). If you desire to attend the public hearing via Zoom, you should contact Pennington County Coordinator, Kevin Erickson, at 218-683-7000 or via email at kwerickson@co.pennington.mn.us and request the Zoom attendee information.

Jennifer Herzberg Auditor/Treasurer

hereby given that a petition was filed with this Court for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the above named decedent, dated September 25, 2007, and for the appointment of David C. Onkka, whose address is 1005 Cameo Drive, Thief River Falls, MN, 56701, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised by written statement before December 14, 2021. Such objection should be filed with the Court at 141 Main Avenue South, Thief River Falls, MN 56701. If the petition is proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the personal representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall dis-

tribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

If written objections are received, a Court date will be scheduled.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated this 3rd day of November, 2021.

Judge of District Court

/s/ Kathy Narlock, Court Administrator

/s/ Michael L. Jorgenson

CHARLSON & JORGENSEN, P.A.

119 West Second Street

P. O. Box 506

Thief River Falls, MN 56701

(218) 681-4002

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324 Main Ave N. • Thief River Falls

218-681-4450

November 10, 17, 2021

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING

ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF

WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

IN AN UNSUPERVISED

ADMINISTRATION AND

NOTICE OF CREDITORS

STATE OF MINNESOTA,

COUNTY OF PENNINGTON,

IN DISTRICT COURT,

PROBATE DIVISION,

9TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court File No.: 57-PR-21-763

Estate of: M.A. "Tony" Dorn, Sr., Decedent.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

AND CREDITORS:

IT IS ORDERED and notice is

established 1911

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Commercial Printing & Newspaper Publishing

NOW HIRING



NORTHLAND GRAIN

NOTICE OF FINAL PAYMENT HEARING

The Board of Managers of the Red Lake Watershed District will be making a final payment for the construction of the Thief River Falls Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project, Red Lake Watershed District Project No. 178 to R.J. Zavoral and Sons, Inc. of East Grand Forks, MN.

Any parties that have an objection to the final payment to R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc., for the construction of Thief River Falls Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project, Red Lake Watershed District Project No. 178 should be present at the hearing on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 at 9:30a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District office, 1000 Pennington Avenue South, Thief River Falls, MN.

Signed:
Myron Jesme, Administrator

November 17, 2021
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
564 – BOARD OF EDUCATION
OCTOBER 25, 2021
6:00 P.M.

DSC BOARD ROOM

A Regular Meeting of Independent School District #564 Board of Education was held Monday, October 25, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the DSC Board Room. The following board members were present: Mike Spears, Misty Hempel, Michelle Westerman, Ryan Walseth and Craig Mattson. Members absent were: Wayne Nomeland and Chris Melby.

Staff members present were: Melissa Bushy, Bob Wayne, Scott Brekke, Kelly Weets, and Tanya Monson-Ek. Also present were: Marlene Anderson and Dave Hill.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Vice Chair Misty Hempel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Clerk Mike Spears confirmed that a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Michelle Westerman to approve the October 25, 2021 agenda as amended. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Craig Mattson and seconded by Mike Spears to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Ryan Walseth to approve the bills as submitted and on file in the School District Business Office. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Superintendent's Report:
Our COVID numbers look good. Shut out to our school cleaners and our building staff for keeping our buildings clean, sanitized and safe for students and staff.

It is our expectation that all students who are participating in a school overseas trip, get vaccinated. This includes those going to New York for the Choir trip. We just can't take the chance of a student getting sick, or not being able to attend an event where a vaccine is required. We don't know all the rules overseas and we believe this is the best way to keep everyone safe and ensure they can return home when the trip is completed.

We are preparing for the next step in our Director of Special Education licensure. The current Director contract will expire at the first of the year, so the district will apply for a variance in order for Holly Ward, our current coordinator, to become adequately licensed.

Our Referendum vote is just around the corner on November 2. I think we have done everything we can to get the information out to our community, so hopefully they feel like they are informed. We have one last listening session that will take place on November 1, from 6-7 pm in the LHS Commons. This is for anyone who still has questions. However, anyone can always just reach out if they have questions.

Committee Reports:

Donita Stepan gave a recap from the October 13, 2021 MEC Joint Powers Committee meeting.

Student Reports:

LHS Seniors, Daniella Niebuh and Kaden Mostrom, were in attendance and provided an update on upcoming events at Lincoln High School.

Recognitions:

A. Congratulations to LHS students Avery Skaar, Abby Flaagan and Brooklyn Broadwell for making it to the Girls Tennis Section Tournament. Abby and Brooklyn won Section doubles and will advance to the MN State Tournament October 28-29, 2021. They beat the #1 team from the South, 6-1 and 6-1.

Presentations:

Scott Brekke and Kelly Weets gave a presentation on their LHS Fall Building Vision Cards.

Kelly Weets presented the two options for the Academic Calendar for the 2022-23 school year. The school board will vote and approve the calendar at the November 8 school board meeting.

