



Teams' title dreams dashed
as all sports are shut down
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Pine Knot

*Carlton County's
only independent,
locally owned newspaper.*

News

www.PineKnotNews.com

Friday, March 20, 2020

\$1.25

COPING WITH THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED

Days, hours, minutes and seconds. International, national, statewide, and home. In a whirlwind the past 10 days, life in Carlton County and the world has changed in response to a deadly respiratory disease pandemic.

Schools are shut by order of Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz — as are bars, restaurants and other public gathering spaces until at least the end of the month and likely much longer. We've been told to not gather in groups of more than 10 people. In short, stay at home, gather supplies when needed.

The innate notion of banding together to get through a crisis has been thwarted, at least physically. Adding to the psychological upset is the virus itself, invisible, possibly lurking. Even more vexing in the past week is that the seven-county statistical area of northeastern Minnesota has not had one confirmed case of COVID-19 as cases build in the Twin Cities metro area and counties to its west and south. It's likely just luck, or a lack of testing, or that we are adhering to the direction of health experts to slow the spread by keeping our distance from others. We just don't know.

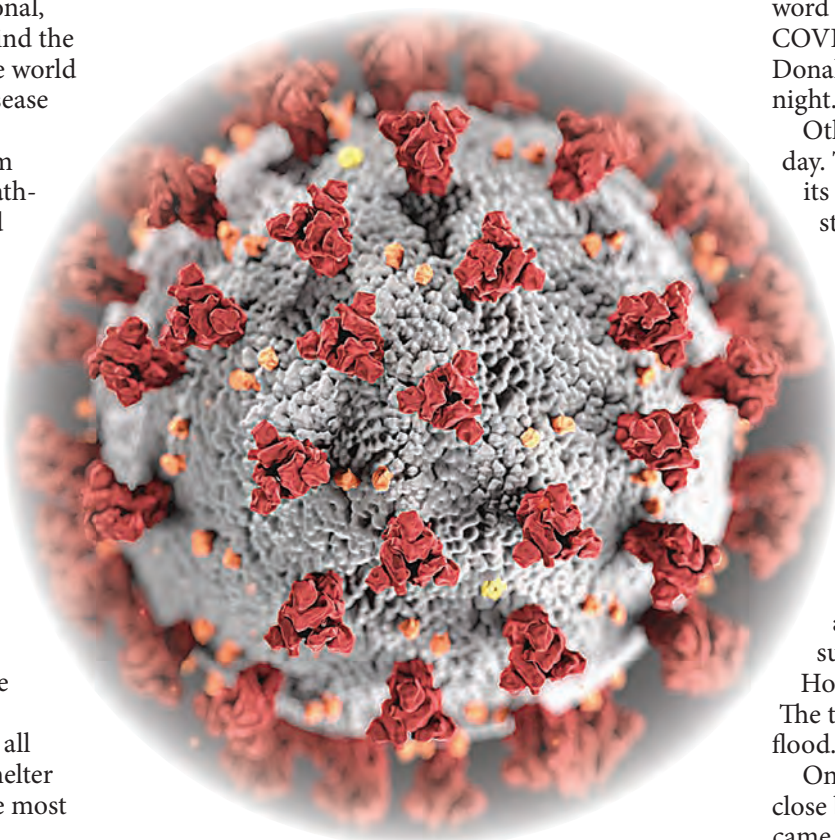
A barrage of words and phrases have crashed in all around us — social distancing, flatten the curve, shelter in place, wash your hands, unprecedented, and, the most vexing — “We just don't know.”

The new coronavirus and the disease borne from it, COVID-19, has swept across the globe, leading to thousands of deaths and sickening many more.

We watched the news the past month as countries became inundated with cases. Italy shut down its whole country. Cases exploded on the west coast of the United States, mostly around care facilities for older people, the most vulnerable to the virus.

The march

The first reports out of China about a “mysterious” new respiratory disease came just after the holidays. By the middle of January, the first deaths were attributed to a



A model of a coronavirus like the one that causes COVID-19. From the Centers for Disease Control

PINE KNOT NEWS STAFF REPORT

novel coronavirus believed to have begun in December in Wuhan, China. Since then, there has been a steady march of infection across the world.

But even until last week, things looked isolated in the U.S. We went about our regular business. On March 11,

word was received that an NBA player had contracted COVID-19. The league suspended its season. President Donald Trump spoke to the nation that Wednesday night. Stocks on Wall Street were tumbling.

