

# DISPATCH

Serving the communities of New York Mills | Deer Creek



## 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 principles 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.

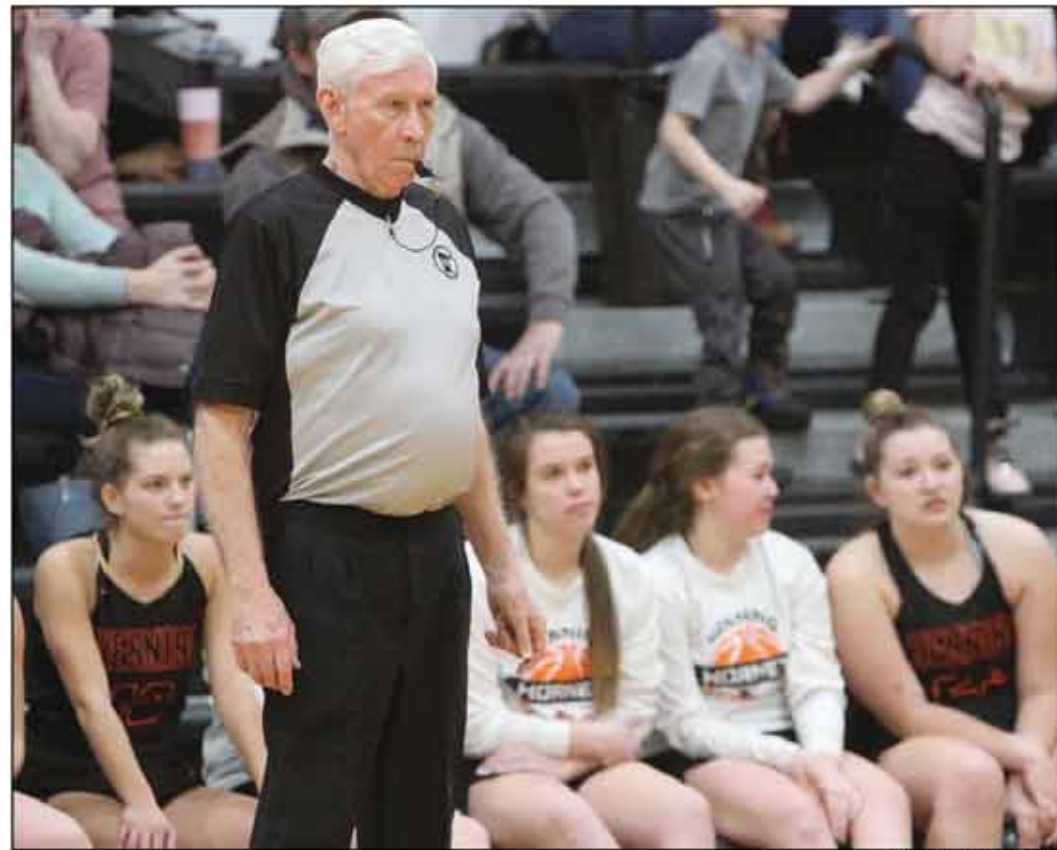


Photo by Chad Koenen

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, Praise-Vegas 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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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**  
continued on 2

## 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.

## 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-

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New York Mills  
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## NEW LIFE COMES TO NYM

my office, I started out in Mills. I moved to Wadena to be a central location between Mills and Staples," said Wedde. "I had an office in Staples as well."

The Staples and Wadena offices have since closed, as Wedde stays busy helping the residents of Becker and Otter Tail counties with their accounting needs.

Wedde began her career journey when she obtained her associate's degree in accounting. She then moved to Minneapolis to continue her education and eventually earned her bachelor's degree in accounting, as well as a bachelor's degree in business management.

When Wedde, with her

husband Matt, purchased the Centennial building last November, they did so knowing that their family was close by.

"All of our kids go to school in Mills, so I decided to come back and it would be easier to go to all of their school activities and sports," said Wedde.

She is able to schedule appointments during the week at each office as she drives back and forth, which makes her life easier when it comes to planning other activities. For example, last week she was all set-and-ready to make the trip to the Twin Cities to watch her step-son wrestle at state.

Despite the proximity

between the offices, Wedde enjoys her time with her clients.

"I like the variety of people I meet. I started out in corporate accounting and I got bored, so when I switched to public accounting, it was a lot more variety," she said. "I get to do different things everyday instead of one very departmentalized task."

With the range of services that she provides, Wedde has plenty of options to keep her engaged within her profession.

"I do tax preparation, bookkeeping, payroll, bill pay," said Wedde. "Pretty much a wide variety (of services)."

With tax day quickly ap-

proaching, local taxpayers may want to utilize her local services. However, there are currently delays within the tax system.

Wedde said that there are different tax deadlines depending on whether a farm, corporation, or individual wants to file.

"Some people don't realize that there are different deadlines," said Wedde.

Luckily for her clients, the office is open year-round.

"I know some people didn't realize I did more than taxes. I can even help reconcile their bank statements," said Wedde. "My hours aren't always as long as this time of year, but I am available year-round."

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John Klinnert has been a staple at basketball games for the past 45 years.

## WEARING STRIPES FOR 45 YEARS

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ketball, track and baseball) recalled how the coaches taught him about hard-work, perseverance and more. The biggest lesson he carried with him through his career as an educator, coach, business owner and referee, has to do with working with a variety of personalities.

He explained no matter where one goes in life they will need to understand how to work as a team, even with those who have different views of the world. As a referee, the old lesson has been used time and time again.

**Klinnert's referee career began in 1977**

Klinnert began his referee career in 1977. The sports have seen some modifications, such as additions of a three-point line in basketball or stronger, and more skilled student-athletes all around as kids began specializing in specific sports. While little changes happened, one thing always remained constant.

"We need referees or else it is just phy. ed," Klinnert said, noting in the referee circuit he serves there was only one game when there were not enough officials.

This year, he worked with six new officials on their first year. He noted if a rookie sticks with the job for three years, then it is a good indication they will be in the black and white stripes for years to come.

"I did work with one first year official who already quit," he said. "It is not for everyone."

Being a referee may put one in the line of fire from a passionate coach or fan. Klinnert said those instances happen, but most coaches and fans understand the vast majority of referees try to do the best they can.

"I think it helps in those situations when you've been a coach," he said. "For a lot of coaches, that is their livelihood. They work hard all week and put in time at practice, so they come to the game to win. We owe it to them to do the best job we can and work hard."

When passionate words began to boil over from the bench onto the court, Klinnert said empathy allows him to understand their point of view and experience

has taught him how to handle it.

"Being a ref is about being a good communicator," he said. "I let them know I will watch for it (their concern) and let them know I understand and hear them. We won't always agree, but you can never take it personal."

Another consideration for potential referees is travel time. Klinnert said the area he serves stretches the state of Minnesota, from Bemidji to St. Cloud. And, referees are assigned a job, so there is no picking events to cover.

While they are paid for each game, Klinnert said he earmarks the funds for fun expenditures, such as grandchildren birthdays or taking his wife out for a night on the town.

"If you're going into refereeing to pay for your mortgage, you're going in it for the wrong reasons," he said.

Klinnert has no plans on concluding his referee career. In fact, he hopes to keep the job as part of his life as long as he is healthy. When retirement day comes, he will have a log of every game he has taken the hardwood for as a referee.

"I kept track since my first year for basketball, not football," he said. "Then I just continued. I've worked about 3,000 basketball games and I'd guess 500 football games."

His dedication to the job earned him a reputation of having a keen eye and being fair. Eventually, that led him to being a referee at playoffs and state tournaments.

"Overall, in football and basketball, I've worked 39 high school and college state tournaments," he said. "It is a good feeling when you get called, and disappointed when you don't. There are a lot of good officials."

When asked what makes a good official, aside from accurate calls, Klinnert was quick to respond. He explained in all of his years being a referee, he never enters a game with a less than excited attitude.

"To those kids, that is the biggest game in the state of Minnesota that night," he said. "Going with that mentality, shows you are having fun too and that carries over."



Photo by Tucker Henderson, contributed

Above: Mills Lanes and Lucky Strike Grill is now under new ownership in New York Mills. Below: Chad Rudolph and Tiffany Ruther are the new owners of Mills Lanes and Lucky Strike Grill.

## NEW OWNERS AT MILLS LANES

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mosphere at the bowling alley will largely stay the same.

Rudolph was looking for a career change and found that his interest in bowling lined up well with a new job.

"I do love bowling. Bowling helped my decision to (buy the business)," said Rudolph. "I was in construction and I needed a change. I couldn't physically do it anymore. My shoulders were bothering me so bad that I needed something different."

Rudolph joked that "Tiffany talked me into it." He also mentioned that he was somewhat versed in the restaurant scene before his time at Mills Lanes.

"I grew up around the restaurant business with my mom owning a restaurant when she was younger. She also worked at Eagles for many years," he said.

Ruther is a rural mail carrier during the day and works at Mills Lanes after delivery is over. She is

looking forward to meeting new customers and maintaining relationships with the regulars.

"Dolly and Owen have always told us that it's the people you meet. They come back and then they become friends," said Ruther.

Rudolph said that being in charge comes with different emotions, but he's glad to test the waters as co-owner.

"It has been a little overwhelming at times, but other than that it has gone well. The community is very supportive," he said.

Ruther agreed that the Tumbergs have been a large asset in helping with the transition.

"Dolly and Owen are great mentors, we are very lucky to have them here," said Ruther.

"They are here during the transition to help out when we need them," said Rudolph.

He is also grateful to have the pair on staff.

Hope and excitement



for the business' future surrounds their daily thoughts.

"I'm just excited to have a new adventure and having something that, if I don't decide to stay with

my full-time job, I can fall back on," said Ruther.

She added that working at the bowling alley doesn't feel like a job to her as she loves her time there.

## HEPOLA REFLECTS ON LOCAL TIES

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New York Mills, including being one of the very last babies born in the old hospital in October 1961. Memories of his formative years in the community still resonate strongly with Hepola.

"In the summers we went to the kiddie parade with my sister and cousins," said Hepola. "We would dress up and try to win the costume contest."

Their themes included "Save the Earth," "Three Blind Mice," and one year they even went as characters from "The Simpsons."

He also appreciated the special events held at city hall and fondly remembers the street dances held in his youth.

"After Camille and I got married in Florida, we did an event at the City Hall for the Minnesota crowd that couldn't make it to the wedding," said Hepola, noting that the location was based off of those memories.

Hepola mentioned that he was inspired by his uncle, Dean Simpson, who was a longtime mayor of New York Mills from 1979 to 2002 and also held a seat in the Minnesota House of Representatives from 2002 to 2008.

