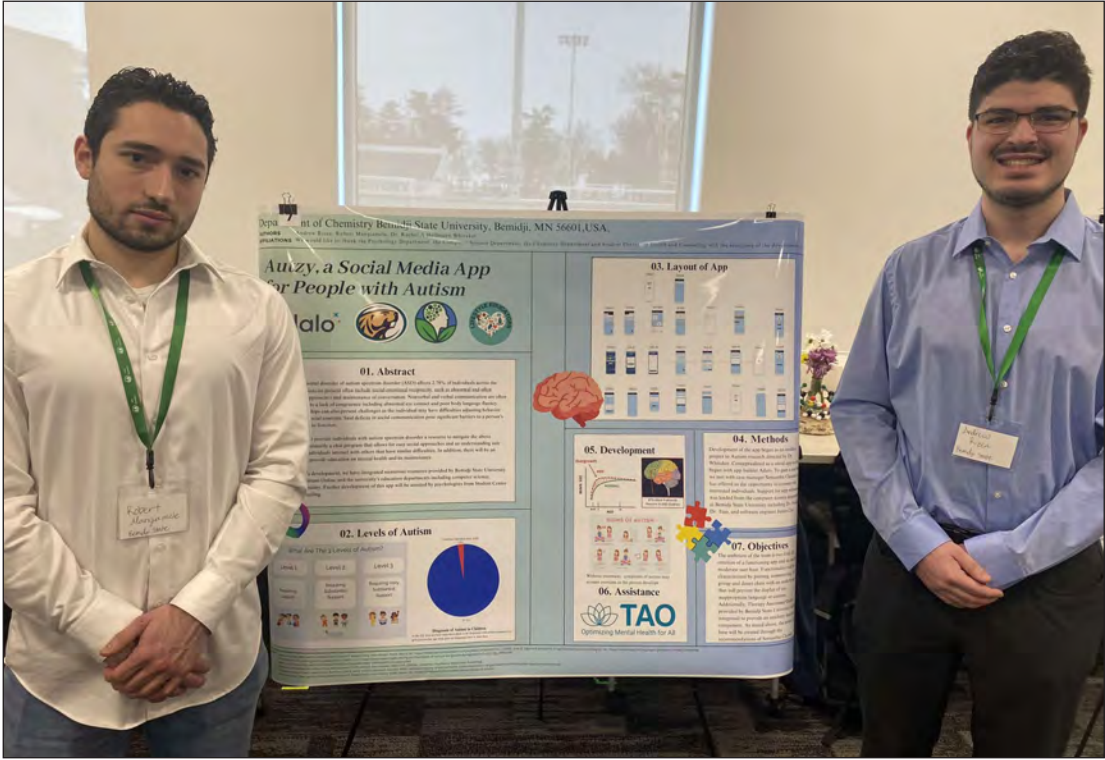




Tri County Canary

A supplement of the:
• Leader-Record • McIntosh Times • Grygla Eagle
• Red Lake County Herald (Oklee, Plummer - Brooks - Red Lake Falls)



Robert Mangiamele (left) and Andrew Rizea (right).

Bemidji State student-developed app to empower social connections for people with autism

People on the autism spectrum may soon have access to a safe, supportive way to connect with each other using an app being developed by a pair of Bemidji State University students.

The social networking app, called Autzy, was presented by BSU students Andrew Rizea and Robert Mangiamele during the Red River Valley Association of the American Chemical Society Conference held on the BSU campus in February 2024.

Mangiamele and Rizea have been working with Dr. Rachel Hellman Whittaker, associate professor of chemistry at Bemidji State, exploring the role that an RNA gene called LINC 00896 might play in autism spectrum disorder.

"From there, we got the idea of applying our knowledge of autism in more practical ways and helping those individuals," Mangiamele said.

Rizea said the idea began to form after speaking with parents following Hellman Whittaker's Honors Council Lecture Series presentation on the gene in November 2023.

"Some of the parents we talked to afterward were concerned about how they might support their children with autism," he said. "So this was really what inspired us to develop an app specifically for them, where they have all the support in a welcoming and secure environment with the supervision of professionals."

Hellman Whittaker says her eldest daughter is on the autism spectrum and that the project could provide support for a group of people who can often feel isolated and suffer from anxiety and depression.

"Autistic people often have social difficulties connecting with others, and these students wanted to explore different ways to bring them together," she said.

Rizea and Mangiamele have built a framework of their app in Adalo, an online platform that allows people to build prototypes of mobile and web apps without the need for code.

"We're very limited in coding experience, and Adalo is designed for us," Rizea said. "It lets us build a foundation of the social media app. We have a base now, and we can expand our team to include computer science people who can assist us."

Mangiamele said the app's initial focus will be on messaging and access to support resources, with the potential for additional features as the project develops. He said the app will also integrate with Therapy Assistance Online, an online resource available to all BSU and Northwest Technical College students through the schools' respective websites. The system provides access to a series of toolkits that provide information and support on a variety of subjects including stress management, focus and ADHD, and making connections with a community, among others.

"By integrating with TAO, the app will include a page where individuals can learn about ways to manage mental health or physical stress," he said.

With a prototype in place

and working in Adalo, the pair is now exploring the next steps to move Autzy from a concept to a functional app.

"We're working with the computer science department to try and iron out some of the issues with finalizing a working product," Rizea said.

Rizea added that the pair also plans to recruit volunteers and individuals who are on the autism spectrum through contacts at the Student Center for Health and Counseling to help them test the app and its functionality.

The students hope to have a working prototype in place by the end of the spring semester. Hellman Whittaker said the project has the potential to be a significant source of support for people on the autism spectrum.

"If this gets off the ground, I hope it has an impact on the autistic community," she said. "This can bring folks together and help them create connections with other people. It's also a step in the right direction to be more inclusive to neurodivergent folks."

The Autzy app was one of 10 projects presented by Bemidji State students at the American Chemical Society Conference. It was one of three that focused on the LINC00896 RNA gene; other topics included the effects of mercury concentration on a certain fish in northern Minnesota lakes, and several methods for detecting hydrogen sulfide.

Andy Bartlett
Director of Communications
Bemidji State University,
Bemidji, MN

Audition Dates for "Footloose!" Announced

The Bagley Community Theater, under the direction of Marilyn Hood, will produce "Footloose" this summer with performances set for July 3,4,6,& 7 during the Bagley All-School Reunion.

Area actors are sought for this high-energy musical filled with some of America's favorite characters and songs. The cast includes young adults (12-15 actors age 15-25) and adults (12-15 actors over age 25) whose ideas about propriety clash in the small town of Bomont, USA.

Auditions will be held Sunday, April 21st from 4-6:30 and Monday, April 22nd from 6:30 – 8:30 at the Bagley High School Auditorium. To audition, please prepare a short monologue or reading (many can be found online) and approximately 32 bars of an up-tempo song. Wear shoes you can move in. No experience is necessary, we welcome adults of all experience and ability levels to try out.

People auditioning do not need an appointment; just show up, fill out an audition form, and show us your talents. Rehearsals begin April

29th and in May will be two evenings per week for most actors. In June, we gradually add more rehearsals.

Individuals who are not able to make it to one of the audition days can e-mail director Marilyn Hood (mjhoods@gmail.com) to arrange an alternative audition format (i.e. a digital submission). Any other questions can also be sent via e-mail to Marilyn. Assistant/music director will be Josh Gunderson. So...."Cut loose, Footloose, Kick off your Sunday shoes" and join the fun!

Key corn insect pests topic of Strategic Farming

Two key pests of corn, European corn borer (ECB) and corn rootworm (CRW), were the topic of discussion on the March 13, Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops program with Dr. Fei Yang, Extension Entomologist with University of Minnesota Extension.

European corn borer was a major pest of corn, causing significant yield losses and economic damage throughout the U.S. Corn Belt prior to the introduction of Bt hybrids. Injury included stalk breakage, ear droppage, stalk rots, ear rots, mycotoxins and ultimately yield losses. Control was particularly challenged in Minnesota by the existence of two biotypes, the univoltine biotype, which has only one generation in a year, and the multivoltine

biotype, which has at least two generations each year.

Because ECB larvae burrow into the stalks and ears of corn, it is very difficult to effectively time an insecticide application for control. Transgenic Bt corn replaced the use of insecticides for ECB control in many fields, providing excellent control of ECB for almost 27 years in the U.S.

Practical resistance in ECB to Bt corn was first found in Nova Scotia, Canada in 2018. Although resistance in ECB to Bt corn is still rare in the U.S., resistance poses a significant threat to the long-term sustainability of this technology. The close proximity of the Canadian populations to Minnesota is also concerning as ECB moths can migrate long

distances.

Monitoring for resistance, use of a high dose/refuge strategy, and pyramiding or stacking Bt traits in hybrids have been effective so far at fending off and slowing down resistance. Anyone who sees a problem developing in a field is requested to report it to Dr. Yang at z.umn.edu/ECBreporting or by email at yang8905@umn.edu.

Corn rootworm (CRW) is currently the main insect threat to corn in Minnesota. CRW larvae feed on corn roots, resulting in less water and nutrient uptake, which can hurt corn yield. When severe, injury can result in root lodging, which can hinder photosynthesis, pollination and harvestability. Feeding wounds can

Rain, Snow, Sleet, or Hail?

By Eric Mickelson

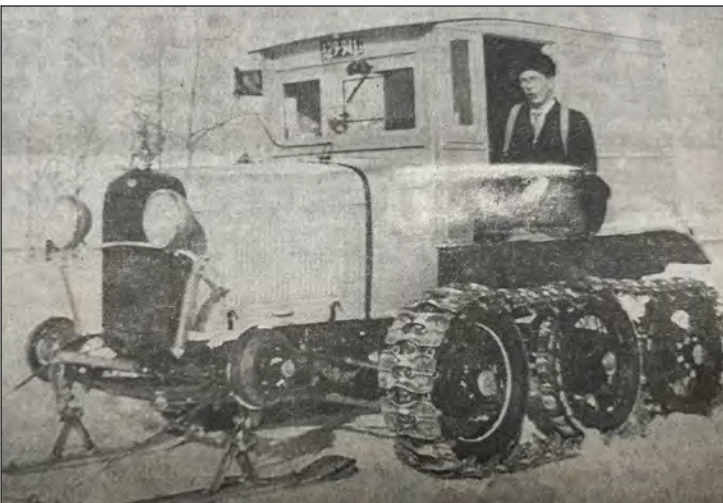
"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds" This is a phrase sometimes associated with the American postal worker. Though it is not an official creed or motto of the United States Postal Service, the Postal Service does sort of acknowledge it as an informal motto.