Other sports leagues followed the NBA lead on Thursday. The Minnesota State High School League continued its winter sports seasons, including the girls basketball state tournament featuring Cromwell-Wright. The Cardinals won their quarterfinal game on Thursday, continuing a dream season. That all came crashing down on Friday as the league suspended the tournament and all sports indefinitely. Suddenly, the season was over for the Cardinals and the Esko boys team, which had reached the section final.

Hitting home

By late Friday, all sports and other activities national and statewide had been suspended, which led to an eerie weekend for many. Concerts and other entertainments were canceled. Events such as the annual Cloquet Chamber of Commerce Home, Business and Sports Show went by the wayside. The trickle had become a stream and was soon to be a flood.

On Sunday, Walz announced that K-12 schools had to close by Wednesday. An order for bars and restaurants came Monday. Schools and businesses were now clamoring for a Plan B in a world where everyone was supposed to stay home.

Trying to make it all work is a daunting task.

Many restaurants will move to pick-up service. The sign at Gordy's Hi-Hat went from “Opening March 19” to “opening soon.” Cloquet's trademark rite of spring would have to wait.

Carlton school district superintendent Gwen Carman went through her district's plan to teach and care for students at a school board meeting Monday. “All of a sudden, in 48 hours, we are doing everything different,” she said.

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In rapidly changing times ...

Go online to PineKnotNews.com.

News on the pandemic comes quickly and we are trying to keep up with it all. Look to the Pine Knot News web and Facebook pages for up-to-date, one-stop information on local, state and national news.



Pine Knot

News

*Carlton County's
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Vol. 3 No. 13

www.PineKnotNews.com

Friday, March 27, 2020

\$1.25



Second-grade teacher Jolene Aho shared this heartfelt message across the exterior windows of her classroom at Washington Elementary School in Cloquet. "It's a little encouragement for the community and kids we love," said Washington principal Robbi Mondati. On Friday, Gov. Tim Walz announced that schools will implement distance learning through May 4. *Photos by Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News*

A NEW NORMAL

CARLTON COUNTY CONTINUES TO ADJUST TO A PANDEMIC STATE

Carlton County residents continue to adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic that has most people keeping a safe distance from each other at home. What you need to know about the outbreak response can be found throughout this week's Pine Knot News.

Right: It's the new way to get something to eat away from home: curbside service. Tom Montgomery pays Nikki Crotteau for a lunch order at Family Tradition Restaurant Friday. Montgomery owns Lost Tavern. He said they were working inside to do extra cleaning and other projects during the governor's mandated closure. **Below right:** Empty parking lots at Black Bear Casino & Resort were a stark reminder of how usually busy places have gone quiet.

Below: School buses are still getting around Cloquet and the county to deliver breakfast and lunch to students.



How are you doing?

Email: News@PineKnotNews.com

We want to keep covering the community as comprehensively as we can. Help the Pine Knot out by telling us how you are doing and what you are seeing out there in this strange new world of pandemic. Inspire our readership.



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Making a difference
by making masks
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News

Vol. 3 No. 14

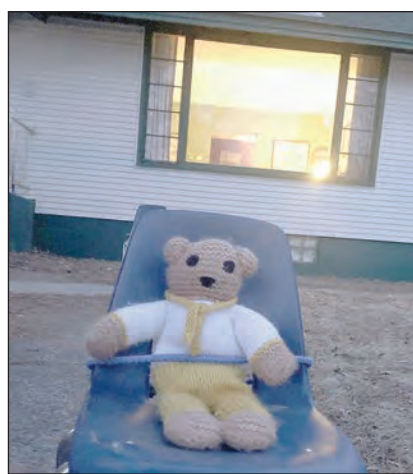
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Friday, April 3, 2020

\$1.25

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

SILVER LININGS



Residents and businesses around town are getting into a movement to display bears, Easter eggs and art in windows and doors and porches facing the street so the influx of walkers can enjoy discovering them as they pass by. Isaac and Sophia Abell, ages 9 and 6, created a snowman in Cloquet with a splash of food coloring. Cloquet child care provider Judy Sanda has her bear safely buckled into a chair on her front lawn. Kim Buskala had some art on display at her Cloquet home. The Pine Knot News and a number of our local advertisers want to encourage more people to join in the fun with their own window displays. Check out the coloring page on **Page 10** of this week's paper. Happy hunting.

Churches find ways to connect

Mike Creger
news@PineKnotNews.com

Can you imagine pastors Jeff Walther and Tom Brinkley preaching from the roof of St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Esko on Easter Sunday? Below them in the parking lot are parishioners in their cars dialed into an FM frequency on their radios, listening and reciting the Lord's Prayer.