"My uncle Dean has al-

ways been one of my heroes," Hepola explained. "I talked to Dean last summer about running for governor and he was so encouraging. He has always been an inspiration for me."

Another memory that Hepola holds near-and-dear to his heart, is one of his grandma, Frances Hepola, who lived in New York Mills until her passing in 2006.

"I have a very vivid memory of my grandma's house, turning around a corner there was a bulletin board full of newspaper clippings with stories about the good things people had done in the community," he said. "She said to me 'Just remember, when you're in the newspaper when you get older, make sure it is for something good and not for something bad.'"

Hepola has made an appearance on the front page of many a newspaper (and television screen) and he tries his best to live by his grandmother's wisdom.

"As a journalist, my whole goal was to tell people's stories, listen, and empower," said Hepola. "We were gathering each side of every issue."

He went on to say that as a

“Those are the values I took with me—we’re in this together. If you’re putting others before yourself, you’re making the world a better place. I’m in a position to do that, so I am going to do that.”

- Cory Hepola on the values he learned from his roots in Otter Tail County

journalist, "you work for the greater good of everybody."

Despite criticism from the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party regarding him as a "spoiler" and a "celebrity vanity candidate," Hepola said that this was the right decision and is confident that he will win the election.

"I think the spoiler comment is a bit dismissive," he said. "I'm going to earn my votes. We are going to go out there and meet people where they're at. We are going to win in November and unite the state. I will have to work harder, but I have always worked harder. That's how I have been shaped through growing up in Otter

Tail County. There's a better way and I'm going to prove it."

Hepola hasn't always been so sure of this idea, but said that he now holds total confidence in his abilities.

"Three years ago I turned to my wife, Camille, and said 'I feel called to public service,'" he said. "She was so supportive. It slowly grew from there."

Hepola also mentioned that, at first, he was unsure and wanted someone to talk him out of his decision to run. Instead, he met only full support from his family.

"It's a leap of faith," he said. "I couldn't say no. I would have regretted it. For me, this is not a job, it is a

calling."

While the gubernatorial candidate currently resides in the Twin Cities, he still calls this area of the state home. He places a lot of value in the helping-mentality of small-town Minnesota.

"People see the actions, they see how you live your life—you live by those morals everyday," said Hepola.

Having neighbors always willing to lend a hand and help in one's time of need stuck with him.

"Those are the values I took with me—we're in this together," he said. "If you're putting others before yourself, you're making the world a better place. I'm in a position to do that, so I am going to do that."

One of the shared commonalities between rural and metro areas is the importance of family and community. Hepola shared this importance and stresses his gratitude towards his upbringing.

"I won the lottery with my family," he said. "My parents are number one. They are my support system and have been since I was little. They taught me the qualities of perseverance, cre-

ativity, and ingenuity. There are others that I look up to, but none more than my mom and dad. The support from them never ends—I just love them so much."

Hepola told that his campaign team is made up of family members, noting that he and his father even came up with the logo together. He also mentioned his grandma's initial reaction to his announcement.

"When I told my grandma, she showed me total support and love," he glowed. Hepola's grandmother, Bernice Anderson, resides in New York Mills and endorsed her grandson wholeheartedly.

"Cory's faith is strong and he has excellent morals," she said.

Hepola shared that his faith shapes his choices and decision-making process.

"I would not be here today without my spirituality. It's the rock behind me and my family," he said. "I'm in constant communication. I'm always listening."

As Hepola begins his gubernatorial campaign, he promises to speak more about his platform and policies in the coming weeks.

# Noted author shares tips to county residents

By Tom Hintgen  
Otter Tail County Correspondent

A portion of the Minnesota legacy fund, approved several years ago by state residents, goes to arts and cultural activities.

Those dollars allow for Augsburg University creative writing instructor, Michael Kleber-Diggs, to lead zoom meetings and provide tips to writers in Otter Tail County. His seminars can also be enjoyed by people in other walks of life.

His latest zoom seminar, on Feb. 24, was promoted as "Adding or keeping creativity in your writing practice."

Kleber-Diggs is an essayist, literary critic and teacher of poetry and non-fiction. He and his wife, Karen, a horticulturist, live close to Como Park in St. Paul where Karen works.

"Creativity comes from curiosity, flexibility, tolerance and unusual uses of familiar objects," Kleber-



Photo by Tom Hintgen  
**Author Michael Kleber-Diggs comes to Otter Tail County through zoom seminars coordinated by the Viking Library System.**

Diggs said. "Put another way, creativity is where something new is made, a phenomenon that's remarkable and not just a process."

He adds that creative people, no matter what they do in life, are those with abundant inventiveness.

"Have fun and divorce yourself from expectations," Kleber-Diggs said. "Gravitate to things that inspire you."

He provides advice into his own success with poetry.

"When I start a poem, I'm fascinated by a particular moment or particular object," Kleber-Diggs said. "I try to figure out why I'm so fascinated. I feel like the poem is done when I find the answer."

He sees the world which, in his viewpoint, is where his humanist ideals come forward.

Humanists strive for a more humane, just, compassionate and democratic society. They seek ethics based on human reason, experience and reliable knowledge.

"We all have the things we need for heaven on earth," Kleber-Diggs said. "This is our mission, to figure out how to love each other and take care of each other."



Photo by Chad Koenen

The Deer Creek City Council heard about a plan to donate a privately owned piece of land between the museum and Bootleggers Bar and Grill to the city.

# Vacant lot donated in downtown Deer Creek

*Land to be used as a parking lot*

By Chad Koenen  
Publisher

A piece of land located in the heart of downtown will soon be owned by the City of Deer Creek.

During its regularly scheduled meeting last Monday night, the Deer Creek City Council approved a resolution to accept a piece of land owned by George Lorentz. The land is located in-between the Deer Creek Museum and Bootleggers Bar and Grill in downtown Deer Creek.

The lot has been used

primarily as a parking lot in the past, but has also served as a place for snow during the winter.

The city council said that some work will need to be completed to fill in some of the potholes on the property and will be primarily used as a parking lot at this time. The council said it could also use the piece of property during Deer Trails Day if the need arises.

**In other news**

- Heard the monthly police report from New York Mills Police Chief Bobby Berndt. The report stated the local police department logged approximately 33 hours of service in Deer Creek last month.
- Discussed purchasing

a hitch and trailer for the lawn mower.

- Approved purchasing new LED lights for city clerk/treasurer Tom Parish's office. The city also replaced the lights in the women's bathroom at the community center with new LED lights.

- Discussed the need for new Christmas lights for the streets. The city has discussed replacing the aging lights for several years and will reach out to local groups to see if there would be funding available for such a project.

- Discussed potentially adding fireworks to the annual Deer Trails Day celebration. The event has been moved from the end of July to the end of June this year.



Contributed photo

Arvig Communications now offers an internet-based phone service for businesses and an application to limit internet activity for residential users.

# Arvig rolls out internet-based phone system

*Ten digit dialing now required*

By Barbie Porter  
Editor, Frazee-Vergas Forum

Arvig is consistently at the forefront of changing technology, and just rolled out a new wi-fi manager for residential users.

Arvig recognizes the Internet can be a disruption during those moments defined as family time. Being the go-to Internet provider in the lake area and beyond, Arvig created a way to provide customers with uninterrupted family bonding moments.

Lisa Greene, director of marketing and publications for Arvig, said an application just became available that can regulate time on-line and allow parents to see who is on-line and when.

"Sometimes you want a peaceful dinner with no messengers ping-pong," Greene said. "With the app you can turn it off for a half hour or so. It also allows you to set up guest wi-fi passwords."

The cost for the addition of the app is minimal, Greene said. It may be \$10 or so, it depends on the router you have in the home.

She added the project has been in the works for a few years.

**Commercial phone system provides options to customer**

Arvig unveiled a new commercial phone system that essentially places a mini-network at the office that provides options that can enhance the experience of the customer and employee.

Loren Urbach, hosted PBX manager for Arvig, explain the new option uses the Internet for phone service. That means a business can transfer calls to various desks, put a customer on hold, customize greetings and will have a phone that can travel with an employee.

Urbach explained the

phone number follows the phone, whereas before if someone moved offices changing the number was more labor intensive. Having a mobile number also allows an employee to bring the phone on the road and remain connected to the office.

For example, Urbach noted he was at a conference in Colorado. When customers called him, they still called the regular work number.

"As far as the customer knows I am sitting in the office," he said, adding when snow days happen the option is handy to prevent missed calls and potential revenue. "There are a lot of other features, too. You can see when someone else is on the phone even if you can't see them."

Whether a business has several employees or 900 lie Arvig, the new phone system capabilities may be worth considering. When compared to the old phone line system, the options provided by PBX may be cost prohibitive for some businesses.

"With the old system we have to be on-site for software updates or for tech service calls, say if a customer didn't want to configure the phones or wanted a phone line moved," he said.

All of those alterations can be done simply with the PBX system, which is a hosted by Arvig. Urbach added the new system requires minimal equipment on the job site, which means lower start up costs, and more options.

To those who are leery of Internet interruptions, Urbach explained there are safety nets in place if there is a power outage. For instance, a battery back-up can be installed that will act as a generator until the power returns. If the Internet itself is down, customers can leave a message or call forward to a cell phone or landline can be set up. (Training is provided to learn about all new service options.)

**ARVIG BASED PHONE SYSTEM**  
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# Up, up, and away...

Photos by Tucker Henderson  
 Last Tuesday, the New York Mills sixth graders launched their hot air balloons that they have been working on for a number of weeks into the warm March atmosphere. All 24 balloons were launched into the sky with help of a portable heater. A crowd of elementary students and staff watched as the balloons made their ascent and their eventual descent into NY Mills.

## NYM students take a stroll on snowshoes



Photos by Tucker Henderson  
 New York Mills students were hard at work learning to snowshoe in the hard-packed snow behind the school last week. Conditions were great for both activities, and judging by the smiles on their faces, everyone had a great time being outside.



### SERVICE DIRECTORY

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### ARVIG BASED PHONE SYSTEM

When comparing costs of the new system and the old one, Urbach said it depends on the needs of a business. "Some switch and save money," he said. Businesses interested in the new system can email phone\_systems@arvig.com or call 218-346-8014 for more information.

Ten digit dialing now required on landlines  
 Seven digit dialing on a landline is no longer an op-

tion in the Frazee area. Arvig now requires the area code to be used before the seven digits.

