



 Today Clear H 15 L 7	 Thurs Clear H 21 L 19	 Fri Cloudy H 27 L 22	 Sat Cloudy H 24 L 13	 Sun Cloudy H 19 L 13
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In this issue: GVT will be sending two high school students on a Youth Tour to Washington D.C.

Welcome, Mr. Mumm



Jeff Mumm is the new Dean of Students and Athletic Director at the Grygla School. His first day on the job was Tuesday, January 2nd. Photo by Grygla Eagle Newspaper

Written by Kari Sundberg, Eagle Editor

Jeff Mumm is Grygla School's new Dean of Students and Athletic Director. His first day in this new role was Tuesday, January 2nd, and he was more than ready to begin this new chapter! "A lot of signs showed me that I'm supposed to be here right now. I feel blessed, lucky, and fortunate, and I'm just excited to get going," said Mr. Mumm.

A lot of locals are familiar with the new face and name at the Grygla School as Mr.

Mumm is coming to us from Thief River Falls, where he retired last spring after teaching at Lincoln High School for 39 years! Mr. Mumm taught Elective (grades 10-12) Strength Training & Lifetime Activities & Fitness. He also taught Freshmen Health for 16 years and was the Strength Training Coordinator for the school district. In addition, he was the head football coach for the Prowlers for an impressive 27 years! Mr. Mumm says he retired as the happiest and luckiest person in the world, and it

was the perfect time to leave as the program was in great shape.

Once he was settled into retirement, Mr. Mumm had put his name in to substitute teach at the Grygla and Goodridge Schools, saying he was looking forward to doing subbing in some of the small schools in the area, which remind him a lot of the school he attended in Wisconsin while growing up. One fine day, while subbing in Grygla, he fell in love with the school, found out about the position open, and interviewed. "I am thankful, lucky, and blessed to have gotten this position in Grygla," he says.

Currently, Jeff lives in Thief River Falls with his fiancé. He is looking forward to working in Grygla and getting settled into his new role. Jeff says he is an extremely hard-working, hands-on guy, and tries very hard to bring out the best in people. Of his leadership style, he says, "I've got to create a safe environment and I try to focus on the three F's: firm, fair, and friendly. I'd say one of my strengths is making sure to go out of my way to make people's lives better, make sure they know they have a purpose, and continue to build that up."

As for his first-year goals, Jeff is looking forward to the new learning experience, meeting with the staff and students, working with Tomas Loberg, the AD at the Goodridge School, and bringing a positive attitude every day. With teaching and coaching, he brings a lot of experience to the table, but being in this particular role is new to him. However, he is looking forward to bringing a positive attitude every single day. "I love working with kids. I'm not done yet. I wasn't ready to retire; maybe ready to retire from Thief River Falls, but Grygla fell into my lap, and I just feel there's something really special about this school," he explained.

As for his interests and hob-

bies outside of the school setting, Mr. Mumm's top priority is his new engagement to his fiancé. He also enjoys deer hunting, canoeing, fishing, and being outdoors. He also mentioned something about being a Packers fan, but we won't get too into that part....ha!

We welcome Mr. Mumm as he begins this new chapter in Grygla. He prides himself on being a pretty good judge of character; when it comes to the Grygla School, he has an extremely high opinion of it and says he just hopes and prays he can only add to it. "I love kids, I love teaching, and I love coaching. I'm just so excited to get going here in Grygla," he stated, happily.

Mr. Mumm brings a lot of educational experience to the school. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education & Health from the University of Wisconsin-Superior. He also has a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science from the University of Minnesota Duluth, along with a Master of Science from Mankato State University (Educational Leadership). He is a current member of the National High School Strength Coaches Association (NHSSCA) and the Minnesota Strength Coaches Association (MSCA).

He holds the title of North Country Coach of the Year from 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 & 2010. He also holds the Section 8AAA Coach of the Year from 1995, 2004 & 2005.

Mr. Mumm also holds many other professional association memberships, awards and honors, which include the 2009 Peter Hess Memorial Teacher Recognition Award, 2011 Induction into the University of Wisconsin-Superior Hall of Fame, 2013 Teacher of the Year, and the 2020 Induction into the Minnesota Football Coaches Hall of Fame, to name a few.