A few months ago, there would be laughter about such a stunt. Today, in a pandemic world, the plans at St. Matthews seem ingenious and hopeful.

"It has forced us to be creative but stay within the guidelines," Walther said this week when talking about the changes his church has been through since social distancing to prevent the spread of a deadly virus became the norm in the area and around the world.

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Displays offer light in dark times

Jana Peterson
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Amidst all the fear and uncertainty caused by the coronavirus, there's a movement afoot to make life more fun, more beautiful, or both.

Suddenly, there are bears — of the stuffed variety or two-dimensional, not hungry-just-out-of-hibernation live ones — appearing in windows and on porches in Cloquet and beyond. It's not limited to bears, though. Other windows feature Easter eggs or original artworks for all the world to see as people walk or ride past homes, businesses and even City Hall.

Cloquet children's librarian Keiko Satomi said the library heard about communities around the world that were holding neighborhood "bear hunts" in this time of social distancing. Inspired by the picture book "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" by Michael Rosen,



Library director Beth Sorenson holds a copy of the book by Michael Rosen that inspired the "bear hunt" trend while children's librarian Keiko Satomi holds a teddy bear with more in the library window behind them. *Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News*

Satomi said homes across the world are placing stuffed bears, animals, and drawings of bears and rainbows in windows for kids and families to find when they are on a walk or a drive.

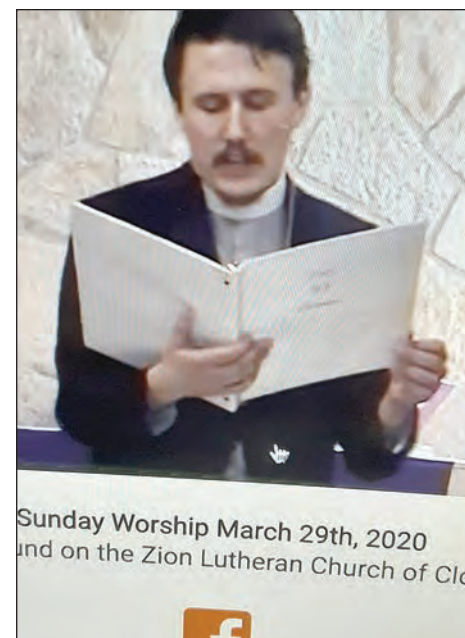
Unknown to Satomi, Clo-

quet Community Education was already doing something similar. Although the annual Easter Egg Hunt had to be canceled due to the ban on large gatherings, Community Ed found an alternative: a visual

hunt for Easter eggs taped to windows and doors.

"It's easy. No human contact. Get fresh air. Just put an Easter egg in your window," organizers suggested.

Continued on back page



Pastor CJ Boettcher leads a service last Sunday that was streamed on Cloquet's Zion Lutheran Church web and Facebook page.

What's your story?

Email: News@PineKnotNews.com

We want to keep covering the community as comprehensively as we can. Help the Pine Knot out by telling us how you are doing and what you are seeing out there in this strange new world of pandemic. **See Page 8.**



INSIDE

This week in Carlton County's only independent, locally owned newspaper.



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CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE



Letter carrier James Schilling delivers mail in Cloquet's West End earlier this week. Package volume is up at area post offices as is cleaning and the use of protective measures against COVID-19. The package volume feels a bit like the Christmas rush, Cloquet postmaster Todd Manisto said. *Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News*

Public safety plays it safe

Jana Peterson
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For public safety officials, the coronavirus pandemic made an already dangerous job even more risky. Now, when officers are called to a local store to respond to an intoxicated person who is out of control and — worse yet (during a pandemic) — coughing all over people, the officers should also take time to put on masks and eye goggles or a face shield as well as gloves.

That was an actual call earlier this month, explained acting Cloquet police chief Derek Randall, and the officers did not wear their masks. Thankfully, the woman did not have symptoms of COVID-19, according to jail officials, and the officers were not infected.

It was a learning experience, Randall said. It's tough to remember to pull on some rubber gloves and face protection (and maybe some kind of plastic clothes covering) before responding to a crime in progress.

But it will be worth the delay, he said.

A department the size of Cloquet's will struggle if people get sick, or have to quarantine themselves for 14 days because of contact. On the flip side, he said, if you let them work after possible contact, they could easily infect the entire department.