Mark Schmidt, central office manager for Arvig, explained the change all came about when the National Suicide Hotline was given a three digit number, much like 911 or 511. The FCC (Federal Communication Commission) approved the three digit change in 2020 with the implementation of the change taking place in

2022. Schmidt said Arvig got to work when the decision was made to ensure there would be no disruption of service for its customers with 218 or 952 area codes. He added those area codes had towns that used the prefix 988 to start the seven digit number, much like Frazee uses 334 or Perham uses 346. Using the area code prior to the prefix removes the concern of accidentally calling the suicide hotline.

Schmidt said the transition on Arvig's side took about two weeks to set up and implement 10-digit dialing on landlines.

"After it was set up we literally flipped a switch," he said.

Those who were unaware of the switch would receive a message explaining the area code is now needed before the seven digit number is dialed. That does not mean there is a long distance charge.

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Firestarters Worship Center, Ottertail

## Church Directory

**Apostolic Lutheran Church**  
315 Main Ave. S, New York Mills  
Pastor Nicholas Kandoll  
(218) 385-2166  
(360) 241-8450 (Kandoll's)  
www.nymalc.org  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Bible study  
8:05 a.m. Echoes of Mercy on KWAD  
Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Sunday school  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Church directory photographs  
March 18, March 19, April 15

**Assembly of God**  
103 N Hayes Ave., New York Mills  
Pastor Larry Bessler  
(218) 385-2033  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Bible Study  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible study  
10:30 a.m. Worship

**Bethany Free Lutheran Church**  
21987 Co. Rd. 23, Blue Grass  
Rev. Curtis Emerson  
(218) 495-3771, (218) 639-4320  
www.zionandbethany-flc.org  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship 10:15  
Sunday school

**Basswood Baptist Church**  
38188 340th St., Richville  
Pastor Bert Holmquist  
(218) 495-3771  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer, Bible study, Kids club, Youth group  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 10:45 a.m. Worship

**Blowers Chapel**  
42772 Co. Hwy. 19, Sebeka  
(218) 837-5923  
Pastor Jay Tolleson  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer meeting  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Bible study and Sunday school 10 a.m. Worship

**Family Life Church**  
402 NE Clark St, Verndale  
(218) 445-5568  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship and Sunday school 6-8 p.m. Celebrate Recovery- Christ Centered Recovery Program, Childcare provided

**Firestarters Worship Center**  
107 W Main, Ottertail  
Rev. Pete Thiel  
(218) 367-3455  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship, 6 p.m. Worship

**First Congregational United Church of Christ**  
11 E Gilman St., New York Mills  
(218) 385-2587  
Pastor Kathy Hodges  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship, fellowship following service

**Grace Connection**  
56303 US Hwy. 10, New York Mills  
Pastor Jeff Heisler  
(218) 640-0107  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship

**Holy Cross Church**  
54216 Co. Hwy. 148, Butler  
Father George Michael  
Father Tom Skaja  
(218) 385-2201  
Wednesday: 5:15 p.m. Mass  
Saturday: 7 p.m. Mass

**Joyful Spirit United Methodist Church**  
61847 State Hwy. 29, Wadena  
Ricardo Alcoaster, Pastor  
(218) 367-2270;  
joyfulspiritmnumc@gmail.com,  
Sunday: 11 a.m. worship

**Old Apostolic Lutheran Church**  
35706 State Hwy. 106,  
New York Mills  
www.oldapostoliclutheranchurch.org  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday school  
excluding first of the month, 11 a.m. Worship

**Ottertail United Methodist**  
104 Shores Road, Ottertail  
Rev. Ricardo Alcoaster  
(218) 367-2270  
Wednesday: 3 p.m. Bible study, 5 p.m. Bible study  
Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Worship, Fellowship follows Worship  
Tuesday: 9 a.m. Sewing, 9:30-11:30 Devotionals  
All services and Bible Studies are on Facebook Live and on YouTube

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church**  
401 2nd St. SE, Sebeka  
Pastor Eric Clapp  
(218) 837-5831  
2nd Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Confirmation  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday school  
10 a.m. In-person Worship, Online Worship

**St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**  
310 Main St., Bluffton  
Fr. Aaron Kuhn  
(218) 385-2608  
Wednesday: 8 a.m. Mass  
Saturday: 3:30 Adoration & Confession, 4:30 p.m. Mass

**Southbrook Baptist Church**  
1842 2nd Street SW, Wadena  
Pastor Jake Heppner  
(218) 631-2002  
Wednesday: 5:30 Youth group and Kids club  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. Worship

**St. John's Lutheran Missouri Synod**  
31963 Co. Hwy. 61, Ottertail  
Rev. Karl Weber  
(218) 367-2470  
Thursday: 7 p.m. Bible study  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship,  
11 a.m. Christian Education Hour

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
49658 Co. Hwy. 53, Perham  
Rev. Jared Nies  
(218) 346-4302

www.stjohnsperham.org  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Sunday school  
9:30 a.m. Worship, Fellowship will follow  
Wednesday: 6 p.m. Catechesis

**St. Lawrence Catholic Church of Rush Lake**  
46404 Co. Hwy. 14, Perham  
Fr. George Michael  
(218) 346-7729, (218) 758-2888  
www.stlawrenceparishesonline.com  
stlawrence@arvig.net  
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. Mass  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. Mass  
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass, 4 p.m. Mass

**St. Paul's Lutheran Missouri Synod**  
750 1st St. W., Richville  
Rev. Karl Weber  
(218) 367-2470  
Sunday: 8 a.m. Worship

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
101 Gilman St. W, New York Mills  
Rev. Ryan D.G. Stout  
(218) 385-2011  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Vespers, i.e. Evening Prayer  
Sunday: 9:10 a.m. Worship, Sunday school follows worship, 11 a.m. Confirmation

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
424 E Gilman St., New York Mills  
Rev. Kirk Douglas  
(218) 385-2450  
www.nymtrinity.org  
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. Preschool, 12 p.m. Preschool, 4:15 p.m. Worship, 5 p.m. Supper, 5:30 p.m. Trinity Bells, 6:30 p.m. Worship, 7:15 p.m. Worship Choir  
Sunday: 8 a.m. Worship, 8 a.m. You Tube Service, 9:15 a.m. Education Hour, 10:30 a.m. Worship  
Monday: 8:30 a.m. Preschool, 12 p.m. Preschool, 4 p.m. Exercise  
Tuesday: 9 a.m. Quilters, 12:30 p.m. Bible Study, 6 p.m. New Beginnings AA Meeting

**Trinity Lutheran Missouri Synod**  
208 N Clark St., Deer Creek  
Pastor Donald Wagner  
(218) 462-2464  
www.trinitydeer creek.org  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship, 10:30 Bible study and Sunday School

**Zion Free Lutheran Church**  
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602 S Jefferson St., Wadena  
Rev. Curtis Emerson  
(218) 631-2741, (218) 639-4320  
www.zionandbethany-flc.org  
Handicap accessible  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Bible study  
Sunday: 9:45 Sunday school  
11 a.m. Worship  
Third Saturday of Month 10 a.m. WMF meeting

### NYM SCHOOL MENU

**Wednesday, March 9-**  
Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Sunflower Seeds, Fruit or Juice; Lunch: Meatball Sub, Assorted Chips, Fruit and Vegetable

**Thursday, March 10-**  
Breakfast: Rice Krispie Bar, Hard Boiled Egg, Fruit or Juice; Lunch: Chicken Leg, Roll, Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans and Fruit

**Friday, March 11-**  
Breakfast: Benefit Bar, Ani-

mal Crackers, Fruit or Juice; Lunch: Cheese Boats, Granola Bar, Fruit and Vegetable

**Monday, March 14-**  
Breakfast: Pop Tart, Betty Crocker Bar, Fruit or Juice  
Lunch: Chicken Fajita Wrap, Chex Mix, Fruit & Vegetable

**Tuesday, March 15-**  
Breakfast: Ham Patty and Omelet, Toast, Fruit or Juice  
Lunch: Beef Nachos, Refried Beans, Fruit and Vegetables

### SENIOR MENU

**Wednesday, March 9-**  
Breakfast: Pancake on a Stick, Sunflower Seeds, Fruit or Juice; Lunch: Italian Chix Pasta, Breadstick, Fruit and Vegetable

**Thursday, March 10-**  
Breakfast: Benefit Bar, Cheese Stick, Fruit or Juice; Lunch: Sausage Pizza, Ice Cream Cup, Fruit & Vegetable

**Friday, March 11-** Breakfast: Cereal, Yogurt, Fruit

or Juice; Lunch: Cook's Choice, Fruit & Veggies

**Monday, March 14-**  
Breakfast: Maple Waffles, Graham Goldfish, Fruit or Juice; Lunch: Baked Pork Chop, Potatoes & Gravy, Muffin and Fruit

**Tuesday, March 15-**  
Breakfast: Banana Uber Bar, Cheezits, Fruit or Juice; Lunch: Orange Chicken, Brown Rice, Fruit & Vegetable

## MnDOT seeks community input on freight plan

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) invites community members to provide feedback on the recommendations to improve freight mobility and safety in west central Minnesota for the District 4 Freight Plan.

A virtual public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8 at 5 p.m. During the meeting, the public will have the opportunity to learn about the freight plan recommendations, ask questions, and provide feedback.

Register for the virtual meeting by visiting [mndot.gov/ofrw/freight/district4freightplan/d4.html](http://mndot.gov/ofrw/freight/district4freightplan/d4.html).

Feedback on the District 4 Freight Plan will be collected March 8 to March 20. Review the recommendations and complete a survey to share your ideas by visiting [district4freightplan.com](http://district4freightplan.com).

Input will help MnDOT finalize the recommendations for the District 4 Freight Plan, which identifies strategies to improve the transportation system for the movement of goods in the region.

The final recommendations will impact others using the transportation system, such as motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

MnDOT invites and encourages participation by all. Contact Janet Miller for special considerations having to do with handicaps, (651) 366-4720 or e-mail [ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us](mailto:ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us) no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

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**Apostolic Lutheran Church in New York Mills, MN PHOTOGRAPHY DATES:**  
Friday, March 18 2:00pm-3:30pm  
Saturday, March 19 10:00am-4:00pm  
Tuesday, April 5 2:00pm-3:30pm  
Reserve your appointment online as soon as possible!

For online scheduling go to [www.uodr.com](http://www.uodr.com)  
Church Code: jm22, Password: photos

For questions or help scheduling your appointment, call or text: Kersten (906) 283-1169, or Beth (218) 640-1518.