Best of luck to Mr. Mumm as he looks forward to doing great things at the Grygla School!



2024 trail prep

The snowmobile trails are looking a little different this January compared to previous years. Members of the Fourtown/Grygla Sportsman's Club were out prepping the trails in hopes for a good 2024 snow season, which may or may not be coming soon.

Aaron Holthusen provided an update on the trails. He was out with the bombardier, which has wide tracks to lay down the cattails. If that's not done, the swamps stay too insulated and

won't freeze.

Jake Sundberg went ahead on the trails first, tackling some of the tree fall and making cuts with the chainsaw. Aaron would then push the fallen trees off the trail with the bombardier blade. He shared, "This was probably one of the worst years for blow down. It took a lot of extra time," With that being said, everything is now ready to go if or when that snow decides to arrive.



Photos courtesy of Fourtown/Grygla Sportsman's Club

Grygla Library to hold book sale

The Grygla Library will be holding an upcoming book sale. Betsy Saurdiff, Grygla Librarian, has been busy weeding books, a lot of which will hopefully be rehomed!

The book sale, which will also include audiobooks and

DVD's, will be running on the following dates/times at the Grygla Community Center:

Monday & Tuesday, Jan. 8-9: 8am-12pm
Wednesday, Jan. 10: 12-6pm
Wednesday, Jan. 17: 4-6pm
Tuesday, Jan. 23: 8am-12pm

Wednesday, Jan. 24: 12-6pm
Thursday & Friday, Jan. 25-26: 8am-12pm

Each book, audiobook or DVD will cost only \$0.25 a piece and will work on the honor system. Betsy will have tables set up in the Grygla Community

Center with instructions on how to purchase the materials, but you can expect little envelopes left out for you to insert your money in and slide under the library door.

All are welcome to come and browse the upcoming book sale.



Let it snow

That song takes on a whole new meaning for the ones who are waiting for snow, doesn't it?! Especially for the folks who are trying to plan the Goodridge/Grygla 500. As of right now, no decisions have been made yet as to the status of the annual snowmobile race, which is

scheduled for January 20th this year. The lack of snow would mean the race will not be happening, but a final decision will be coming soon.

Watch the Goodridge/Grygla 500 Facebook page for updates, as well as an update printed in the Grygla Eagle Newspaper.

• CHURCH CALENDARS

GRYGLA LUTHERAN PARISH
Grace and Our Savior's, Grygla

Pastor Marilyn Grafstrom
Recorded services will play on Garden Valley channel 36 on Wednesdays 7pm and Sundays 9am & 7pm.

Wednesday, Jan 3
11am Bible Study, 2:15pm Release Time; 3:30 FFF; 6pm Grace Choir, 7pm Confirmation

Sunday, Jan 7
Schedule N/A

GOODRIDGE AREA LUTHERAN PARISH, ELCA
Bethany, Ekelund, Faith

Wednesday, Jan 3
No Wednesday School

Sunday, Jan 7
Bethany: 8am Worship
Ekelund: 9:30am Worship
Faith: 11am Worship
Sunday School resumes
Mutual Ministry Committee Meeting at 4pm at Faith
Monday, Jan 8
Faith Quilting 9am-2pm; Ekelund WELCA 1:30pm

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF
St. Clement's - Grygla; St. Ann's - Goodridge
Fr. Bryan Kujawa
Sundays:

St. Clement's: 11:45am Worship
St. Ann's: 10am Worship

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH
Skime
Pastor Steve Bliss
Sundays
8am Worship, 11am YouTube Live Broadcast

UNITED LUTHERAN PARISH
Gatzke
Pastor Tim Lundeen
Sundays
8:30am Worship
Church Council to meet Jan. 10

CLEARWATER LUTHERAN PARISH
St. Petri - Grygla; Mt. Olive, Nazareth - Trail; Oak Park - Oklee
Pastor Jeff Merseth
Wednesday, Jan 3
Wed. School 5-7pm
Vespers 6:30pm
LYS 7pm
Saturday, Jan 6
Mt. Olive Worship 9am
Sunday, Jan 7
Nazareth: 9:45am Worship w/ 8:45am SS
Oak Park: 10am SS, 11am Worship
St. Petri: 8am Worship with Annual Meeting to follow