Real World Authentic Opportunities:
A motion was made by Craig Mattson and seconded by Michelle

Westerman to approve the request to add Red Lake County Central to our current Wrestling Cooperative Agreement with Warren, Newfolden, and Goodridge. Motion carried.

Voice and Choice:

A motion was made by Ryan Walseth and seconded by Mike Spears to approve the contract with Amy Rinowski, an Independent Service Provider, to provide Deaf and Hard of Hearing services from October 13, 2021 - June 3, 2022. Motion carried.

Equitable Experiences:

A motion was made by Ryan Walseth and seconded by Craig Mattson to approve the Facilities Use Request from the TRF Backcourt Club to use Challenger Elementary School Gyms 1-4 on Sundays beginning November 1, 2021 through March 20, 2022 from 5-7 pm. Motion carried.

Safety (Strategic Direction D):**Staff Growth:**

A. A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Michelle Westerman to approve the Consent Agenda and as appropriate, per negotiated contract, salary and benefits and an acceptable background check. Motion carried.

Personnel:

- Approve the employment of Conner Fawcett, Cleaner, effective October 25, 2021.
- Accept the resignation of Gerald Gonsowski, Bus Driver, effective October 22, 2021.
- Approve the termination of Tasha Nissen, Cleaner, effective October 25, 2021.
- Approve the leave of absence for Mark Paulson, Mechanic, from October 4, 2021 until approximately December 31, 2021.
- Approve the leave of absence for Mary Anderson, Special Education Teacher, FMS, from November 29, 2021 until approximately January 10, 2022.
- Approve the leave of absence for Cassie Berg, Teacher, FMS, from approximately March 25, 2022 until June 6, 2022.

B. A motion was made by Michelle Westerman and seconded by Mike Spears to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Thief River Falls Education regarding the HRA/HSA contributions. Motion carried.

C. A motion was made by Craig Mattson and seconded by Michelle Westerman to approve the 2021-23 General Terms and Conditions of Employment for Unaffiliated Cleaner Employees. Motion carried.

D. A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Ryan Walseth to Establish and Post for the following positions:

Motion carried.

- Special Education Paraprofessional Effective Date: Immediately
 - 1.0 FTE
- Targeted Services - CES - November 8, 2021- March 7, 2022
 - One (1) Coordinator - up to 75 hours
 - Up to Twelve (12) Gr. 1-5 teachers - up to 50 hours each
 - Up to Three (3) Paraprofessionals - up to 50 hours each

Strong Fiscal Management:**Other Items:****A. Policies:**

- A motion was made by Ryan Walseth and seconded by Craig Mattson to approve the renewal of MSBA 102 Equal Education Opportunity policy with changes. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Mike Spears and seconded by Michelle Westerman to approve the renewal of MSBA 406 Public and Private Personnel Data policy w/ changes. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Vice Chair Hempel adjourned the meeting at 7:07 pm.

/s/
Wayne Nomeland, Chair
/s/
Mike Spears, Clerk

November 17, 2021
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 2021, 5:00 P.M.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Pennington County Board of Commissioners met in the Pennington County Justice Center Board Room in Thief River Falls, MN, on Tuesday, October 26th, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. Members Present: Seth Nelson, Bruce Lawrence, and Darryl Tveitbakk. Members absent: Neil Peterson, Dave Sorenson.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Lawrence and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Vice Chairman Lawrence asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. The County Coordinator noted that Sheriff Ray Kuznia can be removed from the agenda. Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the Board agenda with the change presented. Motion carried.

NOW THEN, BE IT RESOLVED, that we do hereby accept said complete-



Lots of smiling faces, even on some of the decorations being sold by Lake Lomond Gardens during the Holiday Fair at the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls.

Motioned by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to approve the County Board minutes of October 12th, 2021, as written. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the Human Services warrants totaling \$201,651.56 and the following Commissioner warrants. Motion carried.

County Revenue \$44,144.79
Road & Bridge \$62,705.34
Justice Ctr.

Jail Bond Fund \$ 950.00
Justice Ctr. Capital Improvement Fund \$ 950.00
Ditch Funds \$ 950.00

Human Services Director Julie Sjostrand presented the consent agenda from the October 19th, 2021 Human Services Committee meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Tveitbakk and seconded by Commissioner Nelson, the following recommendations of the Pennington County Human Services Committee for October 19th, 2021 (detailed minutes on record) are hereby adopted:

SECTION A

I. To approve the September 21, 2021, Human Service Committee Meeting minutes.

II. To approve the Agency's personnel action as presented.

III. A. To approve the CY 2022 Tri-Valley Transportation Business Contract between Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. and Pennington County Human Services, as presented.

SECTION B

I. To approve payment of the Agency's bills.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan informed the Board that the roundabout project on Trunk Highway #32 (SAP#057-608-009) is in all things complete and final payment is requested to R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc. Final cost on the project is \$2,661,800.96. The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Tveitbakk and seconded by Commissioner Nelson:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, SAP#057-608-009 (T.H.#32 roundabout) has in all things been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises;

NOW THEN, BE IT RESOLVED, that we do hereby accept said completed project for and on behalf of the Pennington County Highway Dept. and authorize final payment as specified herein.

