

# DISPATCH

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## Governor candidate has strong ties to NYM

*Hepola family rallies behind Cory Hepola bid for governor*

By Tucker Henderson  
Reporter

Self-described as a “son of Otter Tail County,” Perham-native and New York Mills descendant, Cory Hepola announced on Tuesday, March 1 that he would be running for governor of Minnesota.

Hepola will be running under the Forward Party

flag, breaking off from the traditional two-party system.

The Forward Party’s guiding principals are “effective and modern government, fact-based government, human-centered capitalism, ranked-choice voting, cash relief,” as well as “grace and tolerance.” He has said that the two toxic mainstream

parties are not there for the people any more.

“We (the Forward Party) are a party of the people, for the people,” said Hepola of the grassroots movement.

Hepola is the son of NY Mills natives, Terry and Diane Hepola. Although he grew up in Perham and graduated there in 2000, his family roots run deep in

**HEPOLA REFLECTS ON LOCAL TIES**  
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Contributed photo  
Cory Hepola is pictured with his sister and cousins at the New York Mills kiddie parade a number of years ago.



Photo by Chad Koenen  
John Klinnert has been a staple at boys and girls basketball games in the area for the past 45 years. The New York Mills native was at a recent game in Henning against Parkers Prairie.

## Klinnert wraps up 45th year as official

*NYM native shares love of basketball with new generation*

By Barbie Porter  
Editor, Frazee-Vergas Forum

As the winter sports season nears completion, John Klinnert is concluding his 45th year as a referee.

Whether he is standing on

the football field or basketball court, the 1965 New York Mills graduate is proud to be in the thick of things when make or break calls are made at an athletic event.

“I keep returning (to referee) for the love of the game,” he

said. “That, and I look at it as a way to get paid for working out.”

Sports has also been a positive influence for Klinnert throughout his life. The former five-sport athlete for NY Mills (football, cross country, bas-

**WEARING STRIPES FOR 45 YEARS**  
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## Rudolph, Ruther take over at Mills Lanes, Lucky Strike Grill

By Tucker Henderson  
Reporter

A new set of owners greet patrons from behind the counter at Mills Lanes. Though they have both

been hard at work cooking and serving food in the past, they only recently were passed the reins to the business.

Chad Rudolph and Tiffany Ruther have been call-

ing the shots at Mills Lanes since March 1. The two co-owners place a lot of value in Dolly and Owen Tumberg’s accomplishments over the past 22 years under their ownership. As a

result, other than a couple of menu changes, the at-

**NEW OWNERS AT MILLS LANES**  
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Photo by Tucker Henderson  
Wedde Tax Accounting, EA, has opened in the former Centennial Realty building in the heart of downtown New York Mills.

## New life comes back to NYM building

*Wedde Tax Accounting opens in NYM*

By Tucker Henderson  
Reporter

A new name has been added to the Centennial Building’s front door. Lindsay A. Wedde, EA has made the

New York Mills landmark the home of her new branch office here.

Wedde also operates an office in Detroit Lakes, but her roots as a public accountant started in NY Mills.

“When I originally opened

**NEW LIFE COMES TO NYM**

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## Salo named to all-state academic wrestling team



Photo by Chad Koenen  
New York Mills senior Bren Salo was one of 30 wrestlers in the state who were selected to the Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association All-State Individual Academic Wrestling Team. Salo was one of two wrestlers selected for the honor at 182 lbs. He is the son of Dean and Janelle Salo.

