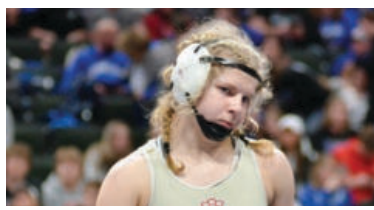


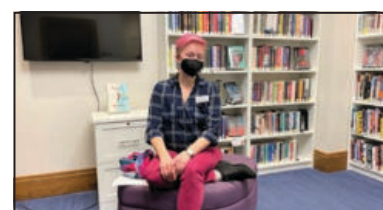
Local

**WATER
TREATMENT
PLANT
EXPLORED**
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Sports

**PAGEL WINS
NORTHFIELD'S
1ST GIRLS STATE
TITLE**
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Local

**TEENS NEW
SCENE AT
LIBRARY**
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Northfield News

localmatters

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THE MAKING KNOWN

Jane Becker Nelson and Deanna Thompson hope visitors touring The Making Known exhibit spend time listening to the audio guide vocalized by St. Olaf singers. (Pamela Thompson/southernminn.com)

New St. Olaf art exhibit explores historical anti-Semitic propaganda posters

By PAMELA THOMPSON
pamela.thompson@apgsomn.com

To what extent should the history of hate be preserved?

That was only one of a myriad of questions facing St. Olaf College art historians and theologians behind the collaborative spring programming of Lutheran pastor Heidi Neumark's visit to campus and the art exhibit featuring Nazi propaganda posters from World War II.

"What do we do with the awful," asked Deanna Thompson, director of the Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community at St. Olaf College.

Hidden Inheritance

"It's exciting to come back to St. Olaf," said Rev. Heidi Neumark, a pastor at Trinity Lu-

theran Church of Manhattan, in New York City. Also an acclaimed author, Neumark's March 15 visit to Northfield will include a morning lecture and an evening panel discussion.

Neumark will discuss her second book, "Hidden Inheritance: Family Secrets, Memory and Faith" which was designated as the spring All-Community Read book by the college.

Her book details the discovery of her Jewish roots and the story of her grandfather, who died at the Terezin concentration camp in the Czech Republic.

Neumark explained in a phone interview last week from New York that her journey of family genealogy and identity was long, twisted and required a lot of patience, persistence and luck.

"I hadn't a clue that my family was Jewish,"

she said.

Thanks to some travel grants, Neumark said she was able to do some more digging on visits to Germany, the Czech Republic and Poland. By serendipitous circumstance, she was able to learn through elderly family members that some of her ancestors were rabbis from a prominent Jewish family.

She learned that the Nazis painstakingly traced the heritage of people in the war-torn region in the 1940s to determine which citizens were Jewish. Neumark said she was able to find her family name on the manifest of a ship headed to the United States.

"On the ship's manifest the line stating race said Hebrew," she said.

See ART on A3

Northfield holds open house to explain redistricting of the city wards and precincts

By PAMELA THOMPSON
pamela.thompson@apgsomn.com

A panel of Minnesota judges on Feb. 15 released the state's new congressional and legislative district maps, reflecting how the population had shifted over the past decade.

The new maps show that the entire city of Northfield will be together in House District 58A (currently the Dakota County portion of Northfield is in a separate House district than the rest of the city). For the state Senate, Northfield is in District 58.

Northfield City Clerk Lynette Peterson explained that, as a result of the changes, beginning in 2023, Northfield will have one state senator (same as now) and one state representative (currently two, due to the city being split between House districts). Northfield is still in Congressional District 2, as shown in the new boundaries, but it has some new neighbors in that district, like Kenyon and Wanamingo.

