

SPORTS



Victory!
Rangers beat Park in football opener. Page 8

COMMUNITY



Brewmaster descendent to speak at history event
Washington County Historical Society hosts Pat Wolf. Page 12

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Council unsure about SRC rate request

Trash hauler says rate increases needed to avoid bankruptcy

Ryan Howard
News Editor

After local waste collection company SRC came to Forest Lake citing recent increases in its expenses, the Forest Lake City Council will soon decide whether to increase the garbage hauling prices in SRC's city contract. According to SRC owner Marge Strand, the conse-

quences of not raising the price is dire. "They'll force us into bankruptcy," she said of a potential council decision to not allow SRC to raise its rates. "They know that."

Background

Wyoming-based SRC, parent company of Forest Lake Sanitation, has been serving the Forest Lake area's trash needs since the business was founded in the 1960s. It has been owned by Marge Strand – and her husband, Cameron, until his death in 2016 – since 1985. Forest Lake is an organized collector

city, which means that it contracts with one garbage hauler, which then can haul garbage for any Forest Lake resident who signs up for trash collection (many municipalities employ organized collection to reduce the road damage, increased traffic and potential nuisance of multiple companies' garbage trucks driving the same streets). SRC has been Forest Lake's contracted hauler for decades, but it almost lost that title in 2014, the last time its

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Photo by Ryan Howard

A spike in costs of both recycling and trash disposal has led trash hauler SRC to ask the city of Forest Lake to raise the contracted rates it can charge Forest Lake customers as the city's lone hauler.



Photo by Hannah Davis

Linwood resident Howie Nessel, sitting in the middle, now has a family that spreads five generations and which often joins him on a summer day at the lake house. Left to right: Kyrsten Mowrer, granddaughter; Beau, great-great-grandson; Luke Nelson, great-grandson; Brock, great-great-grandson; Joy Edlund, daughter.

The family that cabins together sticks together

Five generations of family for Linwood man

Hannah Davis
Community Editor

Howie Nessel sat down in the living room that overlooks Martin Lake from his home in Linwood. It's a home that's been filled with the laughter and adventures of his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Nessel, 93, now enjoys watching his two twin great-great-grandsons crawl around the house while his great-grandson Luke Nelson, 23, watches over them.

"It's awesome," Nelson said. "We actually named Beau because of Grandma Ellie, because she used to call Grandpa her beau. And Brock's middle name is Howard after grandpa."

From his chair, Nessel outstretched his arms, and Beau toddled around the coffee table and reached for great-great-grandpa, as smiles stretched across both of their faces. Nessel's daughter Joy Edlund and Edlund's daughter Kyrsten Mowrer kept a look-out on Beau while watching the interaction between Nessel and Brock.

"I just think it's precious," Edlund said. "Just to be able to say you have

great-grandkids, let alone great-great-grandkids."

"It's definitely unique," Nelson said. "I don't know anyone my age that even has their great-grandparents alive, let alone to say they have a great-great in the family. I think it's a unique and pretty cool thing."

Building a family

Howie Nessel returned home to St. Paul from three years in the Navy with the U.S. Naval Communications team in February 1946. Shortly after his return, he began attending Macalester College. During his sophomore year, he met his late wife Ellie while they were both singers with the Macalester Radio Singers. She asked him to a women-pay-all dance that fall, and that was when Howie knew she was going to be his wife.

"That night I went home and told my dad, 'That's the girl I'm going to marry,'" Nessel said. They were engaged by February and were married on Dec. 18, 1948.

From there, they made their home in the Como neighborhood of St. Paul and began a family, having five daughters and one son. That second eldest

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Back to school

Students were back to school on Sept. 4, and teachers, staff and community police officers were there to assure a smooth transition back. Forest Lake Area Middle School opened its doors for the first day as a new school, hosting seventh-graders and the eighth-graders across the district. Principal Curt Slater welcomed back students at Wyoming Elementary School with music, dancing and a disco ball.



Photos by Hannah Davis

Wyoming Elementary School Principal Curt Slater takes a selfie with a student before school.



Wyoming Police Chief Paul Hoppe greets students with high-fives outside Wyoming Elementary School.



Forest Lake Area Middle School seventh-graders (left to right) Carter Rehbein, Gabe Fesler and Mike Nelis test out the new lounge area in the new addition before class.



Forest Lake Area Middle School math teacher SallyAnn Reynolds, right, and special education instructor Alesha Blom, left, greet students as they enter.