Today we have modern snow removal equipment and modern vehicles so you might say today it is easier to complete the task of delivering mail. Although, even today it can be a challenge and common sense knows there are times to not even try if conditions are life threatening.

I came across a story in a 1960 Leader Record. I am known to many people as the "tractor guy," so I have to admit it was the picture (although not a tractor) that got my attention. The headline of the article read, "Carl Erickson, Leonard Rural Carrier, Retires with Over 37 Years of Service." The picture was Mr. Erickson in one of his early snowmobiles and by snowmobiles I mean a Ford Model T converted with skis and tracks.

Leonard's rural route was established on October 2, 1922 with Carl appointed temporary carrier and on December 16, 1922, he was given the job of regular carrier. Until his retirement on January 1, 1960, he was the only regular carrier on Leonard's Route 1!

When the route was started, in 1922, its length was 29 miles. The route followed old Indian trails, zig-zagged around swamps and lakes and through the woods as far north as the Red Lake Indian Reservation. In those early days Carl's faithful horses, Captain,



Mr. Erickson in one of his early snowmobiles.

and Dolly, were used on the route. Sometimes the "Roads" were nearly impassible even for the horses. The route was every other day. This was good as the horses (and probably Carl) needed a rest after a day on the route. Later it was changed to a daily route. For about 7 years the horses were used in fall, winter, and spring. In the summertime sometimes the Ford Model T could be used.

In 1929 Carl made a "Snowmobile" from a Model T Ford. It did not work too well because it did not have enough power. After two winters with the model T a Model A "Snowmobile" was purchased. Four of these were worn out on the route. They turned out to be costly to run and too a lot of hard work and maintenance to keep them running. Later, with much trouble repairing the tracks on the snowmobile Carl went a new route. Four large airplane tires were put on the Model A. Many other types of tires were used and some worked well and some were unsuccessful.

Sometimes when Dr. Larson from Bagley would receive a medical call in the Leonard

area and the roads were not good he would call Carl for a ride in the snowmobile! Many others received rides to the doctor also.

In his 37 years on the mail route Carl put on approximately 639,000 miles on the same route. This translates to about 28 times around the world! Yes, he may have gotten stuck or even slipped into a ditch, but he NEVER had an accident!

As Carl retired in 1960, he gave a big thank you to the 5 postmistresses and postmasters he worked with and also extended a another thank you to all the patrons who made his job enjoyable!

I bet many of us would not have liked his job, but I kind of think I would have liked to ride at least ONE route with him in the winter and experience the life of a rural mail man who had to use a snow machine to get the job done!. We've come a long way baby!

Eric Mickelson
Green Magazine
Richard's Publishing
Oklee, MN 56742
218-791-9157



Brent Epema (left) with B&E staff members.

Minnesota Beef Council Names B&E Meats as 2024 Retail Beef Backer

The Minnesota Beef Council is excited to announce that B&E Meats of Crookston, Minnesota has been named the 2024 Minnesota Retail Beef Backer award winner. This prestigious award is given to honor retailers who go above and beyond to market and merchandise beef to their customers.

B&E Meats is a small, community-oriented, family-operated meat market owned by Brent Epema. The history goes all the way back to Kenny Epema, Brent's father, who worked as a butcher in the Crookston area. Through family traditions, Kenny taught his sons how to raise a few head of cattle and pigs, which they would process in the garage. With that came learning to hunt and process venison. Brent continued his knowledge of processing beef, pork, and wild game in their garage until the spring of 2004 when he purchased Fisher Meats in Fisher, Minnesota. In 2006, Brent purchased the Camas Concrete plant in Crookston where he continued to process wild game as a seasonal job until 2007 when he took the plunge to open year-round as a full-service meat market. As the business continued to grow, Brent expanded the building and, in 2013, B&E Meats opened their new 1,400 square foot retail space.

B&E Meats offers a wide variety of selection with their 24-foot fresh meat display and

eight-foot open case of smoked meats. They also carry hand-packaged food, sauces, rubs, and spices. One of their most unique products is their signature "1975 Burger Blend," which is a recipe from a Crookston meat locker where Brent's dad, Kenny, previously worked. "Beef Holy Rollers" - a type of stuffed meatloaf wrapped in bacon - are also a customer favorite. Creative education is something that is important to this meat market, evident by their Prime Rib cooking instruction video shared to Facebook this past Christmas that garnered more than one million views! B&E Meats strives to provide their customers with high-quality, delicious beef products, selling 800 lbs. of beef per week.

B&E Meats received an engraved award to display in their retail shop. You can follow along with their meat market on Facebook and Instagram.

Any independent or chain retailer that is based in Minnesota is eligible to apply to be the Retail Beef Backer. Retail operations or owners may enter themselves or may be nominated by a customer or vendor.



CLEARBROOK-GONVICK ISD 2311 IS CURRENTLY SEEKING A STUDENT TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER

FOR CONTRACT YEARS COMMENCING WITH 2024-2025. THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTEREST AND QUALIFICATIONS IS 2:00 PM, MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2024. Independent School District No. 2311 is using the written quotation and direct negotiation process established by Minnesota Statutes 2023, Section 123B.52, Subds. 1 and 3 for the procurement of this contract and disclaims usage of any other contract procurement options such as sealed bids allowed under applicable law.



There will be an Artist Talk/Reception with artist Rick Paulin on Saturday, April 6th at the Bagley Public Library, starting at 11:00 AM. His art is on display at the Bagley Public Library in the community room.

Rick will be having a free raffle, were he is giving away a 16x20" acrylic painting (not the one shown). Come out to show Rick your support! This is a BAAC sponsored event.



Notice of Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Brooks Community Center | Brooks MN
BREAKFAST | 8:30AM • MEETING TIME | 9:30AM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of the members of the Red Lake County Cooperative, Inc. of Brooks, MN will be held at the Brooks Community Center on April 2, 2024 at 9:30AM. Business to be conducted will include a review of the financial statements, the manager's report, the election of one (1) at-large director, and consideration/voting by the members on unanimous resolutions of the board to: amend Article V. "Board of Directors" Section 1. to reduce the number of directors from seven (7) to six (6) (see complete text below); and amend Article III. "Board of Directors" Section 1. of the Bylaws to reduce the number of directors to six (6), and for the number of districts to be reduced from five (5) to four (4) (see summary statement below).

The text of the proposed amendment to Article V. (Board of Directors) Section 1. Of the Articles of Incorporation is as follows:

Article V. (Board of Directors) Section 1. The management of this corporation shall, effective immediately following the time this matter is voted upon and approved at the 2024 annual meeting, be vested in a board of six (6) directors, who shall be elected by and from the stockholders/members at the annual meeting to be held in the territory served by this association within the time period required by the law applicable to such things, and as otherwise provided in the by-laws, and on such date and time as the board of directors shall select in each year. All vacancies in the board of directors shall be filled by the board until the next annual meeting.

A summary statement of the proposed amendment to Article III. (Board of Directors) Section 1. of the Bylaws is to reduce the number of board members from seven (7) to six (6) (consistent with the proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation), and to reduce the number of geographical districts from five (5) to four (4), with there to be one (1) board member from each of the four (4) districts and two (2) at-large directors.

• DIVIDENDS
CHECKS

Red Lake County Cooperative Inc
Todd Wieland, Chairman • Anthony Chuck Flage, Secretary

• DOOR
PRIZES

R2C

MARCHING TOWARDS SPRING Sale NOW THROUGH SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH

All in-stock and special-order furniture,
mattresses, and home decor 10% off!

Free delivery within 50 miles on all furniture
and mattress purchases of \$499 and up.

Appliances up to 40% off both in-store and
online at Mireaultshomefurnishings.com.

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You can buy any of our products off the floor, find something you like, take it home with you today or have it delivered.

Mireault's Brand Source financing
is available for 6 months at 0%
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and up, subject to credit approval.

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9:00-5:00 • Saturday 9:00-1:00

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R2C

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R2C

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R2C



By John Eggers



"Is it worth anything?"

Let me tell you a secret. You can make a few dollars if you have a good eye and know what you are doing. A friend recently sold a rat-torn, filthy dirty, number 24 (every comic has a number) Superman comic book for over 200 dollars. I purchased a box of twenty or thirty old pulp magazines from the early 1900s and sold six or seven for over 300 dollars each. Why? The cover illustrator made them valuable. Comics from the 1950s are very good if they are in good condition. There are exceptions, like the Superman comic pictured. It has a value of less than \$10 due to its poor condition, and it is not too scarce. Magazines are often purchased for the cover illustrations. Look! It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Superman, and he can be worth his weight in Kryptonite. So, is it worth anything? That depends. John Eggers, envision@paulbunyan.net, 218-766-9009

DINING & entertainment

LITTLE BOBBY'S

295 Cleveland Ave, McIntosh, MN • 218-563-3008

Easter Buffet

Sunday, March 31st
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Buffet includes:

Ham Dinner with choice of 3 desserts - \$15.00

Kids Meals are

\$5.00 & include an Easter Basket.

In observance of Easter, no alcohol will be served.