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## Finn Creek Open Air Museum

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
March 12, 2022 | New York Mills Senior Center | 1pm

Membership dues will be collected  
**A Business Meeting will be conducted involving:**  
• Electing new members to the Board of Directors  
• Initial planning for summer folk festival  
• Prioritization of Projects / Bylaw Changes at Finn Creek

**LUNCH WILL BE SERVED POTLUCK BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**The meeting is open to the public as well as membership in the society**  
Dedicated to preserving the cultural heritage of the Finnish people who first settled in this area in 1874.

Please Join Us! COVID-19 precautions will be followed.

# CONGRATS

## 2021-22 STATE WRESTLERS!



### BREN SALO

Weight: 182 lbs. Record: 31-5  
Grade: 12th State: 0-1



### DANE NIEMI

Weight: 152 lbs. Record: 36-10  
Grade: 12th State: 0-1



### SAWYER WEDDE

Weight: 285 lbs. Record: 14-18  
Grade: 12th State: 0-1



### SIMON SNYDER

Weight: 145 lbs. Record: 38-7  
Grade: 11th State: 0-1

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# Obituaries

8 • Wednesday, March 9, 2022

## Duane Frost, 94

Funeral Services were held for Duane "Bud" Frost age 94 of Perham, on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 11 a.m. at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in New York Mills, with Pastor Ryan Stout, Pastor Kathy Hodges, Rev. Janet Karvonen-Montgomery and Pastor Wayne Erickson officiating. The pallbearers were David Arvig, Adam Frost, Dennis Arvig, Heriman Frost, Jay Arvig, Elliott Frost and Zach Nelson. Honorary Pallbearers were "Big Al's Grill Team": Allen Arvig, Nancy Vyskocil, Mike Schmelz, Bob Schultz, Dana Andrews, Curt Thompson and special friend, Ron Topclin. Military Honors were provided by Charles D. Center V.F.W. Post #3289 of New York Mills. Bud was laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery, New York Mills.



Duane Christopher Frost was born at home in New York Mills, to Christ and Louise (Tranby) Frost on June 25th, 1927.

Bud was raised on the farm and was a country boy at heart all his life. He attended country school. (Walking up hill both ways!). Bud's family loved the precious stories he would tell about life on the farm—and the "Good Old Days!"

Bud left home at 17 to join the Merchant Marines. He landed at Normandy Beach the day after the invasion. It was these three years at sea during war on the ships that he received his first taste of becoming a chef.

Once home he was soon drafted into the Army. Away he went to fight in the Korean War. After being discharged he came home to marry the love of his life, Irene Virginia Thompson.

September 22, 1952, Bud, and Irene welcomed three children, Carmen, and the twins, Chris, and Colleen. All three were the light of their lives.

Bud's journey into the culinary world began in the Merchant Marines and blossomed into owning several restaurants in Minnesota. In 1960, Bud and Irene built Bud's Supper Club in New York Mills. This would become their dream home. Bud wore many hats in his life. He worked for Nellis Air Force base in Las Vegas running their flight kitchens and serving 1,500 meals daily. He took back home his talent and taught cooking at the Staples Vocational School. He met Wayne Erickson and helped him become a chef. He and his family became

lifelong friends.

Bud, Irene, and their son Chris opened three restaurants in Hibbing, Minn. The Gingerbread House at the Iron Gate Mall was Mother's dream come true.

The last venture into the food business was the Lanterns Supper Club south of Perham. Bud and Irene became famous throughout Minnesota for their Hospitality and their chicken, ribs, and shrimp. Their passion for serving others gained them lasting friendships.

After retiring from the food business, Bud worked for Arvig as a courier. He loved visiting the employees located throughout the region. He was interested in their lives and enjoyed the camaraderie.

Bud became a member of Big Al's Grill Team. He enjoyed taking Irene to the grilling competitions and loved grilling for the employees and special events.

Bud taught his family to whistle while they work, help others, and take care of family. He had a deep love for his wife, children, and grandchildren. His days were filled listening to all their travels, concerns, and accomplishments.

Bud felt blessed to have his dancing partner for nearly seventy years. Today they are dancing in heaven forever. The family and friends left behind will have memories to last them a lifetime.

Bud is preceded in death by his parents: Christ and Louise Frost; wife, Irene; sisters: Gail and Ruby; brothers: Melvin, Clarence, and Adrian; sisters-in-law: Faye Frost, Barbara Frost, Bernice Frost, Delores Frost and Muriel Frost; brothers-in-law: Harold Windels, Laurence Becker, and Douglass Hess.

Please visit [www.karvonenfuneralhome.com](http://www.karvonenfuneralhome.com) to leave memorials and condolences on Bud's Tribute Wall.

Arrangements provided by Karvonen Funeral and Cremation Service of New York Mills.

## Brian Sillanpaa, 57

Memorial services were held for Brian Sillanpaa, age 57 of Hopkins, Minn. (formerly of New York Mills), on Saturday, March 5, 2022 at 12 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in New York Mills. Visitation was held one hour prior to the memorial service at the church.

Please visit [www.karvonenfuneralhome.com](http://www.karvonenfuneralhome.com) to send Brian's family a message of comfort and support.

Arrangements are provided by Karvonen Funeral and Cremation Services.

## RELOCATING?



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## EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN

# Handwritten notes, cards and pork chops

By Lois Wiirre  
Special to the Dispatch

As I sit here at my computer desk writing out the March birthday cards and remits. Antti my youngest son was saying "Mom email or text it is a lot earlier, you're such a boomer."

As I turn slowly to look at him above my eyeglasses giving him that "Mom" look. Yes, if you are of a certain age you get called "Boomer" a lot by the younger generation. As I am writing out the March birthday cards, and Antti's

just happens to be in the middle of March. When it is possible, I like to cook my kids their favorite meal and have birthday cake. Like these Pork Chops I like to cook baked potatoes and have Peas with them. Simple yet really good.

As I was thinking about this story, I was wondering if I could maybe "Email" Antti the recipe and "Text" him "Happy Birthday" after all it would be earlier. LOL don't think he would be to happy.

Till we meet in the kitchen the coffee is on...Lois



## OVEN BAKED PORK CHOPS

Pork Chops – you can also try using pork tenderloin. Either option is delicious.

- Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- Salt and Pepper
- Paprika
- Onion Powder
- Garlic Powder

### Directions:

**Oven baked pork chops:**  
First, go ahead and pre-heat your oven to 400 degrees.

Second, get your baking sheet ready. I used a 9x9 baking dish and sprayed it with cooking spray.

Next, put the pork chops in the baking dish.

You will need a small bowl to mix together the seasoning. Make sure everything is well combined. Then pat pork chops dry with a paper towel.

Then drizzle the olive oil all over the pork chops. I like to use a basting brush to make sure it is spread around really good.

Now sprinkle the seasoning, including the black pepper, you mixed together on top of the pork chops. Use your basting brush again to spread it all over the meat.

It does not take long at all to bake. I bake my pork chops at 400 degrees. Nor-

mally about 15 to 20 minutes is all it takes. Just make sure the internal temperature is 145 degrees in the pork.

I usually check the pork chops about the 15 minute mark. Pork chops cook quickly if not watched closely.

# Cruise control in the winter, good idea or bad idea?

Question: I just moved to Minnesota and heard you talking about not using cruise control in the winter, can you please write about this?

Answer: Using cruise control on slippery roads could send you on a winter cruise—straight into the ditch or oncoming traffic!

With dry road conditions, cruise control helps you safely monitor your speed, stay within the speed limit and improve driving comfort on long, fairly straight stretches of road. It should be used only when you are able to drive at a steady speed with safe road conditions.



Ask a Trooper  
Sgt. Jesse Grabow

On icy, snow-covered or wet roads, if your wheels lose traction, the cruise control will continue to accelerate, causing the vehicle to skid. By the time you realize you are skidding, it could be too late.

When deciding if you should set your cruise control:

- Ask yourself if it's safe to travel the speed limit. If not, it isn't safe to set your cruise.
- Is there limited visibility? If it's foggy, snowing, or raining and your range of visibility is significantly reduced, play it safe. Don't set your cruise.
- Is traffic moving smoothly? If it's stop-and-go, or there's heavy traffic around you, it's not safe to use cruise.

Remember that using your cruise control can be an advantage when driving

long distances, but YOU are your vehicle's best safety feature.

You can avoid a ticket—and a crash—if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on Twitter @MSPPIO\_NW or reach him at [jesse.grabow@state.mn.us](mailto:jesse.grabow@state.mn.us)).



As spring quickly approaches, the deadline for removing shelters has passed for much of the state of Minn. Illustration by Chris Hahn

# Deadline approaches to remove fish houses

Heavy snowfall across parts of Minnesota prompted many anglers to haul their fish houses off the ice in late February. People who haven't yet removed their shelters should keep in mind upcoming removal deadlines and make plans to meet them.

The fish house removal deadline for inland waters in the southern two-thirds of the state was by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, March 7.

In the northern one-third of the state—north of the east-west line formed by U.S. Highway 10, east along Highway 34 to Minnesota Highway 200, east along Highway 200 to U.S. Highway 2, and east along

Highway 2 to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border—the deadline is by 11:59 p.m. Monday, March 21.

In addition to ensuring shelters are removed by the deadline, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources conservation officers will be watching closely to make sure people don't leave trash behind. Commonly left items include bait, blocking material, bottles, cans, cigarette butts and plastic bags filled with waste. As wheelhouses have proliferated across the state, there also have been increasing instances of people dumping sewage atop the ice.

"Some of the things

people leave behind are downright disgusting, and anything people leave on the ice has the potential to be an eyesore at best and an environmental concern at the worst," said DNR Conservation Officer Garrett Thomas, who is stationed in Eagan. "The message is simple: Don't leave anything behind when you leave the ice, and make sure to dispose of it properly. It's not any different than the lessons we've been taught since we were kids."

The fish house removal deadline doesn't mean anglers no longer can use them. After the deadline, fish houses may still be on the ice, but they must be occupied if they're out be-

tween midnight and one hour before sunrise.

Shelters may not be left or stored at public accesses. As they venture out, anglers should always remember that ice conditions may vary widely and that ice is never 100 percent safe. For more information, check out the ice safety page of the DNR website.

Exceptions to the removal deadlines are Minnesota-Canada border waters (March 31), Minnesota-South Dakota and North Dakota border waters (March 5), Minnesota-Wisconsin border waters (March 1) and Minnesota-Iowa border waters (Feb. 20).



## Eagles edge Tigers in regular season finale 85-73

*Second ranked NYM to open playoffs at home*

By Chad Koenen  
Publisher

New York Mills wrapped up its regular season with two more wins last week. The Eagles finished their Park Region Conference season with a perfect 14-0 record after defeating Sebeka by a score of 83-28 on Monday. Then they defeated Browerville by a score of 85-73 in non-conference action on Tuesday night.