Discussion followed with Mr. Flaagan stating that the railroad lights and signals west of the roundabout are yet to be installed; the county's share will be approximately \$90,000. Following discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

Engineer Flaagan stated that the CSAH#8/Mark Boulevard bridge project (SAP 057-608-008) is in all things complete and final payment is requested to Robert Schroeder Construction. Final cost on the project is \$4,733,417.40. The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, SAP 057-608-008 (CSAH#8 Bridge) has in all things been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises;

NOW THEN, BE IT RESOLVED, that we do hereby accept said complete-

ed project for and on behalf of the Pennington County Highway Dept. and authorize final payment as specified herein.

Discussion followed with Mr. Flaagan that the project turned out and Mr. Flaagan said that the bridge has been nominated for some awards. Hearing no further discussion, the motion was carried.

Engineer Flaagan stated that the highway department is switching over to their winter hours work schedule effective November 1st, 2021. He noted that last winter one Highway Equipment Operator worked an earlier schedule from November 1st, 2020 – April 1st, 2021 to monitor road and roundabout conditions and plow as needed. The I.U.O.E. Local #49 union is asking to renew the related M.O.A. for this seasonal work schedule and differential pay for the period of November 1st, 2021 to April 1st, 2022. The Board agreed to the M.O.A. but no formal action was needed as noted by the County Attorney.

Commissioner Tveitbakk questioned Engineer Flaagan about a fall tour of local roads and projects. Commissioner Lawrence stated he would like to see the Black River Impoundment project area and the related outlets and ditches. Mr. Flaagan noted that the watershed is planning to put additional gravel on the area roads that received extra travel during the Black River Impoundment project.

Inter-County Nursing Director Kayla Jore presented a COVID-19 update to the Board. She noted that booster shots will be starting this Friday and that vaccination approval for the 5-11 age group is expected by mid-November 2021. The overall county fully vaccinated rate is approximately 60% and continues to slowly rise. The 25-34 age group is seeing the most positive cases but there has been a spike in positive cases within the under-4 age group. The 12-17 age group is now eligible for a \$200 incentive and 5 chances to win a \$100,000 scholarship to a Minnesota college. Commissioner Tveitbakk questioned if ICNS will hold a vaccination clinic for the 5-11 age group when vaccinations are approved, to which she replied that will incorporate those into their normal clinics. She anticipates there will be vaccination clinics held in the schools but that will take some time to coordinate. The County Coordinator questioned if testing supplies will be sufficient to handle the upcoming OSHA vaccine mandate. She said that testing supplies are and will continue to be an issue so the mandate and related testing will be a challenge. The Board thanked Ms. Jore for her report.

County Auditor-Treasurer Items:

None.

County Coordinator Items:

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the resignation of Deputy Assessor-Appraiser Amy Momerah, resignation effective 10/13/21. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to approve advertising for a full-time Deputy Assessor-Appraiser. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to publish a public notice seeking an individual to represent

There were over 65 vendors, and early estimates indicate that over 1,600 people attended the event, which was held on Saturday. The Times sponsored the event.

Pennington County on the Red Lake Watershed Board of Managers. Motion carried.

The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, and upon vote was unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED that Pennington County enter in a grant agreement with the MN Department of Public Safety for traffic safety projects during the period of October 1st, 2021 through September 30th, 2022.

The County Auditor-Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of Pennington County and to be the fiscal agent and administer the grant.

County Coordinator Kevin Erickson noted that the change health claims administrator for 2022 has brought up the issue of insurance effective dates for new hires. He is recommending a change whereas the effective date for health insurance benefits for new hires would begin the first of the month following date of hire. The Board referred the issue to the Personnel Committee and County Attorney and will revisit the issue at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Erickson updated the Board on other insurance offerings for 2022, noting that there will be no general rate increases for any supplemental insurance, including dental, long-term disability, and life. It was noted that the life insurance benefit went out for bid this year as required by law. Two bids were received and 4 providers declined to quote. The current provider, Securian/MN Life, offered no rate increases for 5 years and multiple enhancements including a one-time guaranteed issue for active employees, a line-of-duty benefit for public safety

officers, no age-reductions for the Basic Life benefit, and increased guaranteed issue for new employees.

County Attorney Items:

County Attorney Seamus Duffy noted that face coverings/masks are required on the entire second floor of the Justice Center, regardless of vaccination status. He noted that Court Administration has placed signs on the 2nd floor and the stairways and elevator leading up to the 2nd floor of the Justice Center.

Mr. Duffy noted that the posting for P/T Legal Secretary has expired, and multiple applications were received. Interviews for the position will be held on November 3rd, 2021, beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to adjourn the Board meeting to November 9th, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kevin Erickson,
County Auditor

Neil Peterson, Chairman
Pennington County
Board of Commissioners