NO BINGO

WING NIGHT WEDNESDAY

Fri. & Sat., March 29th & 30th, RIBEYE
We will be CLOSED Easter Sunday

SHORTY'S PLACE, 268-4199

BAR BINGO! AND PADDLE WHEEL

TUESDAY, APRIL 2ND, 2024 - 6:30 PM
57#S AT \$1,000 UP TO \$1,000 MAXIMUM

SPONSORED BY:
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**Friday & Saturday
March 29th & 30th, 2024**
Steak & Shrimp, BBQ Ribs,
Broasted Chicken, Ribs &
Chicken, Ribeye
Comes with Salad Bar, Potato & Garlic Toast.
Friday ONLY - Walleye

**• HAPPY •
Easter**
We will be
**CLOSED,
Sunday, March
31st for
EASTER**

Kitchen Hours 8am-9pm Mon.-Sat. & 11am-9pm Sun.

COMING SOON

RETIREMENT PARTY

for

Joyce Morinville

Friday night, March 29th

Come help Joyce

celebrate her retirement.

Cake & refreshments served.

CONGRATS on your RETIREMENT!

New selection of hoodies for sale!

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EASTER Sunday, March 31st

at **Ness Cafe**

10 am - 2 pm

Easter Breakfast Buffet

served from 8 am - 1 pm — \$12.00

**Baked Ham, Turkey, Meatballs & Deep Fried Shrimp,
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Stuffing,
Glazed Carrots, Corn, Full Salad Bar & Dessert**
• Adults - \$19.99 • Kids 10 & under \$10.99

~ REGULAR MENU IS ALSO AVAILABLE! ~

BREAKFAST SERVED ALL DAY EVERY DAY AT NESS CAFE!

RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED - but not required!

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Open 7 days a week! • M-F 7 am - 2:30 pm • Saturday & Sunday 7 am - 2 pm

Visit our website: thenesscafe.com • Like us on Facebook

Wishing All a Happy Easter!

R2C

CLASSIFIED ADS



FARM OPERATOR/MECHANIC POSITION

Gunvalson Farms, Inc. has an open position for a full-time Farm Operator/Mechanic at our wild rice farming operation 10 miles north of Gully, MN. Must be physically fit, have machinery repair experience and be able to competently operate farm machinery. Must be willing to work long hours during the fall harvest season however we have flexible winter hours. Maintaining a healthy work-life balance for the team is very important to us. We offer competitive pay depending on experience. Benefits include PTO, 401k and Health Insurance. Address: 18345 390th Ave SE, Trail, MN 56684 Phone: 218-556-0736

R2-9C

Polk County Full-Time Employment Opportunities:

Clerk Typist Cashier IV – Finance: \$20.36 – \$25.79/hr. Position Closes March 27, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

Seasonal/Summer Maintenance – Highway: \$18.29/hr. Position Closes April 26, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

Assistant County Attorney I – Attorney’s Office: \$40.18 – \$50.90/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Community Resource Officer – Sheriff’s Office: \$24.24 – \$30.71/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Custodian I – Facilities: \$19.20 – \$24.33/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Deputy Sheriff Patrol I - II – Sheriff’s Office: \$30.03 – \$40.32/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Environmental Technician – Environmental Services: \$25.69 – \$32.55/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

Transfer Station Operator – Environmental Services: \$23.09 – \$29.24/hr. Position Is Open Until Filled

For a full job description, application, and general job openings information go to www.co.polk.mn.us and click on “Careers” or call 218-281-5408 Polk County Administrator’s Office. EOE

R491C

HIRING FULL-TIME SCIENCE TEACHER 2024-25

Clearbrook-Gonvick School District has an opening for a full-time Science Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. The Clearbrook-Gonvick Science Department is a two person department with one instructor teaching the following courses for the 2024-2025 school year: Physical Science 8 & 9, Advanced Physical Science, and Chemistry. The other instructor would teach Life Science 7, Biology 10, Environmental Science, and STEAM 7. Teaching assignment would be based on candidates' licensure area(s) and experience. A Minnesota Teaching License in conjunction with the Science courses listed above is required for the position. Individuals who are interested in extra-curricular or coaching activities are also encouraged to apply. Position is open until filled. Please submit letter of interest, resume, credentials, and three references to:



Clearbrook-Gonvick School 16770 Clearwater Lake Rd Clearbrook, MN 56634 Attn: Melissa Weems, HR Phone: 218-776-3112 Ext. 105 Or email the materials to: mweems@clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us

Clearbrook-Gonvick School District ISD #2311 is an equal opportunity employer.

R2-5C

COACHING POSITIONS

Clearbrook-Gonvick School has the following Coaching Positions available:

Assistant Track Coach for the upcoming 2023-2024 season beginning on March 18th. Requirements of the position include being present for all practices and track meets, teaching the fundamentals of running, and being a positive role model for our athletes. Must be able to pass a background check.

Junior High Baseball Coach for the upcoming 2023-2024 season beginning on March 18th. Requirements of the position include being present for all practices and games, teaching the fundamentals of baseball to junior high athletes, and being a positive role model. Must be able to pass a background check.

Head Coach Varsity Volleyball for the 2024-2025 season beginning fall of 2024. Requirements of the position include being present for all games and practices, have a strong background in coaching and/or playing volleyball, and being a positive role model to athletes. Must be able to pass a background check.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest and resume to:

Melissa Weems, HR 16770 Clearwater Lk Rd. Clearbrook, MN 56634 218-776-3112 Ext. 105 Email: mweems@clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us

R51-2C

Clearwater County Deputy Auditor-Treasurer

Applications are being accepted for a Deputy Auditor-Treasurer position, under the general supervision of the Clearwater County Auditor-Treasurer. This position is assisting with maintenance of department accounting functions, processing accounts payable, receipting monies, entering and maintaining county budgets, reconciling and balancing accounts. Responsible for processing land tax forfeitures, assists with payroll, tax collection and the entering of special assessments, issuance of passports and administrating election procedures.

Desired education requirements are an Associate Degree in accounting, business, finance or related field or a minimum of three years' experience in accounting of governmental accounting procedures and practices. Must be proficient in computer skills and willing to learn various software applications. Salary Range is \$21.25-27.69 with full benefits.

Applications may be obtained from the Clearwater County Service Center located on the 2nd floor of the Clearwater County Courthouse or on the website at www.co.clearwater.mn.us.

Applications can be returned to Allen Paulson, Clearwater County Auditor-Treasurer's Office, 213 Main Ave N, Bagley MN, 56621. This position is open until filled.

R2-3C

Red Lake County Seasonal Tar Crew Laborers

Position will assist in tar-patching and various road maintenance operations, and occasionally assigned to other seasonal job duties within the Highway department.

Applicants must be 18 years old as of the date of hire, possess a valid Minnesota Class D driver's license, and be able to do manual labor. Position will approximately start the end of May, works 4-10 hr. days, and wage is \$19.05/hr.

Applications are available online at www.co.red-lake.mn.us/employment or at the Red Lake County Highway Department, 204 7th St SE, Red Lake Falls, MN, (218) 253-2697. Applications accepted until positions are filled. EOE

R2-3C

Clearwater County Department of Human Services

Clearwater County Department of Human Service is looking to fill 2 full time (40 hours per week) positions with skilled, caring, and empathetic team players whose talents will contribute to and promote the mission, vision, and values of the agency. Clearwater County DHS offers a comprehensive benefit package.

Agency Social Worker: This position will work with the aging and disabled populations to assess needs and arrange services so individuals can remain safely in their home and community. The pay scale for this position is \$27.36-\$35.83 per hour.

Go to http://agency.governmentjobs.com/mnmeritsystem to review the qualification requirements, position description, and to apply. The application must be submitted by 4:30 P.M. 3/29/2024.

Accounting Technician: This position will complete general accounting duties such as making payments and performing recovery and collection tasks. The pay scale for this position is \$17.83-\$23.34 per hour.

Go to http://agency.governmentjobs.com/mnmeritsystem to review the qualification requirements, position description, to apply and take the required test. The application must be submitted by 4:30 P.M. 4/1/2024. The test must be complete by 4:30 P.M. 4/5/2024

We are an equal opportunity employer.

R1-2C

SUBMIT YOUR EMPLOYMENT ADS to richards@gvtel.com

ART TEACHER NEEDED

Clearbrook-Gonvick School District has an immediate open position for an Art Teacher. This is a full-time, grades 7-12 position and would be available for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, as well as for the 2024-2025 school year.

A MN Teaching License in Visual Arts is required for this position. Individuals with other licensure in lieu of Visual Arts, and those who are interested in extra-curricular or coaching activities are encouraged to apply. Position is open until filled.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, credentials, and three references to:



Clearbrook-Gonvick School 16770 Clearwater Lake Rd Clearbrook, MN 56634 Attn: Melissa Weems, HR Phone: 218-776-3112 Ext. 105 Or email the materials to: mweems@clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us Clearbrook-Gonvick School District ISD #2311 is an equal opportunity employer.

R51-2C



Riviana Foods, Inc. Clearbrook, MN 56634

Hiring for: Maintenance Tech 3rd Shift

Starting at \$25.75

Manufacturing Production Laborers – All Shifts

– Starting at \$17.82

• Full Time
• Benefits include: Health/ Dental/Vision/401K
• Shift Differentials

Riviana Foods, Inc. Clearbrook, MN 56634

*Apply @ www.riviana.com or Call 218-776-3118

R2-5C

Household

FLOORING SALE: In-stock as low as 67¢ sq. ft.; In-stock vinyls as low as 78¢ sq. ft.; In-stock laminates as low as \$1.69 sq. ft. FREE estimates. Installation available. Mireault's Home Furnishings, Fosston, MN, 218-435-6171 or 800-545-6171

M316-C



CURRENT JOB OPENINGS OPEN POSITIONS

Director of Indian Education position opening immediately. Applicants must have a four-year Bachelor of Science Degree as well as a valid driver's license. Experience in Indian Education is preferred but not required.

Elementary Special Ed. Teacher position opening immediately. Proper Minnesota licensure is required and experience is preferred.

High School Math Teacher position opening fall of 2024. Proper Minnesota licensure is required.

Athletic Director .5 FTE position opening fall of 2024. Preference given to a Four-year college degree and experience in the field of education.

Elementary Art Teacher position opening fall of 2024. Proper Minnesota licensure is required.

High School Spanish Teacher position opening fall of 2024. Proper Minnesota licensure is required and experience is preferred.