Tuesday's game took on an extra special meaning for NY Mills' seven seniors. The team held senior night in the last regular season home game of the year.

"It was incredible to see the whole team rally around the seniors and I'm glad we performed well to make it an all-around great night," said head coach Mike Baune.

The wins improve the Eagles to 25-1 on the season. They are currently the fourth ranked team in the QRF and ranked second in the state poll.

The Eagles received the top seed in the sub section tournament and will take on either eighth seeded Rothsay or ninth seeded Park Christian on Thursday night in NY Mills. The game will begin at 7 p.m.

The winner of the game will take on the winner of fourth seeded Breckenridge



Jack Peeters takes a shot in the lane during a recent game in New York Mills.

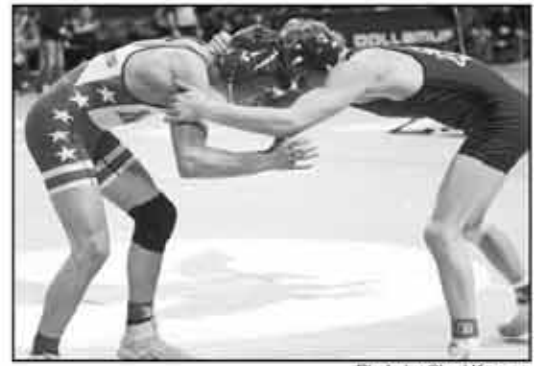
and fifth seeded Battle Lake on Saturday at 1 p.m. in Perham.

On the other side of the sub section, second seeded Henning will take on the winner of seventh seeded

Norman County East/Ulen-Hitterdal and 10th seeded Underwood in the opening round, while third seeded Hillcrest will take on sixth seeded Lake Park-Audubon.

The sub section championship game is set for Tues-

**EAGLES EDGE  
TIGERS**  
continued on 10



Simon Snyder locks up with his opening round opponent at the state wrestling tournament on Friday morning

## NYM wrestling season ends at state tournament

*Four Eagles compete with best in the state*

By Chad Koenen  
Publisher

A point here and a point there, that was the difference between several New York Mills wrestlers advancing to the quarter-finals and having their season come to an end last week.

Dane Niemi fell in the closing seconds of his opening round match by an 8-7 decision and Bren Salo lost by fall in overtime to end their season. Simon Snyder dropped a close 8-4 decision and Sawyer Wedde fell to the top seeded wrestler in the tournament by fall in the opening round of the

tournament.

Snyder dropped his opening round match at 145 lbs. to John Paul Fitzpatrick of Crosby-Ironton. Fitzpatrick took a 5-0 lead at the end of the first period after securing a take down and a 3 point near fall. Snyder earned a pair of take downs in the second and third period, but eventually fell by a score of 8-4. Fitzpatrick lost in the next round to end Snyder's season with a record of 39-7 overall.

At 152 lbs., Dane Niemi and Jacob Blair ended the first period tied at 4-4 after Niemi secured a reversal and 2-point near fall. In the second period, Niemi got an early escape to take 5-4 lead heading into the final

**NYM WRESTLING  
ENDS AT STATE**  
continued on 11

## New sunfish regulations in effect on 52 lakes

*Several Otter Tail County lakes are included in new regulations*

Sunfish anglers need to closely check the 2022 Minnesota Fishing Regulations booklet and signs at water accesses for new sunfish limits in effect on 52 lakes and connected waters starting March 1.

The new regulations lower limits on specific waters as part of a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources initiative to protect and improve sunfish sizes. These changes are in response to angler-driven concerns over the declining sizes of sunfish in Minnesota.

"This is the final batch of new sunfish regulations

that will be part of the Quality Sunfish Initiative. We're pleased to be at our overall goal of 200 to 250 lakes with these special regulations," said Dave Weitzel, Grand Rapids area fisheries supervisor. "We've had an impressive amount of public support all along for these regulations. Anglers spoke up that they want large sunfish in our lakes."

The new regulations modify daily limits on the affected waterbodies. Anglers can keep only the prescribed number of fish per day but can return the next day for another limit if they don't

exceed the statewide inland water possession limit of 20 sunfish per angler. Beginning in 2022, nearly all lakes with special regulations for sunfish will use the same reduced daily limit approach where the statewide possession limit still applies. There are a few exceptions so anglers should read the regulations book carefully.

These regulations are designed with sunfish biology in mind. Sunfish spawn in

large nesting colonies during the spring and early summer. Parental male sunfish build and defend nests. Females select a male, lay eggs, and leave the eggs for the male to protect. The largest sunfish often get the best spawning sites. These nest-building male sunfish play an important role in

**NEW SUNFISH  
REGULATIONS**  
continued on 10

**BookEnds** Online Edition  
Connecting Writers and Readers

**The Unchosen Ones**  
Book by R.J. Kern  
Online via ZOOM  
Meeting ID 867 0338 5655  
March 12, 2022 11:30 a.m.

A monthly literary event hosted by the Wadena County Historical Society, Travelin' Storyteller and the New York Mills Regional Cultural Center

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### City of New York Mills Public Works

Date	High	Low	Prec.	Date	High	Low	Prec.
2/28/2022	28	6		2/28/2021	32	10	
3/1/2022	37	12		3/1/2021	19	-2	0.5" Snow
3/2/2022	31	20	0.5" Snow	3/2/2021	28	-2	
3/3/2022	27	-4		3/3/2021	44	16	
3/4/2022	27	-4		3/4/2021	39	17	
3/5/2022	28	16		3/5/2021	41	17	
3/6/2022	29	14		3/6/2021	44	23	
3/7/2022	32	5		3/7/2021	43	28	

A reminder that gas furnaces, water heaters, and other gas appliances should be serviced by your local plumbing and heating specialist, it is good practice to install Carbon Monoxide Detectors on each level of a house, follow safety guidelines provided by the unit manufacture. Notice for this winter season: Please keep your gas meters and regulators free of snow and ice, exercise caution when removing ice and snow from or around gas meter sets.

Snow removed from driveways, sidewalks and parking lots should not be placed near a meter set, service regulator or other pipeline facility, thank you for your cooperation

The City Utilities 24 hour emergency on call service at 218-385-2213 (subject to after hours call pay) Regular hours are 7AM to 4PM Monday - Friday

## NEW SUNFISH REGULATIONS

regulating the population's size structure.

When anglers keep the largest sunfish, the remaining small males don't need to compete with large males to spawn. With the large males gone, the small males devote less energy to growing, mature and spawn at smaller sizes, and fail to grow to the size preferred by anglers.

Minnesota fishing regulations use sunfish as the generic name for bluegill, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, orange-spotted sunfish, longear, warmouth

continued from 9

and their hybrids. More about the Quality Sunfish Initiative is available on the DNR website.

Otter Tail County lakes included in the initiative include: Bass Lake, Big Pine Lake, Crystal Lake, Deer lake and connected Otter Tail River, East Lost Lake and connected Otter Tail River, Fish Lake, Franklin Lake, Long Lake, Middle Lake, Prairie Lake, Red River Lake, Lida Lakes, Stuart Lake, Venstrom Lake, Wall Lake, West Lost Lake and West Lost Lake.

## MILLS LANES

Sunday Night Mixed  
February 27

Finals

- 1: 3 Balls & A Split 5480
- 2: Google It 5450
- 3: Pin Slayers 5435
- 4: Stars 5428
- 5: Lucky Strikes 5383

\*Liz Brink, Jim Nelson, Jr. Brink, Tim McKenna were champions

Monday Night Mens  
February 28

Name	Win	Loss	Individual series men	
Lumber Depot	43	26	Jason Grabow	649
Design's By Tes	36	33	Jon Tumberg	571
Mills Lanes	30.5	38.5	Rick Hotakainen	557
Lunds	28.5	40.5	Terry Geiser	554
			Nic Pederson	544

Individual game men

Jason Grabow	244
Ben Diehl	224
LeRoy Ament	211
Terry Geiser	209
Kyle Vorderbruggen	203
Joey Brasel	203

Team game

Lunds	976
Design's By Tes	905
Mills Lanes 861	
Team series	
Lunds	2837
Mills Lanes	2480
Design's By Tes	2454

Tuesday Individual Ladies  
February 22

Name	Win	Loss	Individual game	
Nancy Neuberger	13	7	Dolly Tumberg	196
Dolly Tumberg	12	8	Nancy Neuberger	189
Karen Miller	12	8	Shirley Quist	178
Karen Brasel	11	9		
Shirley Quist	7	13	Individual series	
Ronda Koehler	5	15	Dolly Tumberg	477
			Nancy Neuberger	437
			Shirley Quist	431



Megan Reidel goes up for 2 points during Thursday's sub section opener in New York Mills

## NYM to face Underwood in sub section title game

Winner to play Friday for chance to go to state

By Chad Koenen

The New York Mills Eagles have advanced to the sub section championship game after securing a pair of wins last week.

The Eagles, who are 17-9 on the season, defeated Lake Park-Aububon by a score of 55-38 in the opening round of the sub section tournament, before defeating Ada-Borup West in the sub section semi-

finals by a score of 49-29 on Saturday.

On Wednesday, the Eagles will take on top seeded Underwood in the sub section championship game. The Rockets defeated the Eagles by a score of 60-44 in the regular season finale. The game will begin at 7 p.m. in Perham.

NYM TO FACE UNDERWOOD continued on 11



Bella Bauck drives to the basket during Thursday's game in New York Mills. On Saturday, Bauck scored her 1,000th career point for the Eagles

## EAGLES EDGE TIGERS

continued from 9

Tuesday, March 15 at 7 p.m. in Perham. The Section 6A championship game is scheduled for Friday, March 18 at Fergus Falls High School beginning at 7 p.m.

Baune said the team knows the section is loaded with talented teams, but NY Mills is looking forward to the challenge.

"We know we are going to have our hands full each game given that Section 6A is a top section in Class A basketball this season. The boys are anxious to get going as an I," he said. "The team seems focused and confident that we can go out and get the job done. Now all that's left to do is execute and let the chips fall where they may. We're very excited."

Currently there are five teams ranked in the top 13 in the state in Section 6A. The south side of the sub section features fourth ranked Belgrade-Brookton-Elrosa, eighth ranked Hancock and 12th ranked Ashby. The top half features second ranked NY Mills and 13th ranked Henning.



Photo by Tasha Geiser  
Tate Olson was one of seven seniors who was honored during last week's regular season finale in New York Mills.