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Delivered ... at a distance

Virus pandemic doesn't stop flow of packages, mail

Mike Creger
news@PineKnotNews.com

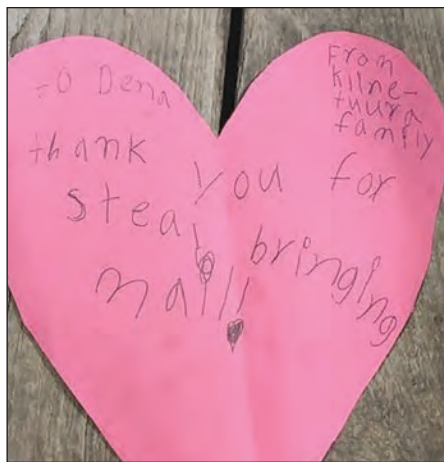
Things are a "lot different" at Carlton County post offices these days. Different from normal times. Of course, these are pandemic times, and the people who sort and deliver mail are trying to practice social distancing just like everyone else.

Carriers are wearing gloves and other protective gear. There are floor markings at the post office, reminding customers to keep their distance from one another. You'll see sneeze guards and hand sanitizer.

And, as hard as it may be for both parties, now is not the time to cozy up to your favorite mail carrier. It's sad but true, said Cloquet postmaster Todd Manisto.

"Stay your distance," he said. "Don't approach your mail carrier, don't poke your head in their vehicle window."

It's practical sense, he said, as carriers are going from home to home and business to business despite the threat of COVID-19. The public is appreciating the continued service, Manisto said, and being "understanding" about



Postal workers in Cloquet have received notes of thanks and homemade masks for protection as they continue to sort and deliver mail during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Contributed photos*

keeping distances.

People have sent notes thanking postal employees and have donated protective masks. "People are being really supportive," Manisto said.

National stories about the financial plight of the United State Postal Service have spurred some to purchase stamps recently. The USPS is encouraging that and other online options for mailing for those who don't want to venture down to a post office. Manisto said some of the stories people are seeing are overblown. While post offices across the country have been carefully watching their bottom lines the past few years, the Cloquet office is actually busier right now, Manisto said.

"It feels like Christmas for the packages," he said.

Local businesses and people stuck at home are ordering items through the mail. The Cloquet office has seen a doubling of daily packages, to 800 a day from the normal 300, Manisto said. Across the USPS, he said, there has been a 30- to 40-percent increase in packages delivered.

People aren't going to the pharmacy and are ordering essential items, Manisto said. Items like medications are "through the roof." People are also sending care packages to loved ones they can't see in person.

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Cloquet police officers have a table stacked with materials for sanitizing vehicles and themselves. *Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News*



In the garden, effort fertilizes

I am breaking the first rule of writers: “Write about what you know.” Even though my husband and I have raised gardens for 50 years, my knowledge of the plant world remains quite incomplete. I come from a long line of gardeners, not Master Gardeners, mind you, but women who mastered gardening to feed their families and spruce up the yard with flowers if they had time or energy to spare.

It was understood that I would carry on this gardening tradition when I married and had children. We bought my family home in Douglas County, Wisconsin, complete with my Mom’s large garden plot and an abundance of flower beds.

Under my mom’s tutelage, we planted all the vegetables our family would require for a year. We reaped the bounty and wonderful flavor of healthy homegrown produce that was canned or frozen for later use. The flower beds gradually slipped away as I focused on what we could eat. The vegetable

garden challenged us, though, because it was red clay, hard, clumpy, and prime soil for weed growth.

We had a few livestock and were able to add manure to loosen the dirt enough to get seeds into the ground, and then everything grew. I consulted with my mom and my aunt as needed, but never had the time or energy to delve into the depths of the plant world.

Fast-forward several decades, to a new location in Twin Lakes Township in Carlton County. One reason we chose the area for our retirement spot was to get away from the red clay. According to the neighbors, our new home rests on land that was part of a very successful cabbage, potato, and sheep farm. Exactly what we wanted. We could actually push a shovel into the turf without a sledgehammer.

One of our first orders of business was to work up a garden spot. The soil was loose with a few — well, more than a few — stones that needed to be

removed but, all in all, it looked pretty good. However, this soil had much to teach us. On the one hand, potatoes like newly broken ground and did quite well. On the other hand, the green beans that survived the insects looked pathetic. Never before had green beans let me down. Tomatoes developed blossom-end rot and suffered blight; half or parts of rows of veggies looked fair, but the rest yielded anemic dwarf plants without produce. We had nice loose soil, but it didn’t feed the plants.

This was new territory for us old-fashioned gardeners. We had the soil tested, looked for help on garden websites, and learned about amending the soil. We needed to build back the nutrients and microorganisms to make the soil fertile for our plants.