Secondary Physical Science and Physics Teacher position opening fall of 2024. Proper Minnesota licensure is required and experience is preferred.

*Interested applicants should send a resume, letter of interest, three letters of recommendation and a copy of college transcripts to Nichole M. Ekre at 202 Bagley Ave. NW, Bagley, MN 56621 or nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us. Successful candidates must pass a criminal background check. Positions will remain open until filled. *

Substitute Teacher opportunities are available. Applicants should submit their teaching license (or substitute licensure with a 4-year degree) and resume.

Successful candidates must pass a criminal background check.

Native American Home School Liaison position openings. Candidates must be highly qualified, which includes either two or more years of college, an AA Degree, or the ability to pass the ParaPro Exam.

Paraeducator position openings. Candidates must be highly qualified, which includes a High School Diploma or equivalent and either 2 or more years of college/an AA Degree, or the ability to pass the ParaPro Exam.

Substitute Para opportunities are available. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent.

*Application forms may be downloaded from the District Website bagley.k12.mn.us, picked up in the District Office or you may email nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us. For more information, please call Nichole Ekre at 218-694-6184. Successful candidates must pass a criminal background check. Positions will remain open until filled. *

Food Service Cook opening immediately - a high school diploma or GED is preferred but not required. This is a 6.5-hour position.

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Substitute Food Service Support Staff - a high school diploma or GED is preferred but not required.

Food Service Cook opening fall of 2024 - a high school diploma or GED is preferred but not required. This is a 5.5-hour position.

*Application forms may be downloaded from the District Website bagley.k12.mn.us, picked up in the District Office or you may email nekre@bagley.k12.mn.us. For more information, please call Jennifer Hecht at 218-694-6184. Successful candidates must pass a criminal background check. Positions will remain open until filled. *

Full-Time Route Bus Driver and Substitute Bus Driver positions. Applicants must have or be able to obtain a school bus driver's license endorsement. The District is willing to help applicants obtain their school bus endorsement. New drivers will receive a \$200 stipend after six months of driving to help defray the cost of certification. For more information, please call Stuart Dukek at 218-694-6122. Successful candidates must pass a criminal background check. Positions will remain open until filled.

COACHING

Currently accepting applications for Co-Head Varsity Dance Coach

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R51-5C

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

Clearbrook-Gonvick School District has the following Teaching positions available for the 2024-2025 school year:

Band Teacher- This is a full-time position teaching grades 5-12. Courses currently include Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Elementary Band. Course offerings are flexible based upon a candidate's interest and experience. A MN Instrumental and Classroom Music license is required for this position.

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Early Childhood Special Education Teacher- This is a full time position working with Pre-K and Kindergarten Special Education students. A MN Early Childhood Special Education license is required for this position.

Applicants with alternate licensure and those interested in extra-curricular activities are encouraged to apply for these positions.



Please submit letter of interest, resume, credentials, and three references to: Clearbrook-Gonvick School 16770 Clearwater Lake Rd Clearbrook, MN 56634 Attn: Melissa Weems, HR Phone: 218-776-3112 Ext 105 Or email the materials to: mweems@clearbrook-gonvick.k12.mn.us Clearbrook-Gonvick School District ISD #2311 is an equal opportunity employer.

R50-2C



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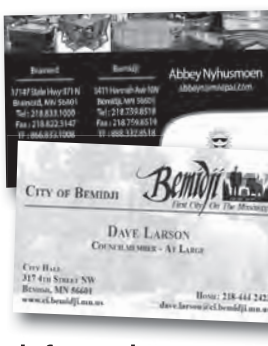
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Understanding alcohol use disorder and its signs

As long as alcohol has been available for consumption, there has been the potential for abuse. Alcohol is widely consumed around the world. The rehabilitation and counseling company AbbeyCare Group notes that the yearly average alcohol use globally is 6.4 liters of alcohol for every individual over the age of 15. That level of consumption equates to 53 bottles of wine consumed for every individual older than 15 each year, or about one liter of wine per week per person. A liter is equivalent to almost 41/4 cups or 38 fluid ounces.

Alcohol abuse is known by many names, including alcohol addiction, alcoholism and Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD), which is the term that medical professionals use today. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism says AUD is "a condition characterized by an impaired ability to stop or control alcohol use despite adverse social, occupational or health consequences." A 2022 National Study on Drug Use and Health found 28.8 million adults ages 18 and older in the United States had AUD in 2021. Statistics Canada says in 2021, almost 5.1 million people age 12 and older engaged in heavy drinking, defined as five or more drinks for men and four or more for women, on one occasion, at least once in the last year.

Although some people are very good at masking AUD, certain symptoms may be present if one is abusing alcohol. These include:

- Secretive or dishonest behavior in relation to alcohol.

- Drinking heavily alone.
- Spending increased time feeling ill or hungover.
- Drinking more or longer than one plans to.
- Having problems with work, school or family because of alcohol.
- Wanting alcohol so badly that this person cannot think of anything else.
- Spending a great deal of time in activities necessary to obtain alcohol or use alcohol.
- Using alcohol in situations in which it is physically hazardous to do so, such as while driving.
- Noticing that one has a significantly diminished effect with continued use of the same amount of alcohol.
- Going through withdrawal symptoms when alcohol consumption ceases.
- Lack of concern over personal appearance or hygiene.
- Weight loss or weight gain from changes in appetite.
- Turning to alcohol to alleviate feelings of depression or anxiety.

Genetics, family history and drinking at an early age can play a significant role in relation to AUD. Medications, behavioral treatments, and support groups are the main avenues that those who have AUD can use to recover from this condition. Those in the U.S. looking for more help with AUD can visit the NIAAA Alcohol Treatment Navigator at <https://alcoholtreatment.niaaa.nih.gov>. People in Canada can visit www.ccsa.ca/addictions-treatment-helpline-canada for addiction treatment helplines.



Warning signs of mouth cancer

Mouth cancer, also referred to as oral cancer, is an oft-overlooked form of the disease. Though mouth cancer is not as prevalent as other forms of the disease, a 2015 study published in the International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Pathology noted it is the sixth most common cancer worldwide, perhaps making this form of the disease worthy of additional attention from the general public.

The Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center notes mouth cancer is most closely linked to tobacco and alcohol use. However, even non-smokers and individuals who do not drink can develop mouth cancer. The MSKCC reports that mouth cancer is typically diagnosed after a dentist notices symptoms during routine exams, which is one of many reasons to schedule dental exams and cleanings at least twice per year. In addition to making dental exams part of their regular health care routine, individuals can keep an eye out for these warning signs of mouth cancer.

- **Mouth ulcers that are not healing:** The MSKCC notes this is a common symptom that is present in most people with mouth cancer. This is marked by a broken area of skin that will not heal.
- **Pain in the mouth:** The MSKCC notes that persistent pain in the mouth that does not subside is another common symptom of mouth cancer.
- **White or red patches in the mouth or throat:** This symptom might be hard for individuals to spot, particularly if the patches are in the throat. The MSKCC notes that a fungal infection known as oral thrush can cause red patches (erythroplakia) and white patches (leukoplakia) as well. Though the presence of these patches are

not evidence of cancer, they can lead to cancer if left untreated.

- **Difficulty swallowing:** A burning sensation when chewing or swallowing food may be indicative of mouth cancer. The MSKCC notes that some people with mouth cancer feel as though food is sticking in their throat. Some people also cough or feel as though liquid is entering their windpipe. Difficulty swallowing and chewing compels some people to eat less, which is why unexplained weight loss is another warning sign for mouth cancer.
- **Speech problems:** Changes to one's voice is another potential warning sign of mouth cancer. A voice may sound quieter or husky, and some people's voices may sound as if they have a cold all the time. The MSKCC notes that some people slur words or experience difficulty pronouncing certain sounds when they have developed mouth cancer.
- **A lump in the neck:** Swelling in one or more lymph nodes in the neck is a common symptom of mouth cancer, and people with this sign may feel as though they have a lump in their neck. If a lump in the neck is slowly growing bigger, that is a warning sign for mouth cancer. Lumps that come and go are not typically a byproduct of cancer, according to the MSKCC.
- **Additional warning signs:** A lump or thickening in the lip, a lump in the mouth or throat, unusual bleeding or numbness in the mouth, loose teeth with no apparent reason, and difficulty moving the jaw are some additional warning signs of mouth cancer.

Mouth cancer is not as common as other forms of the disease, but it can still be deadly if left untreated. More information is available at mskcc.org.

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Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow Minnesota State Patrol

Ques- tion: I am looking at purchasing my first vehicle but I am worried about scams. Do you have any advice for me? Thank you.

Answer: Here is some information we recently shared on our Minnesota Department of Public Safety blog. Picture this: You are excited about buying a car. You drive it home, but later find out the odometer had been rolled back thousands of miles, it was stolen, or it had previous damage the seller didn't tell you about — all devastating news.

Scams like this are happening right here in Minnesota. That's why our Minnesota State Patrol Investigative Services Section is warning people to be on the lookout for signs the deal might be fraudulent.

"If you're in the market for a new vehicle, make sure you know what you're getting and who you're getting it from," State Patrol Capt. Jason Bartell said. "Trust your instincts. If it appears too good to be true, it probably is."

Buying a new car is a big decision. Our investigators recommend doing your research before handing over any money. Look up the value of the vehicle you're looking to buy. There are several sites online that can give you a good idea of what the price should be.

Whether you're buying from a dealership or a private seller, request a vehicle history report from a company such as Carfax or Autocheck. Look over the previous crashes that vehicle has been a part of and the previous work that's been done on the vehicle. Make sure the mileage is consistent and doesn't have any sudden huge changes.

If you're buying from a dealership:

- Look up the business online and review what customers are saying.



- Make sure you understand each part of the negotiated deal, including any warranty, and that each part is in writing.

- Read all the paperwork. Minnesota law requires the dealer to notify you of prior damage exceeding 80 percent of the value or the existence of any title brand, which is a label on a vehicle title that depicts its status, such as salvage, flood, junk, etc.

- Complete the transaction at the dealer's place of business.

