



Arrow gymnasts wrap regular season
In Sports

Pipestone County

139th Year
No. 6 • USPS 433-940

STAR



www.pipestonestar.com



Thursday,
February 7, 2019

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Editor

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The civic nonprofit continues to shape and define its community role and work

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Shopko pharmacy closes

Assets sold to Coborn's

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THIS WEEK

Calumet Player's present

"The Carol Burnett Show Comedy Sketches"

OPENS FRIDAY, FEB. 8 AT THE PIPESTONE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

MATCH-UP

Facing Fairmont

Pipestone Area boys host Fairmont in non-conference basketball.

SATURDAY, FEB. 9 @ 1:30 P.M. IN PIPESTONE

5 DAY FORECAST

Last Week's Total Precip: **Snow 3"**

	THU	3° -18°
	FRI	-5° -17°
	SAT	17° 5°
	SUN	10° 0°
	MON	11° 5°

ONLINE:
www.pipestonestar.com
news@pipestonestar.com



Legal effort halted to stop RTR election

Feb. 12 vote on building bond issue to proceed as planned

Kyle Kuphal | Staff reporter
kkuphal@pipestonestar.com

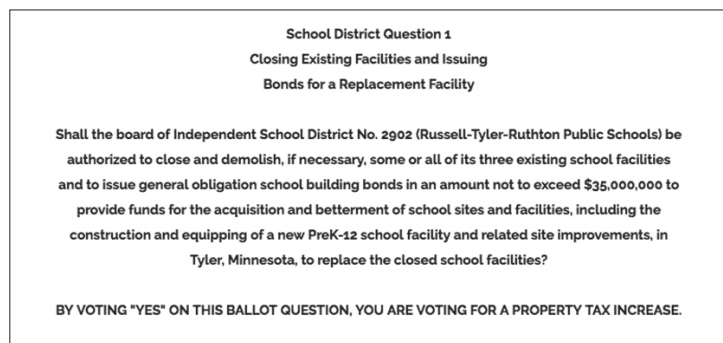
PLAINTIFFS Gary Erdmann of Balaton, Stan Townsend of Ruthton and Terry Gordon and Alan Martin of Russell have voluntarily withdrawn their request for a temporary injunction against the Russell-Tyler-Ruthton (RTR) School District's Feb. 12

special election, according to court documents filed Feb. 4 in Lyon County District Court. The action means the Feb. 12 election will proceed as planned.

The ballot will ask voters if the school board should "be authorized to close and demolish, if necessary, some or all of its three existing school facilities and to issue general

obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$35,000,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including the construction and equipping of a new PreK-12 school facility and related site improve-

RTR ELECTION • PAGE 3



Voters in the RTR school district will vote on Feb. 12 between 4 - 8 p.m. on the above question. Source: RTR school district

Program created to help local veterans in need

Kyle Kuphal | Staff reporter
kkuphal@pipestonestar.com



Pipestone County Veterans Service Officer Renae Schuch

through the Veterans Service Office (VSO). Schuch said she created the program after a veteran told her he read an article in the *Pipestone County Star* about how Schuch helped a local veteran obtain a vehicle and he wanted to know how he could help a local veteran in need. At the time there was not a clear way to do that through the VSO that she was aware of, so Schuch created one.

She's not soliciting donations, but wanted an accountable way for people to donate if they chose.

"It was just something that I thought would be great if someone had had a positive experience within the office and wanted to give back to the office, or if somebody really felt like they wanted to donate

VETERANS • PAGE 9

The artist among us



A national treasure in her native Venezuela, Primi Monteiga is now at home in southwest Minn.

An angel statue sculpted from cement (left) by artist Primi Monteiga (below) sits at the end of her driveway on Highway 91 in Chandler. S. Martinez



Sirrina Martinez | Photographer/videographer
smartinez@pipestonestar.com

IN THE middle of the midwestern prairie now covered in a blanket of snow resides an almost unknown hidden cultural treasure who happens to be a neighbor to those who live in the rural Chandler area of southwest Minnesota.