These challenges are part of what make gardening such a rewarding activity. Next year can give you another chance to try again. Reflecting on my gardening experiences, I know my gardens have been my teachers through the years. Many sermons, stories, and books reference the plant world and the metaphors that pertain to every-

day life. I have learned patience while waiting for results, perseverance when faced with pests and adverse weather, acceptance of failure, the joy of success, and the peace offered by Mother Earth when I get up close and personal. I have learned that I don’t need to know volumes of information to enjoy my garden, but I can always learn something new, and as the plants grow, so does my knowledge.

While preparing this piece I ran across an excerpt from the book “The Importance of Living” by Lin Yutang, in which he lauds the efforts of amateurs in all types of endeavors as they work to accomplish their goals for their own personal satisfaction without pressure to be No. 1.

His view affirms my gardening efforts. My produce here may not be the biggest, the best, or the earliest of the season, but I can say “I grew it.”

Writer Francy Chamblings is a retired English teacher and clinical psychologist who loves living in Carlton County (and gardening).

COMMUNITY COLUMNIST



Francy Chamblings

Tribal college anthology is out

Pine Knot News

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College has published the eighth edition of its literary and arts anthology, “The Thunderbird Review.” The journal features writing and art submitted by students from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and residents of northeastern Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin communities.

According to a FDLTCC press release, the journal received many high-quality submissions this year from both established and emerging writers and artists. The editorial staff spent hours poring over and discussing all the wonderful writing and art.

This year’s edition is different from those of past years in that it was printed in color. Because of

the great number of exceptional art submissions, the editors elected to have the anthology feature its pages in color. Among the artists featured in the journal are Charlie May, Anna Granholm, Kaitlyn Rain Hagenah, J.M.S. Swenson, and James Springett. Featured writers include Suzanne VanHoever, Jabari Simpson, Deborah Rasmussen, Jan Chronister, and Liz Minette. Student editors this year were Alberto Torres, Dakota Burton, Katherine Welman, and Janice Rarick; they worked with FDLTCC English instructor Darci Schummer to produce the publication.

In lieu of an in-person celebration of its latest edition, FDLTCC is celebrating the release virtually by featuring contributors reading from their work and publishing images of the selected artwork



Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College

THE THUNDERBIRD REVIEW

ISSUE 8
2020



on the Facebook page for “The Thunderbird Review” at www.facebook.com/thethunderbirdreview.

For more information or to purchase a copy, contact Darci Schummer at 218-879-0845 or email dschummer@fdltcc.edu.

Sales proceeds go toward funding the current publication as well as the next edition.

CONGRATULATIONS **Class of 2020**



The nature of graduation ceremonies this spring has taken on the surreality of the COVID-19 pandemic itself. Celebration by automobile — to abide by social distancing guidelines — seems to be the choice of districts in the region, as it was last week in Carlton, above, and will be in Wrenshall and Esko this week. That's Brady Petite waiting his turn Friday. One thing hasn't changed. The Pine Knot News is recognizing seniors by printing photo sections along with special recognition information. Last week we celebrated Cloquet graduates. This week, enjoy the parade of seniors from the smaller schools in northern Carlton County. They've made it through the final stage of high school in the unlikeliest atmosphere imaginable.

CELEBRATING STUDENTS AT

CARLTON

CROMWELL-WRIGHT

ESKO

FOND DU LAC OJIBWE

CLOQUET AREA ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

WRENSHALL

FOND DU LAC TRIBAL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INSIDE

This week in Carlton County's only independent, locally owned newspaper.



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A REVERBERATING RECKONING



The death of George Floyd in Minneapolis at the hands of police officers on Memorial Day, and the visceral worldwide reaction to it, has changed an already odd pandemic world in seemingly an instant and throbbled the past two weeks. Peaceful protests in Minneapolis turned ugly with arson and property destruction. Protests spread to large cities across the country and to areas across the state. A crowd of more than 1,000 people, reflected in Chakotay Johnson's sunglasses in this photo, gathered and marched May 30 in downtown Duluth. On today's **back page**, read about the event and how people here and beyond are reacting. This edition's Opinion section, beginning on **Page 6**, also reacts to the Floyd death and aftermath.

Photo by Derek Montgomery / For Minnesota Public Radio

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

Open-air bar rules bring smiles and gulps of relief

Jana Peterson
news@pineknotnews.com

Thank goodness the sun came out. Monday marked the first day people could eat at restaurants and drink at bars — outdoors only, not inside — since Gov. Tim Walz began issuing orders to keep people at home and nonessential businesses closed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although many local restaurants have been offering curbside or delivery service for customers, most bars have simply been closed for almost three months. There's been a lot of remodeling and cleaning, but minimal revenue, so the reopening is a relief for most bar owners.