If you're buying your new-to-you vehicle from a private party:

- Be suspicious of any deal requesting you put money down or transfer funds before seeing the vehicle.

- Ask if they are the owner and if they possess the title. Verify the name on the title is the person that is selling the vehicle with their state ID, driver's license or another form of identification. Look at the title to see if it shows a lien or a security interest on the vehicle. If it states the name of a bank or credit union, then there is a

lien.

- Be wary. Fraud often occurs with out-of-state titles, and sellers that are not listed on the title.

- Make sure each part of the deal is in writing. The bill of sale or receipt should be signed by all parties and include the names of all seller(s) and purchaser(s), as well as a vehicle description that includes the make, model, year and VIN. Include the date of the sale, the price of the vehicle and the vehicle's mileage. We recommend getting the document notarized.

- Complete the transaction at a safe location and transfer the title at a local deputy registrar's office together with the seller. If this is not possible, make sure to transfer the title within 10 days as required by state law.

- Take the vehicle to a trusted mechanic for an inspection.

If you suspect you've been a victim of this type of scam, contact your local law enforcement office, a deputy registrar office or the State Patrol's Vehicle Crimes Unit at 763-279-4000 or patrol.vcu@state.mn.us.

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Theology in the Trenches

By Kathleen Kjolhaug



Sounds More Like a Space of Grace

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters" (Genesis 1: 1-2).

As of late, I've read various authors commenting about this passage and was puzzled by liberties taken by them. What were their comments that sort of bugged me? They kept referring to things as chaotic or chaotic nothingness.

Frankly, it puzzled me. It puzzled me because as far as I know, we have a God of order and anything that is disordered pretty much comes from man trying to play God. As I pondered this, I wondered. If God is a God of order, how could there be chaotic nothingness? After all, He had a blank slate from which to create and if that's the case, wouldn't one rather call it a space of grace from which to begin the process?

Now I'm not trying to be the expert here, but am trying to be a more gentle in describing how this all began in the eyes of the Beholder. As He was beholding, then He was holding. In Colossians 1:17 it's quite clear. "And he is before

all things, and in Him all thing

hold together."

If He was before all things, then those things were, from the beginning, His and in perfect peaceful union with how He wanted them to be. The chaos began once man was created vying for the throne upon which God sat and sits. Remember how the angels fell? Well there you go. If the angels who were close at hand could fall, how much more tender must we cling to His ways over our own in the space of grace given to us this side of the veil.

Another author in question put it this way. "Suddenly, the universe went from a place of loneliness to a place filled with life and relationship." And again, my breath caught as I pondered his words. Was the universe a lonely place? It all sounded rather peaceful before the world was made. Can you imagine? The quiet—which He calls us to—was truly a place of quiet. Seems to me from the little I know, He created us out of love because He desired to share with us eternal life— from the beginning.

I don't pretend to know much, but of this I am sure. We can't put words into God's Word and change the meaning just to make it a good story for those listening in and it may not only mislead, but misdi-

rect.

God reveals who He is throughout scripture. However, we cannot make things up out of nothingness—only He can do that. We may cross reference and make sure what we are reading is within the context of what He meant, but we cannot claim it to mean anything other than what He meant. We must relook, and rethink what we are teaching or we might end up redirecting others down a path that misrepresents.

When one passes on the baton of faith, it is from the perspective of those who have gone before us. It's not grabbing it in order to run with the wind and rewind the historical context of what He meant it to be. He makes things new not by rewriting that which He's written, but by transforming minds and hearts to line up with His ways over our own.

As one wise young man told me years ago—"If I'm thinking up something new for the very first time in over 2,000 years, pretty sure it's been thought of before and already hammered out by the church fathers who have gone before us." Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us, Lord, so that we may line up our will with Thy will in all that we say, in all that we do and in all that we write. Amen.



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The 5000 Ford

By Auctioneer Eric W. Mickelson



Kelly Dahlen of Goodridge and his 5000 Ford!

When I grew up we were farming with mostly John Deere two cylinder tractors, I am sure the reason they are my favorite machines. Eventually we moved up to a 4010 Diesel. We thought we had the world by the tail! I asked my dad once what was the best tractor you ever had. After some thinking he responded, "I guess the 4010!" I may agree probably it was the tractor I put the most hours on when I grew up.

A couple of our neighbors around that time had 5000 Ford tractors. I wasn't familiar but the blue tractors looked nice as they moved across the field. I remember seeing both of these tractors doing a lot of haying. Later when I graduated from college and was teaching at Viking School in Viking, MN, I worked for a friend and neighbor once in a while. He had a 5000 Ford and pulled a Hesston Stack Maker with it, making those hay stacks that looked like a loaf of bread. I got to run that 5000 making stacks. It was fun! Of course, I always loved haying!

The 5000 Ford was made from 1965-1976. The first series was built from 1965-1967. They made some changes and in 1968-1976 the newer models were produced. The 5000 had 4 cylinder engine available as gasoline or diesel.

Recently I was talking with Kelly Dahlen of Goodridge, MN. Turns out he has a 5000 Ford that was purchased new in about 1974 by his father, Erling. When it was purchased the 5000 did everything on the farm. Many hours were put on the tractor! Recently Kelly had the 5000 overhauled and has been doing some other fixing. He took me to the shop to take a look and hit the key and the tractor was running! Now the tractor is sort of retired. Kelly's wife Brenda will probably bale a couple hundred square bales with it, other than that its life will probably be spent on simple chores or hanging around in the shop!

Stories like this are fun to me, fixing up dad's tractor and sharing a story or two about the tractors life accomplishments. Some people like their dogs or cats, but I like to spend time taking tractors! Everybody's got their hobby and mine, well, it's tractors!

Thanks Kelly for the story about the 5000!

How about a little tractor trivia!

1. The Ford 5000 was built in _____?

A) Milwaukee, WI B) Chicago, IL C) Highland Park, MI D) Waterloo, IA

2. In 1965 a 5000 tested with 53.3 PTO hp and in 1968 it was tested at _____ hp.

A) 59.94 hp B) 63.94 hp C) 65.54hp D) 69.94 hp

3. In 1967 the price of 5000 Ford was \$5400, in 1976 the price was _____.

A) \$9995 B) \$10,500 C) \$11,500 D) \$12,999

4. Some of the Ford's came with a 10 speed transmission called _____?

5. Did Ford make a model 6000?

Answers: 1. C. Highland Park 2. B. 63.94hp 3. C. \$11,500 4. Select-O-Speed 5. Yes



ON THE FARM WORD SEARCH

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ON THE FARM WORD SEARCH

Answers on page 6

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Fiddle Tunes, Fiber Folk & Prairie Prints
Featuring Jeanne Griffin O'Neil & Erin Jeanne O'Neil

Northwest Minnesota Arts Council Gallery, Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls
Open Now through April 2024.
Artist Reception Wednesday, April 24 at 6 PM with live music by the O'Neil Family Band.
The Northwest Minnesota Arts Council (NWMAC) is pleased to announce the opening of Fiddle Tunes, Fiber Folk & Prairie Prints Featuring Jeanne Griffin O'Neil and Erin Jeanne O'Neil. This exhibit is open through April at the NWMAC Gallery at Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls.
Jeanne O'Neil explained, "The focus of this show is the celebration of Erin's recently completed book, Twenty of Plenty, in which twenty of her original fiddle tunes are transcribed. We are both folk musicians and visual artists, and it is fitting to bring these forms of artistic expression together, as the tunes and art are both inspired by the rural landscapes we live in."

The newest prints in this show come from a series of sketches made over the past summers on Jeanne's land. "Walking the fields and pathways every day, year after year, the colors, contrasts, textures and lines of trees, grasses, sky, river are impressed in my mind, creating an accumulated knowledge of these places. The making of each print creates a deeper knowing and a stronger connection to that knowing."
The Twenty of Plenty tune book project was an effort to get some of Erin O'Neil's tune compositions transcribed so that they could be introduced into wider circles of musicians. With a grant from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council through funding from the McKnight Foundation, she collaborated with a folk musician originally from Norway. The descriptions and illustration throughout the book offer insight into the meaning of the compositions. The cultural influences for these tunes include French Canadian, Irish, Scan-

dinavian, Scottish traditional fiddle music, New England Contra Dance music, Old Time Appalachian music, and Metis fiddle tunes.
Erin also has Rag Folk pieces in this exhibit. The Rag Folk represent preservation of what has been used in everyday life and creating new lives out of old scraps and rags. Erin started creating these pieces with a passion for recycling and reducing waste and a desire to connect with others.
Jeanne and Erin both play in the O'Neil Family Band. Erin plays the fiddle and feet, while Jeanne plays the banjo and concertina. The band holds many community dances in our region.
Watch the video featuring Erin's music for a virtual tour of the exhibit at https://youtu.be/8IZbCEPmtik.
An artist reception at the gallery will be held at Northland Community and Technical College on Wednesday, April 24 at 6 PM. Everyone is welcome to join us for this free event. There will be live music, drinks, and dessert.
The O'Neil Family Band (this includes Erin O'Neil, Jeanne O'Neil, and Tom O'Neil) will perform at the Artist Reception. You don't want to miss seeing the O'Neil Family Band perform!



O'Neil Family Band will perform at the Artist Reception.



Jeanne O'Neil in front of one of her prints holding a Rag Folk piece created by Erin O'Neil.

Most of the art is for sale so consider purchasing one of these unique pieces. You can purchase it at any time and pick it up when the exhibit is over.
The NWMAC Gallery is located at Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls. The gallery hours are Monday-Friday from 8:30-5 PM and at other times when events are held at the college. Enter through Door B, which is right next to the gal-

lery. Visitor parking is free.
For more information about this exhibit visit our website at www.NWArtsCouncil.org, or if you are an artist interested in exhibiting a body of work with NWMAC, please contact Trey Everett at (218) 745-8886 or email NWArtsCouncil@gmail.com. Email director@NWArtsCouncil.org or call 218-745-8886 to reach our office during regular business hours.