Community Calendar

Wed | Jan 3
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; Grygla Library open 2-6pm

Thurs | Jan 4
BBB vs. KCC in Grygla

Fri | Jan 5
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; BBB at Sacred Heart in EGF

Sat | Jan 6
Elementary BB Snowflake League in Red Lake Falls; Fourtown/Grygla Sportsman's Club Holiday Supper 5pm

Sun | Jan 7
Grygla Go-Getters 4H Club Christmas Party 5-6:30pm at GHS

Mon | Jan 8
Senior Meals at Grain Bin Café 11am; GBB vs. RLCC in Goodridge

Tues | Jan 9
BBB vs. Northern Freeze in Grygla

Make sure to email your community calendar events to:
grygla.eagle@gmail.com



Logan Carlson caught this 62" sturgeon on Lake of the Woods last Friday. The weight wasn't captured, but he said it sure was heavy! The LOW dinosaur was caught just west of Morris Point near Graceton Beach. Logan is pictured with his dad, Travis Carlson, left, and Lynn Hammer, right. Photo courtesy of Logan Carlson

Local students invited to Science Fair at BSU

Bemidji State University seeks submissions from students in grades 6-12 for the Northern Minnesota Regional Science Fair, hosted at BSU on February 23, 2024. Particularly for students who attend schools that no longer host local fairs, the fair allows students to register and compete directly in a regional competition and potentially advance to a state-level fair in March.

Students who live in one of 18 northern Minnesota counties — Aitkin, Beltrami, Benton, Cass, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Itasca, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pennington, Red Lake, Roseau or Wadena — are eligible to submit projects. Students must register projects before February 7, 2024.

Organizers describe the fair as "a celebration of scientific exploration and innovation," allowing participating students to earn awards in their respective categories. Special prizes will also be awarded for projects demonstrating innovation and potential for real-world impact. Top projects will be promoted to compete at the 86th Annual Minnesota Science and Engineering Fair, March 22, 2024, at the State Fair Grounds in St. Paul, Minnesota.

DNR, county sheriffs warn of poor ice conditions across Minnesota

Widespread rain, wind and unseasonably warm weather during recent days have degraded ice conditions throughout the state, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

While the week between the Christmas and New Year's holidays has become popular among the owners of deluxe fish houses (known also as wheelhouses), conditions so far this winter mean few, if any, areas of the state have the ice thickness necessary for these types of ice structures. In recent days, DNR conservation officers and county sheriff's deputies across the state have responded to instances of fish houses and recreational vehicles falling through the ice.

In central to southern portions of Minnesota, what had been marginal ice conditions are now open water. The ice farther north has deteriorated as well, with ice-angler rescues having occurred from Upper Red Lake at least three times since Dec. 17. While temperatures are forecasted to drop, ice conditions will remain poor until there's a string of cold days to form new, clear ice.

"Many of us love to spend the New Year's holiday with family and friends on the ice," said Col. Rodmen Smith, director of the DNR Enforcement Division. "But when it comes to ice conditions, the calendar doesn't matter."

Beltrami County Sheriff Jason Riggs, whose jurisdiction includes the popular early ice fishing destination Upper Red Lake, knows that reality all too well.

"Most years, the ice would be thick enough by now for vehicles and wheelhouses, and we'd be seeing a steady procession of them heading north," he said. "But this year isn't 'most years,' and the ice is changing constantly. It's absolutely vital that anyone who heads out checks the thickness frequently, pays close attention to the weather, and has a plan in case the worst happens, and they wind up in the water."

Generosity and kindness make Christmas projects possible

The 2023 Marshall County Social Services Christmas Projects were once again successful because of the kindness and generosity of so many in the communities of Marshall County.

The Food Basket and Sharing Tree Projects would not have been possible without the support of the local businesses that set up trees and collected gifts; church and community groups that collected and donated handmade quilts, toys, gloves, and clothing in support of the project; students and staff from local schools that donated toys and other gifts; monetary donations from community businesses and individuals; and the help of so many volunteering their time to help with the project in some way.