Customers, too. Most seemed elated to be at their favorite watering hole, drinking in the late afternoon sun on Monday.

"Super excited," said Chris Shevich, perched at a high table outside the Moose Lodge in Cloquet, talking with Raeanne and Ryan Bergren and Brad Tyman. More people chatted around two other tables behind them.

Local restaurant and bar owners are taking creative measures to try to in-



Kalee Monahan and Jeremy Bushey toast on the deck at the Rendezvous Bar in Scanlon Monday. It made life feel more normal, Monahan said. "The restrictions aren't fun," Bushey said. *Jana Peterson / Pine Knot News*

crease seating capacity outside. A giant white tent sat in the parking lot of the Third Base Bar in Carlton. Across the street, the Streetcar added a smaller tent adjacent to its patio seating. The

Rendezvous eliminated seven parking spaces closest to its already expansive deck and put picnic tables there.

Stick a fork in the Fourth

No celebration in Cloquet in July

Jana Peterson
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Add July Fourth festivities in Cloquet to the list of cancellations caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

Cloquet city council members voted unanimously Tuesday to cancel all of the usual July Fourth activities, including the fireworks. The committee that organizes the event had hoped it could still offer the fireworks, asking people to watch from cars or other uncrowded locations, but it wasn't to be.

City administrator Tim Peterson requested the council not move forward with any events — fireworks, the parade and more — even after they approved various permits and road closures on a "just in case" basis at the previous city council meeting.

"I told you we'd be bringing it back, tonight is that night," Peterson said. "We need to decide, and let the vendor know if we will be moving forward."

"With both Moose Lake and Duluth canceling their events, we simply can't handle having that many people who now have lost their events traveling to the city of Cloquet," Peterson said, noting his recommendation followed discussions with councilors, July Fourth coordinator Alyson Leno and interim police chief Derek Randall.

"I know it's an event that's near and dear to many, including my family," Peterson said. "This will be a loss. However, with trying to keep everybody safe, I just don't see any way we can possibly have that many people, not to mention social distancing."

Ward 3 councilor Chris Swanson moved to cancel the events. "It's a bummer, but I think it's the right decision," he said. "It's important to keep the people of our community safe, and everyone else too."

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Dear Santa ...



Open this present from the Pine Knot News and you'll find letters to Santa written by elementary students from the area along with photos from Santa's visit to the newspaper office earlier this month. There was a packed house as children relayed their Christmas wishes to the jolly old elf in person.

Enjoy. Merry Christmas.

26th ANNUAL CLOQUET AREA COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

**Join us on
Christmas Day
2:00 p.m.**

We invite anyone who will be alone or in need of a meal on Christmas Day.

Come for fellowship and food!

Volunteers are needed to deliver, prepare and serve meals. Contact the Zion Lutheran Church office at 218-879-4647 to volunteer, order a meal delivered or arrange for transportation to Zion. Calls will be taken until noon on December 23rd.

This dinner is FREE and open to the public.

Funds are donated by local businesses and generous individuals.

Zion Lutheran Church

1000 Washington Avenue, Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Sports & Outdoors

GIRLS SOCCER

OLE-VIA!



The Lumberjacks soccer team celebrated with the Section 7A championship trophy after defeating Chisago Lakes in North Branch last Thursday. Olivia Jameson put away the winning sudden-death goal on her first shift of the game.

'Jacks reach State with unlikely hero

Dwight Cadwell
sports@pineknotnews.com

NORTH BRANCH—Olivia Jameson was so stealthy when she scored the Lumberjacks' game-winning goal that even her coach didn't realize who deftly kicked the ball over the Chisago Lakes goalie, who was tangled up on the ground with Cloquet's Alexa Snesrud.

"It was the first shift of the game for Olivia," coach Dustin Randall said about Jameson's "golden goal" — a sudden-death goal — in the second overtime of Thursday's Section 7A championship girls soccer match against the Wildcats. "She was in to give a break for our defenders who were gassed," Randall said, adding that he didn't know it was Jameson who scored until the teams were shaking hands after the celebration.

Randall wasn't the only to find out after the fact. Jameson's mother, Lori, and her big sister Katie were on a "girls' road trip" over the school break and listening to the game on the radio on and off.

"We missed hearing her goal," said Lori. "Then I got a text from a friend that said, 'Way to go OJ.' I called my husband right away; he said he was going down to the field and they would call me back. Olivia called me a few minutes later and told me the play-by-play."

