

# The Globe



## WMS student diagnosed with cancer

Ty Olson, 14, is getting chemo treatments and facing the amputation of his lower leg



Ty Olson, 14, of Round Lake, was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma last month and is now undergoing chemotherapy treatments at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Special to The Globe

**By Julie Buntjer**  
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ROUND LAKE — A Worthington Middle School student is in the fight of his life after being diagnosed last month with Ewing sarcoma, an extremely rare cancer that has spread to and metastasized in both of his lungs.

Ty Olson, the 14-year-old son of Randy and Lori Olson of Round Lake, isn't able to attend class with his fellow seventh-graders. His chemotherapy treatments have made him quite sick, quick to tire and weakened his immune system.

Most days he's in good spirits,

**INSIDE**  
For information on upcoming benefits and fundraisers for the Olsons, see **PAGE A4**.

though, said his mom. He just doesn't like feeling so yucky.

The Olsons first took Ty to a local clinic about a year and a half ago when he began experiencing significant pain in his left ankle. It appeared swollen, and the doctor determined Ty had sprained it. He was fitted with a lace-up brace and sent home.

Three months went by and the extreme pain returned to Ty's ankle. Another visit to the clinic yielded the same results — a

determination that Ty reinjured the sprained ankle. Again he was told to wear the lace-up brace and take ibuprofen for pain.

"Then it started being more frequent," Lori said. Ty was eventually given a walking boot and instructed to wear it if he felt pain, but "it got to the point that it was every week, swollen and it would hurt him."

During the trips to the clinic, Lori said they saw two or three different doctors and all said the same thing — it was an ankle sprain.

**OLSON:** Page A4



## Snow is a broken record ... literally | February record shattered, and winter is far from over

**By Julie Buntjer**  
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**Worthington**

What do you get when you cross a snowman and a vampire? Frostbite.

What do you get from sitting on the snow too long? Polaroids.

These seemingly constant February snowstorms may be no laughing matter, but at some point we all just have to roll with it. Really, what is the alternative? Yes, those Minnesota and Iowa snowbirds who flew the proverbial coop could probably give us an answer.

But we are hardy Midwesterners. Doesn't it make us proud to say we survived the minus-50 wind chills on Jan. 30? And isn't it just a wonderful feeling when the end of the driveway is unclogged? So what if we can't see over the snowbanks in our yards? Summer will come soon — it always does.

As the saying goes, when life gives you lemons, make lemonade ... or perhaps in our case, when Mother Nature gives us snow, let's build a snowman (or make a cup of hot chocolate and stay indoors!)

From Tuesday night into Wednesday, the city of Worthington picked up another 9 inches of

**SNOW:** Page A2

**Above:** Worthington snowdozers Tom Prins (left) and Evan Eggers clean the Schwalbach Ace Hardware parking lot after more than nine inches of snow fell Wednesday in Worthington.

**Tim Middagh / The Globe**

## 'The Secret Garden' premieres next week

WHS musical cast of 27 presents Broadway show based on beloved book

**By Jane Turpin Moore**  
The Globe

WORTHINGTON — Just in time to rescue area residents weary of the white, white world of winter arrives "The Secret Garden," a colorful musical that celebrates the gifts of love and growth following loss.

"What makes the storyline beautiful is its affirmation of the power of positive thinking, nature and the knowledge that a person can make life changes by how you respond to things," said Eric Parrish, director.

A cast of 27 Worthington High School students, supported by a stage/set crew of a dozen more teens, will present the Tony Award-winning musical next Thursday through Sunday at Memorial Auditorium Performing Arts Center.

"The music is gorgeous, and audiences will love it even if they weren't previously familiar with it," said Parrish, now in his fourth year of leading WHS musicals.

Based on the beloved classic "The Secret Garden" authored by Frances Hodgson Burnett, the musical version similarly centers on 10-year-old Mary Lennox.

The disagreeable Mary is plucked from the only home she has known after a cholera epidemic claims her parents. She is placed with her grieving, conflicted uncle, Archibald Craven, at his haunted Misselthwaite

**'SECRET GARDEN':** Page A5

## Worthington community shows support for driver's license bill

**By Leah Ward**  
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WORTHINGTON — About 150 local residents met Sunday at St. Mary's School to learn about newly proposed legislation that, if passed, will allow people to apply for a Minnesota driver's license using legal identification from any country.

NAVIGATE Unidos Minnesota decided to host the information session after lead organizer Jessica Velasco received feedback from the Hispanic and Latinx community in this area that they are concerned about the current limitations of driver's license laws.

The legislation discussed

is called the License Access and Public Safety Act, colloquially known as the Freedom to Drive Act. It's a bipartisan bill co-authored by District 22B Rep. Rod Hamilton, R-Mountain Lake, who had planned to attend the event personally

**LICENSE:** Page A6



Supporters of the Freedom to Drive Act meet with Rep. Rod Hamilton (front, center right) and Rep. Ryan Winkler Thursday at the Capitol building. Photo submitted by Jessica Velasco