Primitiva Monteiga, who goes by the artist name of Primi Monteiga, has been living in the area since 2010. Her art is well known in her

native country of Venezuela, but she and her story may be a mystery to those who have driven by her acreage on Highway 91 and appreciated the statue of an angel sculpted from cement that kneels at the end of her driveway.

Visiting the inside of her home is to be greeted by an oasis of South American culture, charm and hospitality. As she is not fluent in English, her daughter,

Marcia Carrera-Fernandez, translated from Spanish.

Born in Spain on April 24, 1940 at the beginning of World War II, Monteiga and her family were no strangers to hardship. In 1957, over 10 years after the war had ended, Primi's father sent her to live with family in Venezuela in hopes of a better life for

CHANDLER ARTIST • PAGE 9



U.S. Department of Homeland Security REAL ID indicators will appear on all driver's licenses to comply with the federal REAL ID Act: A star marking (above, on upper right of the license or ID card) indicates the card is a fully compliant REAL ID. REAL ID cards are not mandatory, but will be necessary for boarding even domestic flights beginning in October 2020. Source: Minnesota Department of Public Safety

Real ID licenses now available

Applicants can expect to wait up to several months to receive the new licenses

Debra Fitzgerald | Editor
editor@pipestonestar.com

MINNESOTANS

have had the opportunity to apply for a REAL ID-compliant driver's license since October 2018, but they don't have to make the switch until October 2020.

Though the deadline is still more than a year away, residents have already been applying for the enhanced or REAL-ID licenses and cards, including in Pipestone County, according to Tyler Reisch, Pipestone County auditor/treasurer.

Reisch said that when people stop by to renew their licenses or ID cards he takes time to explain the three options that are now available: a standard driver's license or ID card; an enhanced driver's license or ID card that can be used as a cross-border travel document in lieu of a passport to re-enter the U.S. by land and sea from Canada, Mexico and some countries in the Caribbean; and a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID card, which is required by Oct. 1, 2020 for air travel, including domestic flights, and to enter federal facilities.

Enhanced and REAL-IDs are optional. Standard driver's licenses and ID cards will continue to be acceptable for driving and other identification purposes if a person does not have a need to fly or leave the country.

License processing times differ with the various cards, according to Megan Leonard, media contact for the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS). If a person applies for a license renewal or duplicate license, they should receive their license within two weeks from the time they

No weather records broken last week

But that didn't make the visit from the polar vortex any more pleasant

Debra Fitzgerald | Editor
editor@pipestonestar.com

U.S. MAIL carriers didn't deliver, the Pipestone County Transit system stopped running buses, local schools were shuttered and those who did have to venture out felt the bite of the frigid, arctic air that descended into the northern United States last week.

As cold as it felt in Pipestone County, daytime highs and lows did not break any records.

The coldest high temperature last week in Pipestone

was 15 degrees below zero on Wednesday, Jan. 30, while the coldest low temperature was 29 degrees below zero

The coldest temperature ever recorded in Pipestone was 44 degrees below zero on Christmas Eve 1983 and the coldest maximum high for the day was 19 degrees below zero set on Jan. 23, 1936.

Though it's been colder, it's been awhile, as pointed out by Mike Gillispie with the National Weather Service (NWS) in Sioux Falls.

"This was definitely the coldest we've seen for probably 10-20 years," Gillispie said. "You have a whole generation



These cows shown (above) south of Pipestone on Tuesday during a light snow may not like the wintry weather conditions anymore than we do, but they do have a natural advantage against the cold-weather elements with natural body temperatures of 102 degrees and their 1-2-inch fur coats. D. Fitzgerald

of people who haven't experienced that 30 below-type stuff."

That 'stuff' included high winds that created a wind chill factor of 50-to-60

degrees below zero. The NWS is building the climatology on wind chill records, but

COLD WEATHER • PAGE 9

REAL ID • PAGE 9