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2019 - Lunds Team	2013 - Lund Park 4	2006 - Kings & Aids
2018 - Lunds Team 1	2012 - Lund Park	2005 - RK Plumbing
2017 - Kangas Construction	2011 - RK Plumbing	2004 - The Bake Shoppe
2016 - Lucky Strike/Lunds Team	2010 - Donna's Hairstyles	2003 - L&L Repair
2015 - Lunds Pickleball	2009 - Steve's Sanitation	2002 - Dan's Towing
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## NYM TO FACE UNDERWOOD

continued from 10

Underwood, who is 22-3 on the season, advanced to the sub section finals with a 63-45 win over Hillcrest and a 52-39 win over Breckenridge last week. On the other side of the bracket, top seeded Hancock will take on second seeded Wheaton/Herman-Norcross for the south sub section title on Wednesday night.

The Section 6A championship game is set for Friday at 7 p.m. in Fergus Falls.

### Thursday

NY Mills found itself in a bit of a fight early in Thursday's Section 6A opener against Lake Park-Audubon. However, a late 3-point desperation shot by Megan Riedel went through the basket to give NY Mills a 26-19 lead at halftime.

In the second half, the Eagles were able to outscore the Raiders by a 29-19 margin to come away with a tough 55-38 win.

Riedel led the way offensively for the Eagles as she scored 15 points, while Bella Bauck also reached double figures with 10 points.

Ayla Olson just missed out on joining them in double figures as she scored 9 points, while Moriah Geiser scored 8, Alayna Baune scored 5, Maya Radniecki scored 4, Mackenzie Gilster scored 3 and Kailey Keskitalo rounded out the scoring with 1 point.

### Saturday

Bella Bauck needed just 13 points in Saturday's sub section semi-final game against Ada-Borup West to score her 1,000th career point. After being held scoreless in the first half, the junior guard scored her 1,000th point late in the game as she finished with exactly 13 points. She went a perfect 6-6 from the line and hit a 3-pointer in the second half to hit the historic milestone.

After holding the Cougars to just 9 points in the first half, the Eagles were able to hang on for a 49-29 win to advance to Wednesday's sub section championship game.



Photos by Chad Koenen, Tasha Geiser  
Above: Moriah Geiser drives to the basket during Thursday's game in New York Mills. Right: Ayla Olson takes a shot over an Ada-Borup defender on Saturday afternoon in Perham.



The Eagles took a 14-9 lead at halftime, after Ayla Olson scored 5 points in the first half as she finished with a team high 15 points. Moriah Geiser scored 8 points, including 6 in the second half, while Megan Riedel chipped in with 6 points of her own. Maya Radniecki scored 4 points and Alayna Baune rounded out the scoring with 2 points.

## NYM WRESTLING ENDS AT STATE

continued from 9

period. Blair started down in the third period and earned a reversal to take a 6-5 lead, before Niemi secured a reversal of his own with just 38 seconds remaining to retake the lead by a score of 7-6. Unfortunately, Blair got a reversal in the waning seconds of the match to secure an 8-7 win. Blair fell to the eventual state champion, Gavin Gust of Dover-Eyota in the next round to end Niemi's senior season with a record of 36-10.

After two periods of scoreless wrestling, Bren Salo earned an escape at the 1:31 mark of the third period to take a 1-0 lead. The NY Mills senior wrestler was called for stalling twice in the final 37 seconds of the match with the final one occurring with just 6 seconds left to give Vander Mathiowetz of Red Rock Central his first point of the match and tie the bout with just seconds remaining. In overtime, Mathiowetz secured a pin to end Salo's state tournament. Mathiowetz went on to lose to Caleb Vacura of BGMR in the quarterfinals.

Salo's senior season ended with a record of 31-5 overall.

At heavyweight, Sawyer Wedde fell to Jackson Esping of Minnesota by a fall at the 1:08 mark of his match. Esping, who came into the state tournament with an undefeated record, fell to the eventual runner up in Makota Misgen of New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva to end Wedde's senior season with a record of 14-18.

145- Champ. Round 1 - John Paul Fitzpatrick (Crosby-Ironton) 44-7 won by decision



Photos by Chad Koenen  
Above: Sawyer Wedde works for position during the opening round of the state wrestling tournament last week. Below: Dane Niemi tries to prevent an escape from his opening round opponent Jacob Blair on Friday.

over Simon Snyder (New York Mills) 38-7 (Dec 8-4)  
152- Champ. Round 1 - Jacob Blair (Minnewaska Area) 31-8 won by decision over Dane Niemi (New York Mills) 36-10 (Dec 8-7)  
182- Champ. Round 1 - Vander Mathiowetz (Red Rock Central) 37-8 won by fall over Bren Salo (New York Mills) 31-5 (Fall 6:24)  
285- Champ. Round 1 - Jackson Esping (Minnesota) 12-2 won by fall over Sawyer Wedde (New York Mills) 14-18 (Fall 1:06)



## Alexandria couple named instructors of the year

*Andersons committed to a lifetime of safe riding*

Alexandria residents Earl and Sonya Anderson have been named the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Volunteer Snowmobile Instructors of the Year for 2021.

While the award typically goes to one person, the Andersons have worked together for years to certify nearly 6,500 students in snowmobile safety.

The Andersons, who are longtime members of the local Douglas Area Trails Association, host a snowmobile safety class every year. In years when there's a lack of snowfall, they put wheels on snowmobiles to ensure students can achieve certification. No matter what the scenario, the Andersons figure out a way to ensure every student has what they need for a lifetime of safe and fun snowmobile riding.

"Earl and Sonya are exactly the type of volunteer instructors you want in your community," said DNR Conservation Officer Mitch Lawler, who is

stationed in Alexandria and works closely with the Andersons. "They exemplify what it means to be a volunteer instructor, and they go above and beyond to ensure that every single student who attends their class gets the instruction they need to be safe snowmobile riders."

The Andersons work well together and each occupy different but important roles in teaching the next generation of snowmobile riders. Sonya generally leads the classes, while Earl ensures all the equipment is ready and students have exactly what they need to successfully complete the class. In addition to snowmobile safety, both are involved in a number of other community organizations that help people of all ages enjoy the outdoors.

Earl and Sonya are among the more than 1,000 volunteer instructors who teach DNR snowmobile safety classes across the state and are the backbone of the program. Minnesota residents born after Dec. 31, 1976 are required to have a snowmobile safety certificate in order to ride, but DNR safety officials recommend all people who ride a snowmobile complete a safety training course.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### MINUTES INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 553

NEW YORK MILLS, OTTER TAIL & BECKER COUNTY, MN REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022 CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT- at 5:30 pm

ATTENDANCE & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM- All School Board Members, plus Superintendent B. Novak, J. Brockway, M. Young-Lecoustre, M. Maki, M. Radniecki, Visitors K. Schneider, A. Paavola, B. Weller, C. Griffith, J. Olson and C. Koenen in the press.

SETTING THE AGENDA TO DETERMINE THE ORDERS OF THE DAY- Motion by Braukmann, Second by Helland to approve the agenda as presented. Vote- u/c.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES- Motion by Ehner, Second by Wallgren to approve the 1/24/2022 Regular Meeting minutes. Vote- u/c.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND APPROVAL OF BILLS- Motion by Wallgren, Second by Kane to pay the Monthly Financial Claims per fund and the approved Electronic Fund Transfers for Minnesota State Withholding deposits and FICA/PERA/TRA/Annuity deposits. Vote- u/c.

STAFF/STUDENT PRESENTATIONS- PRESENTATIONS, Strategic Plan - True North Consulting Partners ACTION TO ACCEPT STRATEGIC PLAN AS PRESENTED BY TRUE NORTH CONSULTING PARTNERS- Motion by Braukmann, Second by Ehner to acknowledge receipt and review of the 2022 Strategic Plan. Vote- u/c.

REPORTS- Administrative Report, Superintendent- Board Appreciation, Summer Update, Sports Center, Elementary- Student Teacher, Elementary Activities, High School- Conferences, Testing, Advisory Hour, AD- Winter Season Wrap Up; Business Office Reports- Perham Hospital District Tax, Supply Chain Assistance Funds; School Board- Committee Meetings, Curriculum, Instruction and Policy.

February 17, 2022; Workshop/Work Meeting, Strategic Planning January 26, 2022; Workshop/Work Meeting, Strategic Planning February 7, 2022

CONSENT ITEMS- Motion by Kane, Second by Ehner to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: MEETING DATES- Workshop, March 14, 2022, DONATIONS- New York Mills Lions, \$4000 Girls Softball Pitching Machine; VFW Post #3289, \$500 Wrestling Cheerleaders; VFW Post #3289, \$1000 Girls Softball Pitching Machine; Vote- u/c.

OUT OF DISTRICT BUS REQUESTS- Motion by Wallgren, Second by Pederson to approve the out of district transportation requests. Vote- u/c.

REVISION TO 2021-2022 CALENDAR- Motion by Wallgren, Second by Kane to approve the revised calendar changing March 11 to a staff development day and reducing the student contact days from 173 to 172 for this school year only.

REVISION TO 2021-2022 CALENDAR DUE TO SNOW MAKE UP DAYS- Motion by Braukmann, Second by Pederson to approve calendar changes due to two snow make up days. Upon discussion Braukmann withdrew the motion. No new motion.

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUS PURCHASE- Motion by Wallgren, Second by Pederson to approve the purchase of a school bus. Vote- u/c.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS- Elementary BET, January 25, 2022.

PERSONNEL CONSENT ITEMS- Motion by Kane, Second by Ehner to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda as follows: LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST- Rae-Anna Wegscheid, Kelsey Fahlen, Rachel Dockett, Allie Feiwler; REQUEST FOR TIME OFF W/O PAY- Wendy Schmitz; Adele Marr; Alicia Page. Vote- u/c.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion by Derek, Second by Wallgren to adjourn at 6:30 pm. Vote- u/c.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Denise Kane, Clerk Independent School District #553

### PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Jill Brenna, am bringing forth my Land Patent Benefit. If interested see <https://mnnesotaassembly.net/jibrenna>

Published, March 9, March 16, March 23, March 30, April 6, April 13, April 20, April 27, May 4, 2022



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**The Prairie Spy**  
Alan "Lindy" Linda  
Freelance Writer

## Dealing with 'Petty Functionaries' can be a challenge

Someone Very close to me just realized that she didn't have the necessary documents to file an income tax report for someone who passed away earlier last year. Someone called the small-town local post office—not Boatville—and asked if mail with that name had been forwarded. "Well of course not." She—the person at this small post office—was about as far from helpful as someone in her position could be. "Just because the address is the same doesn't matter," said she. "His name is different than yours, so, there."