Through the generosity of many, Marshall County Social Services was able to distribute food baskets to 138 people and gifts to 237 children in need this Christmas season. The people in the local communities have made this Christmas season a little bit brighter for many in need because of their generosity, kindness and caring.

• DO IT YOURSELF

If anyone struggles with finding a solution for storing pop, Gatorade, water bottles.. etc go to Dollar General and get you a cheap, compact shoe organizer for \$5 looks so much better than cases of stuff sitting around on the floor. 🙌

U.S.P.S. No. 002330

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Serving Eastern Marshall & Northern Beltrami Counties

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Minnesota stabilizes Medicaid insurance for kids

Beginning on Jan. 1, Minnesota children got more stable access to Medicaid health insurance.

A new continuous eligibility policy for children will help provide a healthier and more equitable start for the youngest Minnesotans. All children under age 19 who are eligible for Medical Assistance will have 12 months of continuous coverage at a time. Medical Assistance is Minnesota's Medicaid program.

This important change will prevent paperwork issues due to temporary changes in a parent's income from disrupting a child's health insurance. Families with low and moderate incomes may experience fluctuations in income during a year that briefly exceeds the Medicaid limit because of temporary employment, variable work hours or occasional overtime pay.

"Continuous eligibility will help prevent unnecessary, harmful and expensive gaps in children's health care coverage," said Human Services Commissioner Jodi Harpstead. "This policy will go a long way toward helping Minnesota kids reach their full potential."

Signed into law in 2023 by Governor Tim Walz, continuous eligibility promotes and supports health equity by preventing gaps in needed care. Minnesota has significant racial disparities in health outcomes, with Black and Hispanic children more likely to experience gaps in coverage.

Medical Assistance in Minnesota covers:

- 64% of Black children
- 54% of American Indian/Alaskan Native children
- 52% of Hispanic/Latino children
- 31% of Asian children
- 17% of white children

Better access to preventive care may lead to healthier children and ultimately result in lower spending in public health care programs, since identifying and treating issues early can reduce the need for costlier treatments.

Although children in Medical Assistance will maintain coverage for a year at a time, they will still be subject to annual eligibility renewals. Renewals were suspended during the COVID-19 emergency but have since resumed. To avoid gaps in coverage, Medical Assistance enrollees are urged to update their contact information and watch their mail for important renewal paperwork.

For more information about Medical Assistance renewals, visit mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage.

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NOTICE TO LEE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS
Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Lee Township, County of Beltrami, State of Minnesota, that there are two positions open during the March 2024 election:

Supervisor Clerk

If interested, please submit an affidavit of candidacy with the town clerk between January 2 and January 16, 2024.

Rochelle Smeby
Town Clerk,
Township of Lee

G46C

Rink update

Just an update on the arena in Grygla – the skating rink is not ready yet. Mayor Ruud said some ice is down, but it's just been too warm to build up enough. However, next week looks to be a little cooler weather, so that should help to speed up the process to get it ready for the winter season.

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G42C

Only in Minnesota: a weekly feature in the Eagle

Minnesota has a new state flag and state seal
Minnesota.
The Land of 10,000 Lakes.
The North Star State.
The Land of Sky-Blue Waters.

Known by many names, our state has long lacked cohesive emblems that accurately represent it. After many years of debate and handwringing, Minnesota appointed a commission to redesign its state flag and state seal. After accepting submissions from the public and winnowing down the selections, in December 2023, the State Emblems Redesign Commission approved designs for a new Minnesota state flag and state seal. And many Minnesotans had opinions about the results.

Minnesota is widely known for its thousands of lakes and

broad expanses of hardwood and boreal forests. We also have a deep agricultural, mining, and land use heritage that exemplifies our belief in hard work.

These are things that the original designers of our state flag and seal hoped to evoke. The original designers also attempted to pay homage to the deep-seated Native cultures that have been on this land for centuries. As the North Star State, the French phrase, “L’Etoile Du Nord” was also included on the original state flag and seal. All of these things were presented to the redesign committee along with the problematic ways in which these elements were incorporated into the long-standing state emblems.