Jameson's goal propelled the Lumberjacks back to the state tournament for the eighth time in school history and for the first time since 2012.

It was a wild game Thursday, with the lead changing back and forth in the second half before



The Lumberjacks girls soccer team celebrates after Madi Vermeersch's game-tying penalty-shot goal Thursday as Chisago Lakes players walk away in frustration.

going into double overtime.

The top-seeded Chisago Lakes gave Cloquet a scare when Estefania Hansen scored to give the Wildcats a 2-1 lead with only 1:26 remaining in the match. Thanks to another fall involving Snesrud — a freshman who's been outstanding this year — Lumberjack Madi Vermeersch scored the game-tying goal on a penalty kick with only 52 seconds to play.

"Alexa Snesrud got tripped accidentally in the box, but when that happens the rules state it's a penalty kick," Randall said. "And Madi's been clutch all season long — she was again tying the game," Randall said.



Cloquet coach Dustin Randall wasn't the only one who found out late that Olivia Jameson scored the game-winning golden goal for the Lumberjacks. The very excited "OJ" called her mom with her dad's phone after the game to deliver the good news. Photos by Jana Peterson / Pine Knot Sports

The ticker

A quick look
at area teams in action

Football playoffs

Carlton/Wrenshall: 33
North Woods: 18

After going undefeated during the regular season the Carlton-Wrenshall Raptors football team had to hit the road and play as the No. 5 seed in the Section 7A football tournament against the No. 4 seeded North Woods Grizzlies.

The Raptors played a nine-man schedule and had to bump up to 11-man after combining programs earlier this year. In the end, the Raptors came away with a solid 33-18 win on the road.

"We felt as a team that we have not received the respect that we deserve for going 8-0 during the regular season," said Raptors coach Jeremy Zywicki. "We emphasized to the guys that this was their opportunity to prove the doubters wrong."

The Raptors scored in the first quarter when Matt Santkuyl darted in from 22 yards out and Ryan Gray booted the extra point for a 7-0 lead, but the Grizzlies answered a few minutes later to cut the lead to 7-6 after the missed conversion run.

Carlton-Wrenshall picked up back-to-back scores in the second quarter on a 29-yard pass from Kaden Crane to Isaiah Johnson and a 4-yard run by Gray. Gray also added the extra point kick on the Johnson touchdown making the score 20-6 at half-time, which proved to be huge in the second half.

"It's always nice to play with a lead than from behind, and that's what we preach to our team," Zywicki said. "We want to force opponents to play from behind and force them into situations that they're not comfortable with. Things were working well, and it was nice to have a lead going into the half."

The Grizzlies added an 11-yard run by T.J. Chiabotti in the third quarter and an early fourth-quarter 9-yard touchdown run by Chiabotti to cut the lead to 20-18, but the Raptors answered in kind, with a Justin Swanson 4-yard touchdown run and a Crane 2-yard touchdown run as well as a Gray extra point kick for the final of 33-18.

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RECREATION

Cloquet golf legend Newby had an early start

For decades, the name Butch Newby was synonymous with Cloquet Country Club championship golf. I had the privilege of recently catching up with Butch while being joined in the phone conversation by Bill Manahan, the manager-pro at the club, and Dick Brenner, longtime CCC member and community activist.

Butch's given name was Harry Newby, Jr., but he has been known as "Butch" ever since he can remember. He was a very successful attorney in Cloquet and Carlton County, sharing an office for many years with another longtime club member, Dave Lingren.

Since 2002, Butch and his wife Jill have lived in Arkansas. He is afflicted with mesothelioma, but is battling it as if he were down one hole in a golf match — with very intense effort. At the time of the interview, Butch had recently completed mesothelioma-related hospital treatment in Houston and also in an Arkansas facility. Butch grew up on 22nd Street in Cloquet. His dad, Harry Sr., was an incredible athlete as well, nearly qualifying for the Olympics as a sprinter and playing professional football for the Duluth Eskimos. His mom, Pat, and his dad were both excellent teachers and golfers. He said he got his first clubs when he was 12. His summers were soon devoted to golf.

Club rat


Newby said he very quickly latched onto and became friends with Cal Carlson at the country club, who was a year older. They often would put sheets out on the practice fairway and for hours play games for pennies, trying to land balls from different distances and angles onto the sheet. He said the club greenskeeper, Carl Peterson, would get after him and Cal, asking why they weren't out swimming like other boys and girls rather than making divots practicing on the golf course.