Hmmmm, thought She. That didn't go well. Bottom line: There's still a Form 10-99 that didn't come. Since it was from Social Security, she decided to call the local office in Fergus Falls.

"Hello," said someone there, "can we help you?" Hmmmm again. Sounded promising. But when asked whether they could resend that darn 10-99, no. "You're down there in Florida, and we can't send something down there. You'll have to call the office down there."

"Hello, can we help you?" That's the voice of someone at the social security office down in Florida. The same question: The office up home said you could send that 10-99 to me down here.

"No, we cannot do that. You have to call the office up north. Who told you we could do that?"

My local office up north. "No, that's not possible, but we can send it to your address up north."

Will it still have a name on it that's not mine? "Well, certainly."

But that leaves the problem the same. They won't forward because of an address change. They only forward because of an ADDRESS change and a name change, you see.

This drags on. And on. And on. Not hard to see why, is it. Petty functionaries. Pretty nice label.

had to deal with what my brother has labeled "Petty Functionaries."

They exist everywhere. They are so universally present that when you run into someone who is helpful, it's a surprise. Gasp! Like that.

The Lima Grill company made all the grills that you see in houses and businesses for years and years. They were sold around the world. They had cornered the grill business. If you looked at a grill and heat was coming out of it, or cold, or fresh air, Lima made it.

Over the years, I had become accustomed to scabbing a piece of 2 by 4 onto an open stud wall in a new house, so that the finished grill's screw holes, the Lima's, would line up. These holes, you see, were on 14-inch centers. All studs are of course 16 inch.

Then I started teaching HVAC. After watching young males trying to search for a scrap of 2 x 4, then search for nails, then a hammer, then watching them try to use it, I decided to call Lima.

"Hello," someone said. Yes, may I talk to engineering, please, I said.

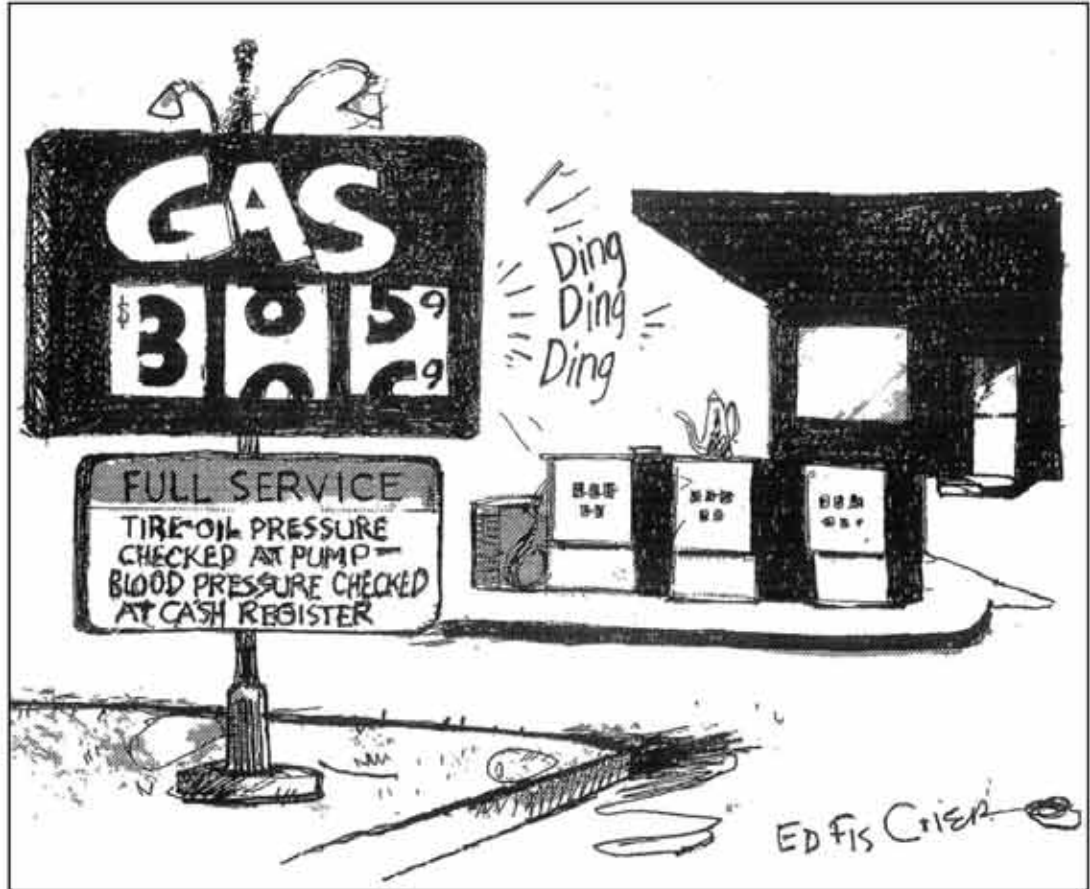
"Engineering," someone else said. Say, I said, were stud walls ever on 14-inch centers, back a hundred years or so? Because all your products seem to assume that stud walls are on 14-inch spacing.

"No," said the engineer. Then why, said I, are all your grills on those measurements? Why don't you change that?

"You say you're a teacher for 30 years? That doesn't matter. We don't take input from anyone but our salesmen."

From that date in time, it was less than three years and the Lima Grill Company filed for bankruptcy. Not hard to see why, is it.

Petty functionaries. Pretty nice label.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Lions Reading Program thank you

To the Editor,  
Thank you to the New York Mills Dispatch for the Lions Reading Program for the Visually and Physically Impaired! You make it possible for all community members to be informed with your subscription support.

The Lions Reading Program for the Visually and Physically Impaired will celebrate its 30th year in

2022. Your paper should be proud it has been a part of this wonderful service.

The broadcast is available through any computer, online at Radio Talking Book Minnesota/State Services for the Blind.

Volunteers are the heart of the program! Much appreciated volunteers, Lions and others from the public, broadcast Monday through

Saturday at 7 p.m. Volunteers read with a partner or alone. They dedicate 2 hours, in one evening, each month they can, for preparation and reading to our listeners. All COVID-19 safety precautions are taken.

We are always in search of volunteers. Any interested people can contact Lion Ginny Paulson (218-

736-5109) or Lion Pamela Shroden (218-731-2954). It is an easy way to make an important difference in your community.

Again, New York Mills Dispatch, we and our listeners are very thankful for the support of our communities.

Elizabeth Lion  
Sue Hanneman  
Secretary, Lion's Reading Board

### Now is the time to come together, not pull apart

To the Editor,  
Like so many others, I am so sad and heartbroken by the invasion of Ukraine by Putin's Russia. Desperate people are fleeing for their lives which have been forever destroyed by unbelievable evil. Their cries for help are interspersed with love for their country, belief in democracy, amazing bravery, courage and determination.

As I write this, Russian troops are shelling Europe's nuclear plant in Ukraine which has the potential of creating the catastrophic event of releasing deadly radiation.

Meanwhile, Fox News, Newsmax, other Right wing media sites and Republicans blather incessant criticism of President Biden and the Democrats. As they desperately seek something to blame this catastrophe on, the Green New Deal becomes one of the targets.

Somehow dealing with the reality of climate change and environmental disaster by reducing fossil fuels becomes the Right's blame game. Oil becomes their pawn. Ukraine has oil reserves which makes it valuable to Russia.

Putin's intent to have others believe Russians and Ukrainians are one people and he is just trying to unite them is bogus. The Right also has a misplaced passion for oil: to hype the price of such a needed commodity easily manipulates people's attention and anger. Demand increased as the pandemic reopened with people driving more. Refineries couldn't keep up with American and global demands and the price of gas increased worldwide. President Biden asked for increased production, but OPEC makes that decision and not him. Expect higher prices because of Russia's

violent invasion of Ukraine. Budget your gas usage is a reasonable suggestion in times of shortage and world calamity.

The Right's intent is to further divide our country. They are giving direct aid to Putin as he forges ahead with his immoral, unjustified, cruel war on Ukraine.

This wouldn't happen if he were President, Trump ignorantly proclaims as he declares Putin a "genius." This is happening because Trump was President!

Russia's maleficence helped Trump get elected. All saw Trump repay that support at the Helsinki summit siding with Putin rather than the FBI when it came to allegations of meddling in the 2016 election. Then they held a private two-hour meeting. One of several where notes were not allowed to be taken or shared.

The invasion of Ukraine

would have been much easier for Putin if Trump were President. One of Trump's first objectives as President was to leave NATO. One of Putin's reasons for the violence in Ukraine is because he did not want the country to become a NATO member. NATO stands by if one of its member countries are attacked. President Biden has reinforced NATO alliances and our other allies; most of whom Trump had deliberately insulted and distanced.

This is time to remember what the Soviet Secretary Khrushchev warned in 1956 with his "we will bury you" speech to the West. The current bitter division in the United States speaks to that intended purpose and weakens us as a nation. Putin was preparing for this

**COME TOGETHER**  
continued on 14

## How to contact your elected officials

### Governor

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130 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
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Toll Free: 800-657-3717

### District 8B Representative

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### District 8 Senate

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Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3207  
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## New York Mills Dispatch

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Tucker Henderson, Receptionist/Reporter  
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### Letters to the Editor

The New York Mills Dispatch accepts and encourages Letters to the Editor from readers on subjects of current and general interest. All letters must be signed and include contact information from the author. Letters can be emailed, as long as the editor is able to verify the author of the letter prior to publication. The Dispatch reserves the right to edit all letters and refuse the publication of any Letter to the Editor without explanation or prior notice.

The Publisher shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The Publisher's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement is strictly limited to one publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issue or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisement.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**SELL, SHOP, FIND!** PLACE ADS BY CONTACTING (218) 385-7720  
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Display advertising deadline- Friday at 12 p.m. • Line classified deadline- Friday at 2 p.m.