The commission asked the public for input, and they received a lot of it. Much of the input involved rallied for inclusion of the state bird, the common loon, in the new emblems.

Some of the more problematic aspects of the original design were its overall busy-ness and the way in which it attempted to acknowledge Native culture.

The approved design of the new state seal is simpler, but it still incorporates many of the original elements - as well as a loon. The Native acknowledgement is also present with the Dakota words “Mni Sóta Makoce” - acknowledging the derivation of the name Minnesota - on the seal.

The “old” flag was simply the seal, on a yellow, five-pointed star, in a white circle with the word “Minnesota” - all on a blue field.

The new flag design is much simpler and more modern. One

of the goals was to be simple enough for a child to draw and it certainly meets that goal. The final design incorporates a stylized outline of Minnesota in a deep blue, with an eight-pointed North Star in its center. The remainder of the flag is a solid, lighter blue representing the state’s sky and water - “the land of sky-blue waters” or the land where the water reflects the clouds: Mni Sóta Makoce.

As with just about anything these days, the new designs have generated controversy for a wide variety of reasons, ranging from the lack of a loon on the flag to only acknowledging the Dakota culture on the seal. What do you think of the new Minnesota state flag and seal designs?

Word of the Week

...enhancing vocabularies
one Grygla Eagle at a time.

Bonanza

Buh-nan-zuh

Noun

A source of great and sudden wealth or luck; a spectacular windfall.

• SIMPLY DELICIOUS

By Kari Sundberg, Eagle Editor

Foil Pack French Dip Sandwiches

Not only do these make a great weeknight dinner (fast + easy) in the oven, they are also the perfect thing to cook on the grill or over a fire. You can easily make the sandwiches ahead of time, too. Just prep and wrap them in foil and they’re ready to cook. However you make these, you’re sure to love them.

Ingredients

1/2 cup (8 tablespoons) butter, softened to room temperature

1 package au jus gravy mix, separated

1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

3/4 teaspoon dried minced garlic

1/2 teaspoon onion powder

Heavy Duty Foil

1 longer loaf of French or Italian bread

1 pound deli roast beef

1 package pre-sliced (12 slices total) provolone cheese

Instructions

Preheat a grill to medium-high heat (400 degrees) or the oven to 400 degrees F. Start by making the butter mixture. To do that, combine softened (not melted) butter, 1 tablespoon of the au jus gravy mix, Worcestershire sauce, dried minced garlic, and onion powder in a bowl. Stir until ingredients are completely combined and set aside.

Cut the bread into an odd number of thin slices, cutting only about 3/4 the way through. It’s important there are an ODD number of slices so that each sandwich has 2 pieces of bread.

Separate the butter mixture into 2 equal parts. Using a butter knife, spread a small amount of the mixture inside each slice of bread. Save half of the mixture for later.

Now put a cheese slice, along with a couple of slices of roast beef in between every two slices of bread. (These will be individual pull-apart

sandwiches, so you don’t want cheese and meat between each slice.)

Take the other half of the butter mixture and brush it along the tops and sides of each of the sandwiches with a pastry brush.

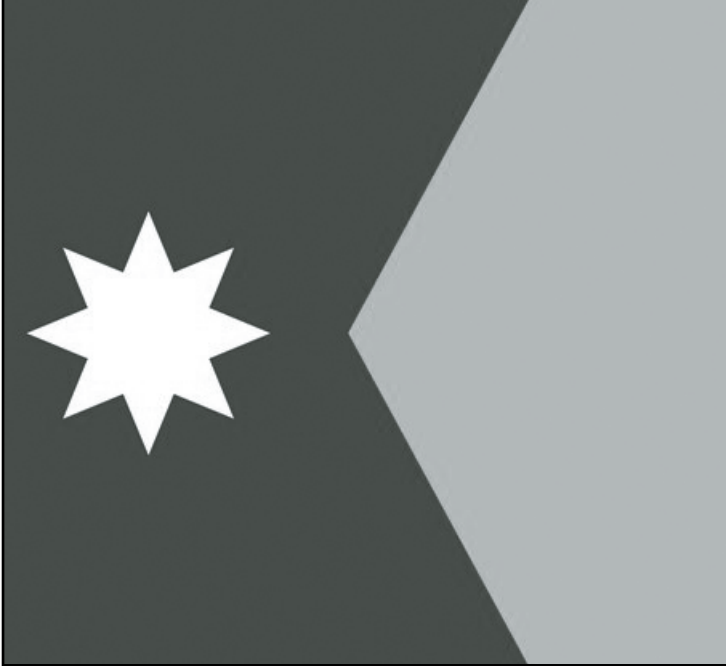
Wrap the loaf completely in foil. Make sure none of the bread is exposed. Place in the preheated oven for 10 minutes or the preheated grill for 6-9 minutes (turning frequently) or until bread is toasty and cheese is melted. If you have a thicker loaf it will take longer.