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Businesses and Non-profits invited to apply for Promise Act Grant Funding

March 25, 2024 (Bemidji, MN) – The Northwest Minnesota Foundation will soon be accepting grant applications from small businesses and nonprofits to invest in existing operations or planned growth.
Through the PROMISE Act (Providing Resources and Opportunity and Maximizing Investments in Striving Entrepreneurs), created and funded by the Minnesota Legislature, the Northwest Minnesota Foundation, in partnership with the Department of Employment and Economic Development, has been awarded \$2.3 million to disperse one-time grants up to \$50,000 to businesses and qualified nonprofits. Businesses can use funds for working capital to support payroll expenses, rent or mortgage payments, utility bills, equipment, and other similar expenses that occur in the regular course of business.
The PROMISE Act program is intended to drive fair economic recovery by boosting small, rural, and minority-owned businesses, which face the largest barriers to accessing capital and resources.
The application process will consist of two steps:
1. Applicants complete an application to assess eligibility. All businesses and nonprofits that believe they are eligible may complete the application.
2. If deemed eligible through

the application, qualifying businesses and nonprofits will be invited to apply. The grant application window will be open no later than April 1, and will be open until April 30.
NMF expects more applications than there is funding available. Not all applicants can expect to receive funding.
This is the first of two rounds of the PROMISE Act grant program; the second round will be announced after July 1. Any awardees from the first round will be ineligible to receive a grant in the second round.
Priority will be given to businesses and nonprofits who received \$10,000 or less in previous financial assistance from state pandemic relief programs, and who meet the definition of financial hardship by showing a 10 percent decline in gross revenue or a decrease in net income from 2021 to 2022, as shown on tax returns.
Eligible applications will be businesses with \$750,000 or less in gross revenue that are located in the Northwest Minnesota Foundation's service area, which includes Red Lake Nation, White Earth Nation, and 12 counties (Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Mahanomen, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau).

U of M Crookston Horticulture program to further develop Allen & Freda Pedersen Garden

The University of Minnesota Crookston's Agriculture and Natural Resource department, along with the Horticulture program, are in the process of securing funding to further develop the Allen & Freda Pedersen Community Garden owned by the City of Crookston adjacent to campus. The space is located on County Road 71 next to the city's Valley Technology Park.
"We are thrilled and grateful for the recent funds awarded by the Crookston Visitors Bureau and the Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership," said U of M Crookston Horticulture Lab Services Coordinator and Horticulture Club Advisor Theresa Helgeson. "These two grants will enable us to market the community garden and bring in additional student workers for the summer."
"U of M Crookston has the only four-year Horticulture baccalaureate degree in the state of Minnesota and we're proud to have it here," she added.
Other members on campus are also making plans to further develop the garden as former master gardener and U of M Crookston donor Allen Pedersen, who passed away in 2017, and other green enthusiasts intended in 2014.
"It's been 10 years since Allen, Professor Emeritus Dan Svedarsky, and others launched this community garden," explained U of M Crookston Director of Out-

reach and Engagement Michelle Christopherson. "Food is a critical component for our students and community residents, social wellbeing and agriculture education will play an important role in the garden development."
"We have written a handful of grants to sustain this community effort and while we wait for those award results, we want to welcome the community into the garden by getting involved and growing some food this summer," she added.
Collaborating partners include the City of Crookston along with the Crookston Economic Development Authority (EDA), Polk County Public Health, Northwest Research and Outreach Center, and support from the U of M Crookston Agriculture and Natural department, each of which will continue to play a critical role in the garden development.
The Allen & Freda Pedersen Community Garden will include 10 raised garden beds. Raised beds are for lease from May to October and each raised bed is eight (8) feet x four (4) feet x two (2) feet. Cost is \$150 which includes a \$50 gift certificate to the U of M Crookston Horticulture Plant Sale held on April 24, 25 and 26.
"The city continues to donate the space, and we want community involvement of all ages to engage," Christopherson continued. "Raised beds will allow residents an opportunity to lease green space

and grow their own food, while the pollinator plants, produce, pumpkin patch, sweet corn, and potentially a couple of pergolas remain on the list as additional grant funding is secured."
Christopherson says financial contributions will be recognized with appropriate signage and partnership levels throughout the garden.
"Funding for this project will increase visibility, reach, awareness and generate additional revenue to sustain a summer garden manager," she elevated. "Philanthropic inquiries have already resulted from the planning and organization of the community garden. Because of this interest, additional dollars will also be raised for a continual learning enterprise for students, staff, faculty, and the greater community."
"The actions that have been stimulated were not anticipated and, while these actions are not secured for this summer's endeavor, the symbolism and reality of the community garden is significant," shared U of M Crookston Professor Emeritus Dan Svedarsky.
Revenue raised by garden sales along with grant monies are planned to be secured to further the status of Crookston to advance to a Step 3 participant in the GreenStep Cities program, Christopherson noted. Those investments will reignite the Allen & Freda Pedersen Garden, allowing the U of M Crookston Agriculture and Natural Resources depart-

ment to reach two major milestones: (1) to further develop the size and scope of what initially started at the Allen & Freda Pederson Garden in 2014, and (2) to create activities and informational sessions that will educate the community on environmental changes that positively impact health and wellness.
"Collaborations with the City of Crookston, Northwest Research and Outreach Center, Polk County Public Health, Crookston Visitors Bureau, and the Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership all have contributed time, dollars, or both to engage community members to connect and develop an urban garden within city limits," summed up U of M Crookston Associate Vice Chancellor of Agriculture & Natural Resources and Math, Science, and Technology Anthony Kern.
For more information about the garden, garden engagement, and raised beds, contact Michelle Christopherson mchristo@umn.edu or sign up today at https://z.umn.edu/raisedbed.

PASSPORT PICTURES
Call for appt.
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NELL Spring scheduled finalized

The Spring 2024 Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning (NELL) schedule has been finalized. There are updates to from the previous schedule released. Please use THIS schedule of programs, dates and time. We hope that you find the Spring NELL programs diverse and exciting. Our lineup has everything from touring other countries, to hands-on programs and tastings, to historic and immersive experiences.
Leading up to each individual program, detailed information about the program will be sent to the media outlets commonly used by the NELL program. Like up on Facebook @ Northern Exposure to Lifelong Learning, to stay up to date. Last minute changes, updates, and/or cancellations will be posted on media sites as time allows.
Programs are on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am, door opening at 9:00am on April 3, 2024(unless otherwise noted**). There is no charge to attend NELL programs, and is open to all ages. Refreshments will be served at each program(free-will).
April 3rd, "Phone Scams" w/ Adam Gunderson: Chief of Police -Bagley, Bagley Public Library(Bagley).
April 10th, "Soil 102: Waking Up the Garden" w/Connie Nunemaker. Gonvick Community Center(Gonvick).
April 17th, "A Refugee's Journey from Czechoslovakia to the USA: Part I", w/ Fay Dickey, Our Savior Lutheran @ Ebro Corner(Bagley).
April 24th, "Quilling it W/

Nikki" The Art of Paper Quilling" w/Nikki Besser, The Embassy Center(Fosston).
May 1st, "Name That Town: Journey through Minnesota" w/ Doug Ohman. The Fosston Library & Arts Center (Fosston). (In collaboration with Lake Agassiz Regional Library-made possible in part by the Minnesota Legacy Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.)
May 8th, "A Journey Through the UK" w/ Beth Baker. Good Shepherd Lutheran(Clearbrook).
May 15th, "The United States Flag: Origins, Evolution, and Symbolism" w/ David Jones. McIntosh Community Center (McIntosh).
May 22nd, "You Too Can BBQ Like a Pro: Part II" w/ Brian and Cathy Brandt. The American Legion, Irvin Blix, Post 16 (Bagley) (Show/Tell/ and Tasting).
May 29th, "A Whole World of Food Here in Minnesota" w/ Amy Rea. Faith Lutheran Church (Bagley).
**June 8th, "D-Day: June 6th, 1944 - Operation Overlord" a special 80th anniversary of WWII w/Arn Kind, on SATURDAY @ The American Legion, Irvin Blix, Post 16, Bagley. **Saturday 11:00 AM-1:00pm (In collaboration with Lake Agassiz Regional Library, and made possible by the Minnesota Legacy Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund). Please note Date, DAY & start time.
For additional information or questions feel free to email us at BagleyNELL@outlook.com or call 218-401-1651. NELL address PO Box 585, Bagley, MN 56621

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OBITUARIES



Obituary for Cole H. Dyrdaahl

Cole H. Dyrdaahl, age 72, formerly of East Bethel, passed away March 24, 2024. Preceded in death by mother Agnes, father Lester,

sister Rita, and sister-in-law Cindy.

Survived by Liz, his wife of 23 years, sons Mitchell (Ruhyyih) and Matthew, stepchildren Amy (Chris), Daniel (Anna) and Andrew (Heidi), grandchildren Amos and Hunter, siblings Craig, Patty (Rick) and Curt (Kim), brother-in-law Tony, several nieces and nephews, extended family and friends.

A service to celebrate Cole's life will be 11:00 AM Thursday, Mar 28, with visitation one hour prior at Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel, 1827 Coon Rapids Blvd. Private interment Fort Snelling. In lieu of flowers, please plant a tree in Cole's memory.

www.Washburn-McReavy.com, Coon Rapids Chapel 763-767-1000



Obituary for Robert Martin

Robert "Bob" Martin, age 80, of Fosston, MN, passed away on Thursday, March 14th, at Neilson Place in Bemidji, MN. No services will be held at this time. Arrangements are with Carlin Family Funeral Service of Fosston.

Robert Dale Martin was born on August 30, 1943, in Odessa, Missouri to parents Earl and Jean (Robinett) Martin. He grew up and attended school in Odessa. Bob entered the United States Navy in July of 1962 and served during the Vietnam War, as a ship boilerman.

While living in California, Bob was married to Nona McHorney in 1966. In November of 1966, a daughter, Sheree, was born. Sheree also known as "Sam", always has been, and always will be his "little baby girl".

Bob received his honorable discharge in April of 1970 and moved with his family to the Oklee, Minnesota area. A son, Robert Jr. was born in April of 1971.