By eighth grade, the 14-year-old became quite an accomplished golfer, and lettered, along with Cal, on the Cloquet High School golf team. By the time Butch reached 15, he had won the Minnesota State Jaycee tournament. That victory qualified him for a national tournament in Columbus, Ohio, where another golfing legend was present: Jack Nicklaus.


"Jack and I are only two months apart in age," Butch said. "But the similarity ends there." The golfer's paths would cross more than once in years to come.


Butch was also a very good basketball player. As soon as golf season ended, he was shooting baskets. The Cloquet Civic Center (on Cloquet Avenue where the fire station is now) had a great little gymnasium where area youth could sharpen their skills. His dad and Clare Hendrickson helped coach and groom some of this emerging

A Butch Newby scrapbook




Left: Butch and his father on the Cloquet Country Club practice fairway. Above: The Cloquet High School golf team in 1954 with eighth-grader Butch at far right.







Butch and his caddy, Dave Rosen, at the 1968 Cloquet Invitational. Rosen caddied for Butch for many years and became an excellent golfer himself, winning multiple club championships.



Butch was runner-up to Leo Spooner at the 1966 Cloquet Invitational.



Butch was captain of the University of Minnesota golf team in 1962.



Butch at Ridgeview in Duluth in 1965.

Cloquet hardwood talent. His senior year, 1958, Cloquet made it to the state basketball tournament for the first time. In the first game at state, they were matched up against Austin, the eventual state champion. Cloquet lost by two points. In the consolation finals, Cloquet also lost by two points.

"Bemidji had a 6-foot-8 kid named Ray Cronk who eventually became a star for the Gophers and played professional basketball," Butch said. "It was a tough task for us since our tallest starter was 6-foot-2. We lost two games at State by a total of four points. It was, however, a great and unforgettable experience." He was named the top scholar athlete at Cloquet High in 1958.

Prep, college success

The high school golf team was nearly unbeatable during Butch's tenure. In 1957 and 1958, Cloquet had a streak of more than 25 match wins. They won district titles and qualified for state tournaments.

With junior championships looming, Butch got a letter in the mail from Les Bolstad, the coach of the University of Minnesota golf team, showing interest in his talent. When he was 18, he was invited to play — as an amateur — in the Keller Open, a tournament designed for professional golfers at Keller Golf Course in St. Paul. Butch also qualified for the Minnesota Open, a tournament

for the state's elite amateur and club professional golfers. He shot an opening round 69 that included birdies on 15, 16, and 17, and a par on 18. The media called Butch's score one of the best rounds ever in the tourney history.

"It was a lot of pressure on a young kid," Butch said. "And it showed for my next two rounds weren't nearly as good. Still, great memories."

Newby enrolled at Minnesota and eventually went to law school. The golf team had a lot of talented players. Jack Nicklaus attended fellow Big Ten school Ohio State University during this same period.

Butch considers being named captain of the 1962 team one of his most gratifying golf accomplishments. That year, he won the first of his 13 club championships at Cloquet Country Club.

"I think it's kind of neat that my dad won the club championship in 1952 and 1953, and I won it in 1962 and 1963," he said. He won in four different decades,

including his last in 1996. (John Sheff has tied Butch's long-standing achievement of 13 club championships.)

Butch won nearly all of the amateur golf tournaments in northeastern Minnesota during this era. He qualified for four U.S. Amateur golf tournaments. His first, in 1961, was at Pebble Beach, where Jack Nicklaus won.

Family backing

Butch emphasized how fortunate he was to have a supportive wife and family that allowed him to get on the fairways so often.

"I worked about 70 hours a week and took my vacation on the weeks of three-day or more golf tournaments," he said. "Jill encouraged me to go to golf events and stuck with me through thick and thin. It meant more responsibility for her when I was gone, caring for our three kids. All of my opportunities and success was due to her and my family."

The Newbys celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary at

the Cloquet Country Club in July this year. Butch and sons, Logan and Joel, played in the Cloquet Invitational. He hadn't played in the tournament for about 15 years. Butch said that he was touched that many friends, attorneys, judges, classmates and others came to say hello.

Butch is proud that the Cloquet club has endured and thrived as well as its youth program that fuels successful high school teams. It was one of Butch's goals to see the course expand to 18 holes, which it did in 2001. Joel Goldstrand, who designed the back nine holes, was a friend and golf competitor. Butch chaired the club's Greens Committee for about 20 years, including during the expansion, and also provided legal advice.

The course itself is a reminder of the years and rounds gone by. "It was so much fun to see pine trees that I may have planted 50 years ago now standing tall in all their grander," Butch said. "Very impressive."

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