## Help Wanted

Help wanted: City of Ottertail is seeking to hire a Deputy Clerk/Utility Billing position. This is a F-T 32-36 hr./week position with benefits DOQ. Position provides support for Clerk-Treasurer and is main contact for Utility Billing. Involves bookkeeping and other financial responsibilities; Assists with meetings, elections, land use planning and other duties as assigned; Minimum qualifications: High School Graduate with 4 years clerical experience with accounting or customer service, effective communications skills; website and social media a plus, ability to obtain Notary Public Commission; experience with Microsoft office. Current driver's license; submit to background check and drug test. Application and job description available at [www.cityofottertail.com](http://www.cityofottertail.com) or by emailing request to [otcity@arvig.net](mailto:otcity@arvig.net). Complete application and resume

should be sent to City of Ottertail, PO Box 245, Ottertail, MN 56571 or emailed to [clerkotcity@arvig.net](mailto:clerkotcity@arvig.net). Application deadline is 12:00 pm on Thursday, March 10, 2022. EOE

mmcdc.com Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation is an equal opportunity employer, provider and lender. tfn

Opportunity. Please call Kaleva Apartments in New York Mills at (218) 385-3273 or visit our website [www.schuettcares.com](http://www.schuettcares.com) tfn

**Wanted**  
Wanted: Wanted to buy junk cars and pickups. Any condition. We pick up and

pay cash. Al Terveer, Deer Creek, (218) 731-2158. tfn

## For Rent

For rent: SUMMERPLACE. 105 Wendy Woods Ln, New York Mills. 2 & 3 BDRM units w/ garage near a city park. Income and other restrictions apply. Ask about our \$250 move-in special! 218-847-5641 or [www.mmcddc.com](http://www.mmcddc.com)

For rent: Newly remodeled Kaleva Apartments - Available Immediately - 1 bed/1bath apartment in secure building for Seniors 62 and older and those with a disability. Spacious 650 sq. ft. Apt with large closets and storage, elevator access handicap accessible, onsite laundry, sauna, community events and activities and off street parking. Rent is based on income. All utilities are included with a reduced cable rate. Equal Housing



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WALK-IN INTERVIEWS: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday-Thursday

## HELP WANTED

### FULL-TIME EDITOR

The Frazee-Vergas Forum, which is situated in the heart of lakes country in west central Minnesota, is seeking a full-time editor to add to its award winning staff. The right candidate will work with our staff members to help grow both our print and digital products, while also engaging our communities with solid reporting and photographs.

The Frazee-Vergas Forum is part of a family-owned group of three newspapers all located in west central Minnesota. We pride ourselves on our small town and family-friendly work environment. We offer above average pay, insurance and paid vacation.

**Responsibilities include:**

- Write human interest feature stories about the people and activities in our community
- Attend and write stories on governmental agencies like city council/school board meetings
- Edit, proofread and adjust stories as necessary
- Collaborate with our sister publications to help generate story ideas and content
- Assist in the day-to-day activities of the Frazee-Vergas Forum as necessary
- Other duties as assigned

**Education and Experience:**

- Writing experience for a newspaper, website, magazine or specialty publication is required
- Basic photography skills and knowledge of photo editing skills is preferred
- Must be skilled in proofreading and editing; AP Style knowledge is preferred
- Journalism or communications degree is preferred, though equivalent experience will be considered

**Education and Experience:**

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills are required
- Must be able to multitask and juggle many different projects in a fast-paced environment
- Must be organized and be a hard worker
- Must be creative and have the ability to work in both small groups and independently
- A strong sense of community and importance of news

For more information, or to apply, contact Chad Koenen at the Citizen's Advocate by phone at (218) 548-5585, by email at [chad@henningadvocate.com](mailto:chad@henningadvocate.com) or by mail at PO Box 175, Henning, MN 56551.



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**PETS**

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on dogs & cats to seal wounds with a bitter taste to prevent gnawing, allow healing. At Tractor Supply® ([www.fleabeacon.com](http://www.fleabeacon.com))

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**SOYBEAN WHITE MOLD**  
have you worried this year? We want to help with a winning strategy for 2022. Call Heads Up Plant Protectants 866/368-9306

**HUNTING**

**HUNTING LEASE WANTED**  
Bowhunting and/or rifle hunting for whitetails. Annual lease & exclusive access desired \$5-20/acre depending on variables. Call/text 701/331-8869

**ADOPTIONS**

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NURSERY** awaits newborn. Promise loving family, secure future, devoted grandparents, educational opportunities. Generous living/relocation expenses paid. Lisa 510/390-3524 or attorney 310/663-3467

**MISCELLANEOUS**

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has cost us all something. Many have lost jobs and financial security. Have \$10K In Debt? Credit Cards, Medical Bills, Car Loans. Call National Debt Relief! We can help! Get a FREE debt relief quote: Call 844/205-5439

**THE GENERAC PWRCELL**  
A solar plus battery storage system. Save money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 down financing option. Request a free, no obligation quote today. Call 888/913-5895

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**LOOKING FOR ASSISTED LIVING?** memory care, or independent living? A Place for Mom simplifies the process of finding senior living at no cost to your family. Call 888/715-1720 today!

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# Creating a vision for the future of NYM School

## NYM School Board receives five year strategic plan

By Chad Koenen  
Publisher

A new vision for the next five years at New York Mills School was unveiled last week.

During its regularly scheduled meeting last Monday night, the NY Mills School Board heard an update on its strategic plan that will guide the school district for the next five years. The presentation was made by representatives from True North Consulting Partners, who guided the school board through the highlights of the new plan.

The school district recently completed its previous strategic plan and sought input from the public and other school representatives to develop a new set of goals for the next five years.

Jeffrey Olson, of True North Consulting Partners, complimented the school district for the amount of input the district received, which was just shy of 200 responses. He said that amount is significantly higher than the consulting company typically sees in a school district of NY Mills' size.

Though the plan is meant as a guide for the school district it is designed in a way to be flexible for unforeseen

changes and circumstances. For example, Olson said few people would likely have seen the need for distance learning and technology changes prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"You have to have the ability to have adaptability and flexibility in your strategic plan," he said.

Each of the areas identified for the strategic plan have individual goals under the overall goal.

The first strategic plan priority identified was providing every student with a rigorous, relevant and well rounded curriculum and instruction that leads to college, career and choice readiness.

The second priority was to ensure that all students have their social, emotional and academic needs met.

The third priority was to engage in partnerships with business, industry and the community to enhance academic programs and provide real world learning experiences for students.

The fourth priority is to provide updated and appropriate facilities that meet the capacity and adequacy needs of all programs and services of the school district.

The final priority was to develop and implement a



Photo by Tucker Henderson

The New York Mills School Board recently heard about a new strategic plan that will guide the school district for another five years.

communication, branding and marketing plan to improve stakeholder satisfaction and understanding of school district operations.

While the strategic plan framework covers a number of top priorities for the school district, Olson encouraged the school board to not do too much at one time. He suggested the school board should prioritize each of the goals within the framework of the strategic plan.

"This is a very comprehensive strategic plan. There is a lot here," he said.

### In other news

• Heard an update on summer building projects at the school, which include a number of projects in the sports center. The school district is planning to redo the gym floor and give the sports center a fresh look.

• Approved setting a school board workshop for Monday, March 14 at 5:30 p.m.

• Discussed how to handle additional snow days at NY Mills School. Due to the large amount of snow days already incurred at the

school, the district will need to make up two additional days of school. One day will be on Monday, April 18 and the second day will be on Tuesday, May 31. School board members questioned if there was something it could do to avoid bringing students back for one day after Memorial Day should there be no more snow days for the rest of the school year. NY Mills School Superintendent Blaine Novak said the school board could look at forgiving a student day should no more snow

days take place for the remainder of the school year. No action was taken at this time and the school board said it would wait to see what happens in terms of the weather for the remainder of the school year.

• Accepted the following donations: \$4,000 from the NY Mills Lions Club for a softball pitching machine, \$500 from the NY Mills VFW Post 3289 for the wrestling cheerleaders and \$1,000 from the NY Mills Post 3289 for a softball pitching machine.

## COME TOGETHER

time. More important than ever to remember that there is strength through unity which America's motto reminds us: Out of many, One.

It seems that when Trump was not reelected, it became necessary for Putin

and Trump to enact Plan B: Create the Big Lie that the 2020 election was stolen from Trump. This contributed to an expected national divide. The Right media and politicians added their own lies: Critical Race Theory

teaches children to hate white people, parents are being treated as terrorists, teachers can't be trusted, the Jan. 6 Insurrection was just a tourist visit, Black Lives Matter protests were the same as the Insurrec-

tion, mask mandates and vaccines violate your rights, crime only occurs in Democratic cities, the liberals want to Defund the Police, President Biden has dementia, China is worse than Russia, liberals and the West created Ukraine's problem by encouraging their democracy, White Supremacists are good guys, Mexican migrants are allowed to stay

with covid, the United States is not doing enough with sanctions, weapons, and alliances to help Ukraine, and other endless degradations, distractions and untruths.

The fact that a pandemic has crippled the country and world for almost three years is disregarded and considered a hoax by too many. The Right spews biased opinions that are not

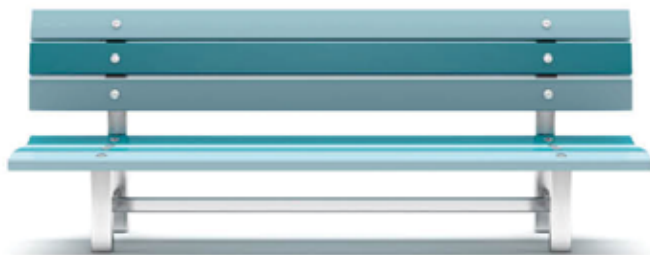
fact based, researched, or validated by studied experts.

Putin's and Trump's lies marinate and attract believers who are easily seduced by the bright shiny influences of crassness, image, duplicity, money, and power. None of these require the more difficult work of critical thinking, problem solving, studying history, and truth seeking.

Putin's violent, merciless assault on Ukraine continues. The nuclear plant has been captured and presents an increasing threat to the world. The humanitarian crisis worsens. President Biden, NATO, the UN, and allies are working to stop Putin, defend Ukraine, and prevent further aggression without causing World War III.

Time to step forward and unite as Americans to support our country, Constitution, Democracy and President. Turn off Fox News, Newsmax, Bannon and other media intent on demoralizing and dividing Americans. Turn on positive resolve, empathy, support, and prayers for unity and peace for Ukraine and worldwide. Donate to Ukraine relief. Humankind is in peril.

Dorothy Eskeli  
New York Mills



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The New York Mills Kindergarten Team is taking a NEW hands-on approach for Kindergarten Registration Night. Parents and future kindergarten students (age 5 by 9/1/2022) are invited to the school for a WILD evening that includes hands-on activities with the kindergarten teachers, prizes and food.

Come and see why we are Wild About Kindergarten!

**Wild About Kindergarten Registration Night**  
Thursday, March 31, 2022  
5:30-8:15 p.m. Meet in Commons  
8:15-7 p.m. Hands-on Activities

Childcare available. No charge for New York Mills families during Kindergarten Registration Night.

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