He was married to JoAnne Bauer on July 1, 1993. They lived south of McIntosh for many years, before they eventually settled in Fosston

where they currently reside.

Bob worked at Land O'Lakes in Fosston and in 1988 he started at the Polk County Incinerator, where he was the Chief Boiler Operator. Bob retired from the Incinerator in 2005. After his retirement, he became self-employed and began "Bob's Sandblasting", of which he operated from their home.

Bob enjoyed working on motors, and did mechanic work in his shop. He liked fishing (especially at Lake of the Woods). After retirement Bob helped care for his mother until she went into the nursing home.

He was willing to help anyone who was in need.

Survivors include his wife of 30 years, JoAnne of Fosston; his daughter "Sam" (Tony) Martin Caradonna of El Cajon, CA; three brothers, John (Bonnie) of Yuma, AZ, Paul (Pam) of Ham Lake, MN, and David (Beth) of Weslaco, TX. Bob also leaves to mourn, his very good friend, Ronald Hanson. Several nieces and nephews also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents Earl and Jean; first wife, Nona; his son, Robert Jr.; and brothers, Alvin and Tommy.

in California.

In October of 1956 he entered the US Navy and served in Australia, China, Japan, and Hawaii. Orley received an honorable discharge February of 1960.

In 1959, Orley was united in marriage to Jeanne in California. To this union three children were born; Keith, Brad, and Robert. Orley worked at Rockwell International Guidance Systems in Anaheim, CA for 35 years and retired in 1995. He moved back to Thief River Falls and traveled back and forth to California. In 1998, he purchased a home in Grygla, MN and resided there until moving to Lexington, SC in January 2023 to be cared for by his son Brad and his family.

Orley enjoyed 4-wheeling, reading and served as an umpire for baseball for many years. He was a member of the Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Grygla.

Orley is survived by his children Keith, Brad (Jackie) and Robert (Cindy), his grandchildren Jennifer, Mindy and Krystin (Ed), his great-grandchildren Olivia and James, and his sister Judy (Kenny) Halvorson.

Orley is preceded in death by his wife Jeanne, his parents Halvor and Evelyn Arneson, and his brother Belmont.

Corn insect...Continued from front

After staying generally low since 2005, northern corn rootworm (NCR) populations are on the rise in Minnesota. This species of CRW is more prevalent as you move further north in Minnesota. Although a portion of NCR eggs will hatch the following year, NCR exhibits extended diapause, where a significant portion of the egg population will hatch two or more years after being laid. This complicates management since rotating to soybeans every other year will not eliminate the potential for injury.

Resistance in WCR to Bt-corn was first found in 2009, six years after Bt-corn commercialization, and can be found in key corn producing states including Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and North Dakota. Resistance in NCR to Bt-corn was first reported in 2019 in North Dakota from a population collected in 2016, and in Minnesota in 2023 from a population collected in 2019.

With CRW management challenges on the rise, farmers are encouraged to scout fields to assess the potential for CRW

pressure the next time corn will be planted in a field. This can be done by using sticky traps to monitor adult CRW beetle populations and/or by digging roots during mid-late July to check for feeding.

Crop rotation is still the number one tactic to help manage CRW. Also, know what Bt traits are in the hybrids you plant, rotate effective sources when feasible, and consider pyramid stacks and the use of an insecticide at planting in fields where you anticipate heavy CRW pressure.

Listen to the recording of this program at <https://z.umn.edu/strategic-farming> for more details. Thanks to the Soybean Research and Promotion Council and the Corn Research and Promotion Council for their generous support of this program.

For more news from U of M Extension, visit <https://www.extension.umn.edu/news> or contact Extension Communications at extdigest@umn.edu. University of Minnesota Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

Artists Engage Community Grant applications are due April 15th

Region 2 Arts Council would like to announce a brand-new grant program for Artists – The Artists Engage Community Grant. This grant is open to artists or culture bearers in all arts disciplines, 21 years of age or older, living and working in one of the five Region 2 Arts Council counties of Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, or Mahanomen, Minnesota, that are interested in sharing their art and/or cultural practices with their community in meaningful ways.

Artists Engage Community grants support the creation, production, and presentation of high-quality arts activities that help instill the arts into the community and public life in our region. Eligible grant proposals must connect and engage with audiences, partici-

pants, students, and/or communities to provide new and/or expanded arts programming to residents of our region's counties, and/or remove barriers that audiences may have to accessing arts activities. Arts activities proposed for funding must be artist led, accessible by the public, and connect with community members through the arts.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2024

Maximum Award: \$6,000
Details and application information are available online at r2arts.org

Questions? Need more information?

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TEXT: 218-407-2507
EMAIL: staff@r2arts.org

MDA Reminds Farmers of Proper Bulk Fertilizer Storage

Storage areas for dry and liquid fertiliz^{er} must be permitted

St. Paul, MN: Ahead of the planting season, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is reminding farmers of proper storage guidelines for bulk fertilizer.

Bulk liquid fertilizer can contaminate soil, surface water, and groundwater if a storage tank or pipe leaks. Dry fertilizer can also leach into the environment if it is placed on the ground and mixes with snow and rain.

To limit the risk of environmental impacts, liquid fertilizer tanks must be inside a containment system that will hold any spills. This is called secondary containment. Dry fertilizer must be stored on an impervious surface and in a roofed area that will protect its contents from the elements. There may be other requirements depending on the location of the stored dry fertilizer.

Farmers storing any amount of dry bulk fertilizer on the farm must get an MDA bulk storage permit. Farmers must also get an MDA permit if they're storing more than 6,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer.

The storage permit application must include drawings for secondary containment. An

application, along with a \$100 fee, must be submitted prior to the start of construction or storage of any dry fertilizer or more than 6,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer. The permit application can be found on the MDA website.

Failing to comply with bulk fertilizer storage requirements may result in further enforcement actions by the MDA. Contamination from a release may also result in a costly environmental cleanup that could be averted when liquid bulk fertilizer tanks or dry fertilizer is in an MDA permitted containment. As a reminder, a release of fertilizer into the environment is an incident that must be immediately reported to the Minnesota Duty Officer at 1-800-422-0798.

For more information on bulk storage and permits, contact Matthew Parins at 651-201-6587 or Matthew.Parins@state.mn.us.

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NORTH COUNTRY HEALTH NUGGETS

(Clearwater, Hubbard and Lake of the Woods Counties)

March is National Nutrition Month

A healthy diet is important. People with healthy eating patterns live longer and are at lower risk for serious health problems such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and obesity.

The core elements that make up a healthy dietary pattern include:

- Vegetables of all types—dark green; red and orange; beans, peas, and lentils; starchy; and other vegetables
- Fruits, especially whole fruit
- Grains, at least half of which are whole grain
- Dairy, including fat-free or low-fat milk, yogurt, and cheese, and/or lactose-free versions and fortified soy beverages and yogurt as alternatives
- Protein foods, including lean meats, poultry, and eggs; seafood; beans, peas, and lentils; and nuts, seeds, and soy products
- Oils, including vegetable oils and oils in food, such as seafood and nuts.

USDA Dietary Guidelines.gov

How do you eat healthy on a budget?

- Learn cooking, food preparation and meal planning skills.

- It's frustrating to start making a meal just to find out you don't have a key ingredient. Just a little planning can avoid this

- Use a grocery list. Shop sales and in season items when purchasing food. Buy frozen or canned fruits and veggies.

- Takes a little more time. By planning your trip and using e-coupons you can save a lot!

- Learn about community resources such as:

- o Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) call: 218-694-6164

- o Women Infants and Children (WIC) call: 218-694-6581

- o Clearwater County Food Shelf - American Legion – Back of Building. 114 Main Ave N, American Legion Building, Bagley, MN, 56621. call: 218-694-6400

- o Ruby's Pantry - 46125 149th Ave, Clearbrook, MN 56634, United States - 1st Wednesday of the Month-Registration begins at 5:00 PM. Food bundles available

- 5:00-6:00 PM Ruby's Pantry (rubyspantry.org)

- o Food Truck: March 26th, 11AM-12PM - Great Northern Drive SW

- Bagley, MN 56621 call: 218-399-7356

Submitted by: North Country Community Health Services (Clearwater, Hubbard and Lake of the Woods Public Health)

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Word Search Answers for this week

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B K K S O Y P R P R U K E B N P F G S T
I O G U C S S G H O V R I T D A N A G T F
O Y G E S T S E R V E I T E I N Y R S D
D G B V V C C R N H N R U I N U D O V
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A V L O A D R G U O U L K U I S L O O R
M E G T A B N U N S H I A K E O B A C N
I Y I A F I D I A N H I A N L E C D K C
C O T L M M C M S F P E E Y D I K C M F
N E R R L S N F T I D C L E S Y D A M E
S A A V M N O I T A V I T L U C I S Y A
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**Obituaries also online
www.tricocanary.com**



Lady Rebel 16s took home the championship from Park Rapids on 3/23 out of 16 teams!!

Pictured are back row-Coach Kelly Melin, Emma Hendrickson, McKaelyn Frizzle, Ave Arlt, & McKayla Erlandson. Front row-Violet Tvedt, Natalee Hendrickson, Kassidy Torgerson & Alexa Chervestad. Not pictured Graceyn Kvasager.
Great job ladies!!

Northland Community & Technical College to host “Experience Northland: Expo Day” and Aerospace Open House on April 11, 2024

Northland invites future students and the community to its Thief River Falls Campus and Aerospace Site for a day of discovery.

THIEF RIVER FALLS, Minn., March. 11, 2024 — Northland Community & Technical College invites students in grades 7-12 and their teachers and families to a day of career exploration and discovery at its Thief River Falls campus and Aerospace Site. The free event, “Experience Northland: Expo Day”, includes workshops, tours, and hands-on experiences designed to introduce prospective students to the wide range of career and technical programs available at Northland.

“Experience Northland: Expo Day” is a joint venture by Northland and the National Center for Autonomous Technologies (NCAT) to allow students to explore various career paths, meet instructors, and participate in interactive demonstrations.