While the sandwiches are cooking, prepare the au jus. Take the remaining au jus mixture and place in a small saucepan over medium heat. Add 2 cups cold water and whisk. Bring to a boil and then reduce the heat to a simmer to allow it to slightly thicken. (You can do this on the side burner of a grill or even over a campfire if you are cooking that way.)

Remove foil packs and open carefully to let the steam escape. Pull apart the sandwiches and enjoy with the au jus sauce.



The old seal and flag above - the new seal and flag below.



20 years and counting



Bryan “The Grinch” Grove visited the Grygla Head Start and Kindergarten classes the week before Christmas. This was The Grinch’s 20th year of reading to the classes. Photos courtesy of Travis Smith



Despite their busy schedule ahead of Christmas, Santa and Mrs. Claus were able to help out with Shannon Ostby’s bus route when Grygla School officially dismissed for Christmas vacation on Friday, December 22nd.

They are pictured on the left with the Klasen kids. And on the right, Santa and Mrs. Claus are with the Nordvick kids.

Photos courtesy of Grygla School



Chargers get a big win over Gators

BBB vs. BGMR on Thursday, December 28, in Greenbush

Chargers 73, BGMR 28
Stats: Blake Rychlock (15 pts, 4 reb), Sawyer Jacobson (2 pts, 6 reb, 5 asst), Spencer Coan (5 pts, 4 asst), Owen Larson (2 pts, 7 reb), Chase Manderud (3 pts, 6 reb), Brody Saurdiff (2 pts), Carson Rubischko (5 pts, 7 reb, 5 asst), Lewis Jones (31 pts, 4 reb), Rease Stratton (2 pts), Russell Rian (4 pts, 3 reb), Gavin Aune (2 pts, 3 reb)
Coach's comments: We trav-

eled to the Swamp to take on a young Gator team. The Chargers took control early behind our pressure defense and Lewis and Blake's hot shooting. I thought we did a very good job of rebounding on both ends of the floor and Sawyer and Owen played very nice games, giving us a lot of energy coming off the bench. It was nice to see everyone contribute to the win! We now have a little time off before two huge conference and section games next week against KCC and Sacred Heart.



Above: Carson Rubischko #21 and Russell Rian #32 for the Chargers during the Varsity game against BGMR. Below: Spencer Coan looks for an open teammate. Photos by Grygla Eagle Newspaper



Lewis Jones racked up 31 points in Gator Country. Photo by Grygla Eagle Newspaper



JV action shots from the GG vs. BGMR game last week. Above: Owen Larson (left) rebounding and Rease Stratton (right) boxing out his opponent. Photos by Grygla Eagle Newspaper



Above: Evan Rubischko about to pass the ball to Brody Saurdiff #15 during the JV game. Below: Ryelin Stanley to Sawyer Jacobson. Photos by Grygla Eagle Newspaper



Garden Valley to send two high school students to D.C.



Attention high school students! Don't miss the deadline to apply for the 2024 Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour to Washington D.C. June 3-7, 2024.

Garden Valley Technologies will sponsor two high school students ages 15-17 (at the time of the tour) who receive services from GVT. The two students will win an all-expens-

es paid trip to Washington D.C. for the FRS Youth Tour, which will introduce the students to the telecommunications industry within a legislative context. Each student who applies will

need to submit an essay online at www.gvtel.com by February 7th. If you have any questions, you can call Jessica Nelson, Administrative Assistant, at 218-687-2400, ext. 241.