“We want to open a student's eyes to the many exciting career opportunities available right here in our region,” said Dr. Sandy Kiddoo, president of Northland Community & Technical College. “Our programs are tailored to meet the workforce needs of local employers, and this event is a chance for students to discover programs of study they may be passionate about.”

Student Events
“Experience Northland: Expo Day” will be filled with exciting opportunities for stu-

dents to:

- Tour Northland's state-of-the-art facilities.
- Learn about programs like aviation, welding, agriculture, criminal justice, and more.
- Customize their experience with hands-on activities like drone racing, calf birthing and ultrasound simulator, stick and wire feed welding, and more.

• Talk to current students and instructors.

• See simulators and other high-tech demonstrations.

• Learn about admission requirements, scholarships, financial aid options, student life, and support services.

The event is a fun and accessible way for students to visualize themselves studying at Northland in the future. The workshops, demonstrations, and hands-on activities will open their eyes to careers they may not have previously considered.

“Experience Northland: Expo Day” will be held from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on April 11, 2024. The event is free and open to students, parents, teachers, and school counselors. Free lunch will be provided, and transportation between Northland's sites will be available.

Aerospace Opens Doors to Community
Northland's Aerospace Site will be hosting a community

open house from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event will provide an opportunity to get an up-close look at Northland's aviation maintenance technology and UAS programs. Attendees will see the aircraft, simulators, and tools students work on as they prepare for their careers in the booming industry. The open house is free and open to the public.

“There is a growing need for skilled workers in the aerospace and aviation fields,” said Monty Johnson, Interim Dean of Technical Programs at Northland. “Our open house is a chance for people to see what exciting, high-demand careers Northland's programs can prepare them for, whether they want to work on the ground or in the air.”

Northland is committed to providing accessible, hands-on education that prepares students for high-demand careers. “Experience Northland: Expo Day” and the Aerospace Community Open House provide a glimpse of the engaging, relevant learning experiences Northland offers.

To attend “Experience Northland: Expo Day” or to learn more about programs and resources at Northland Community & Technical College, visit northlandcollege.edu/experience or email megan.hall@northlandcollege.edu.

DNR sets open water fishing regulations for Upper Red Lake

Anglers fishing on Upper Red Lake during the 2024 open-water season that starts May 11 will have a three-walleye possession limit, with only one walleye longer than 17 inches allowed. Beginning June 15, the limit will change to a four-walleye possession limit, with only one walleye longer than 17 inches allowed.

“This fishing regulation is a reflection of the lake's popularity, especially when fishing is good,” said Edie Evarts, DNR area fisheries supervisor for Bemidji. “We've opted for a slightly more conservative bag limit for the early part of the summer to maintain the long-term health of the fishery and keep Upper Red Lake a premier angling destination.”

In response to a record-high harvest this winter and the need to stay within the state's annual harvest quota, the DNR has opted for a lower daily limit during the early open water season, when catch rates and angler effort are highest. The decision to increase the possession limit by one fish starting June 15 will allow additional angling harvest opportunity while maintaining a healthy walleye population.

Walleye management on Red Lake is a collaborative effort between Red Lake Nation and the Minnesota DNR, governed by a joint harvest plan revised by the Red Lakes Fisheries Technical Committee

in 2015. Winter harvest regulations for 2024-2025 will be determined after the summer fishing season and completion of fall assessment netting.

The Upper Red Lake Citizen Advisory Committee reviews walleye harvest totals and regulation options and provides recommendations for the state waters of Upper Red Lake. Upper Red Lake fishing regulations are available on the Minnesota DNR fishing regulations page (mndnr.gov/)

fishing/upper-red-lake-regulations.html).

Anglers are reminded to protect Upper Red Lake and all Minnesota waters from aquatic invasive species by cleaning and draining watercraft and equipment and disposing of unwanted bait in the trash. A decontamination station is available at the Tamarac River Big Bog Public Water Access, referred to locally as Homestead Park.

Submit Your Fishing Pictures!

Include:

Name of fisherman/woman, date of catch and any other details you would like to offer.



Email: richards@gvtel.com

Minnesota Starwatch for April of 2024

By Deane Morrison

The big event this month is the solar eclipse that sweeps across the continent on Monday, the 8th. Here in Minnesota, we'll see a partial eclipse, with more than half the sun's disc covered. Times vary across the state, but it begins shortly before 1 p.m. and peaks close to 2 p.m. As usual, if you watch it, be sure to wear proper eye protection all the time.

In the evening sky, the spring constellation Leo, the lion, reaches its highest point in the south at nightfall. The lion's head faces toward the west, outlined by the backward question mark of stars known as the Sickle. At the base of the Sickle is bright Regulus, the lion's heart. Trailing the Sickle is a triangle of stars, the brightest and easternmost of which is called Denebola, a shortened form of the Arabic for “lion's tail.”

Below and slightly west of Regulus is lonely Alaphard, the brightest star in the large but extremely dim constellation Hydra. In Greek myth, Hydra was a multi-headed serpent slain by the hero Hercules.

Also at nightfall, look low in the southeast for Spica, the



sole bright star in the large but hard-to-spot constellation Virgo, the maiden. To the lower right of Spica, an irregular four-sided figure marks Corvus, the crow. On Monday, the 22nd, an almost full moon rises close to Spica and follows it across the night sky.

April's full moon rises the next night—Tuesday, the 23rd—less than two hours after reaching perfect fullness.

The month ends with the old

Celtic holiday Beltane, one of four “cross-quarter” days falling midway between an equinox and a solstice. The ancient Celts held that at sundown on April 30, all the evil spirits, which had been tormenting humanity since the last Halloween, began a last fling before being exiled at dawn on May 1. They would not be released until sundown on the next Halloween.

Garfield Lake Ice Racers 2024 Banquet



Photo L-R Club President Kris Baker, Secretary Dixie Powel, Board members Emily Weeks, Britany Shuver, Tom Lindahl (Flagman for the races). Missing board member Tony Rohloff.

By Dennis Peterson

The 23rd year of the Garfield Lake Ice Racers Club didn't quite go as planned with ice conditions preventing the club from holding any races on Garfield Lake in Laporte, Minnesota. But, the lack of ice and racing did not prevent the club from donating an incredible \$100,000.00+ to local charities, Veterans groups, First

Responder events, Schools, Churches, Individuals in need, non-profits and area special events. In addition to the \$100,000.00+ the club donated, it also paid out more than \$100,000.00 in taxes.

The club came together on Saturday, March 22nd at the Woodshed to thank the many sponsors who support the club including The Woodshed, R&D

Repair, Apex Plumbing and Tile, Zappy's Café, Laporte Grocery and Meats, and Prime Truck Repair and Fabricating.

Funds donated by the club are raised through the charitable gambling located at the Woodshed in Laporte, Popple Bar in Laporte and the Water-shed in Walker.

DNR sets open water fishing regulations for Mille Lacs

Mille Lacs walleye fishing will be catch-and-release during the spring and early summer of 2024, with the potential to harvest a walleye 21-23 inches in length or greater than 28 inches starting on Friday, August 16.

“Despite poor ice conditions, anglers caught a lot of walleye this past fall and winter because those fish weren't finding enough to eat,” said Brad Parsons, DNR Fisheries Section Manager. “We need to adjust the open water season regulations to account for the active bite and for the likelihood of higher water temperatures this summer. Even with catch-and-release regulations, many fish die when water temperatures get too warm.”

Good to excellent walleye fishing is expected to continue on Mille Lacs throughout the open water season, which begins on Saturday, May 11, and concludes on Saturday, Nov. 30. Catch rates should remain high with fish eager to bite.

While the DNR's 2023 Mille Lacs assessment found slightly lower walleye numbers in 2022, overall the population remains healthy due to the continued abundance of walleye born in 2013 and 2017. Assessment results also indicate decent numbers of walleye born in 2021 and 2022 that should contribute to the walleye population in the future.

Those same population estimates, netting surveys and population models also indicate there are fewer yellow perch and tullibee, the primary food sources for Mille Lacs Lake walleye. With less natural forage, walleye searching for a meal are more likely to bite on anglers' baits.

“It seems logical that high catch rates mean there are more walleye in the lake,” Parsons said. “The data we've collected and analyzed suggest the hot bite is because walleye aren't finding as many tullibee and perch to eat. Our management decisions take those data into account.”

Mille Lacs continues to be a lake experiencing changes. Increasing water clarity and the introduction of invasive species such as zebra mussels and spiny water fleas mean there is less microscopic aquatic food, resulting in decreased production of forage species and fewer walleye maturing past their first year.

“Mille Lacs is a great place to fish and recreate, and anglers will continue to enjoy quality opportunities for walleye, smallmouth bass, northern pike and muskellunge,” said Parsons. “Our management approach is aligned with the Mille Lacs management plan and reflects our commitment to navigating the lake's unique dynamics and preserv-

ing its angling tradition.”

The DNR decided to allow catch-and-release only walleye angling from May through August 15. This decision aims to enable the harvest of one walleye measuring 21-23 inches in length or greater than 28 inches starting on Friday, August 16, assuming conditions permit.

State-licensed anglers share the harvest on Mille Lacs with Ojibwe tribes that retain fishing rights by treaty. To conserve the fishery, an annual safe harvest level is set through discussion and agreement between the state and the tribes, with each party setting regulations to stay within their share of the harvest. This year's agreement took the lake's overall walleye population decline into account and lowered the walleye safe harvest level by 10% from 2023, setting it at 91,500 lbs. for state-licensed anglers and 65,500 lbs. for tribal fishing.

Anglers are reminded to protect Mille Lacs Lake and all Minnesota waters from aquatic invasive species by cleaning and draining watercraft and equipment and disposing of unwanted bait in the trash. A decontamination station is available 24/7 at the Shaw-Bosh-Kung Bay public access on the west side of Mille Lacs Lake about 8 miles south of Garrison.

Complete Mille Lacs Lake fishing regulations and regularly updated surveys that show ongoing state-licensed angler catches of walleye, northern pike and yellow perch are available on the DNR website (mndnr.gov/millelacslake/index.html).