See CITY on A3



Sara Hoffman, deputy city clerk/executive administrative assistant, left, and Northfield City Clerk Lynette Peterson stand beside a series of redistricting maps showing the proposed changes at Wednesday night's open house at City Hall. (Pamela Thompson/southernminn.com)

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localmatters

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LOCAL

NHS students MMEA Midwinter Clinic All State Groups



Two Northfield High School sophomore violinists—Cricket Mohring, left, and Parker Sneary, right, seen with their private violin instructor, Laura Geissler, center—performed on Saturday, Feb. 19, with the Minnesota All State Orchestra at a concert in Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis. Mohring and Sneary are also members of the Northfield High School Orchestra, directed by Paul Ousley. (Jane Turpin Moore/southernminn.com)

Four NHS vocalists, were chosen for MN All State Choirs



Four Northfield High School vocalists, who were chosen by audition for the select Minnesota All State Choirs, performed with their respective choirs at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis on February 19. From left, senior Maggie Paoli, SSAA choir; junior Sam Nelson, TTBB choir; junior Isaac Leer, TTBB choir; and junior Grace Ryden, SATB choir. At NHS, the students all sing in the Concert Choir directed by Kyle Eastman. (Jane Turpin Moore/southernminn.com)

NHS band student in All State



Owen Thomas, a Northfield High School senior, performed on bass clarinet with the Minnesota All State Band at Orchestra Hall on Feb. 19. The concert was part of the MMEA Midwinter Clinic. Thomas is also a member of the Northfield High School band, directed by Nahal Afshar Javan. (Jane Turpin Moore/southernminn.com)

City of Northfield seeks more public input on additional drinking water treatment plant

By PAMELA THOMPSON
pamela.thompson@apgsomn.com

You don't have to be a hydro scientist to help the city of Northfield decide where to locate an additional drinking water treatment plant, but it would help when it comes to understanding what's added to our water such as polyphosphates, fluoride and chlorine — and why.

Residents and businesses were invited to attend two different open houses concerning Northfield's ongoing water system study. The invitation stated attendees could learn more about the project and then offer input on the location of the new plant.

At the open houses, one virtual and one in-person, residents and property owners were able to view illustrations and maps of the three proposed sites for the new drinking water treatment plant.

Justin Wagner, utilities manager for the city of Northfield, said most of the people he has been communicating with favor either the site near the existing water tower on Hall Avenue or at the south end of Maple Street.

The third location, Wagner said, next to Spring Creek Elementary School, was not favored, because it would be hemmed in by existing structures and encroach upon the lacrosse and soccer fields by the school.

Wagner said he's received the most comments about not constructing on site three near the school and athletic fields. "The land around the school is used for other recreational activities like sledding, so many people don't want that land re-purposed."

He said site one and two could provide water for Northfield for 40-plus years, although there were so many factors determining future growth it would be difficult to guess.

Wagner explained that Northfield's water was pumped from the Jordan and Prairie du Chein aquifers. Most wells strike water at a depth of between 280 feet to 400 feet. The deeper the well, the more metals in the water, he said.

According to city data, 739 million gallons were pumped in Northfield in 2021. The average resident in Northfield uses 52 gallons per day. One hundred gallons per day is the

10 state standard, which is an engineering design standard that is used for determining growth projections based on population.

Wagner said only two cities in Minnesota don't add chlorine or bleach into drinking water.

"Our area of southeastern Minnesota has consistent drinking water that doesn't need a true filtration plant," he explained.

Up north in the metro, there are more iron deposits in the water so they use more manganese to filter out the minerals.

When Northfield's water treatment system was built in 1895, most of the pipes were made of cast iron, which were switched out in the 1970s with pipes made of ductile iron.

Wagner said the next step in the process would be to bring the public's recommendations before the City Council, which is tentatively set for April 5. After that, an engineer for the plant design would be contracted, and from then, the plant construction would take about three years.

By that calculation, Northfield will have a new drinking water treatment plant operating by summer of fall of 2025.

NORTHFIELD NEWS

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- Letters must express an opinion on a topic of local interest. Letters to announce events are not appropriate for the Community page.

- Letters to the editor must be exclusive to the News.
- Submissions must be signed by the author and include an address and daytime number to verify authorship. That information will not be published. Anonymous letters will not be published.
- Letters should be 400 words or less.
- Writers are limited to one letter every 30 days.

GUEST COLUMN SUBMISSIONS

Readers are invited to submit guest columns of local interest. Submissions should be 500 words or less, be sent to the editor by mail, e-mail or hand delivered to the office, and include the writer's name, address and headshot. Columns published at the News' discretion. It reserves the right to edit submissions.

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LOCAL

ART

From Page A1

Asked how she felt when learned of her true family heritage, the Lutheran pastor said she felt honored to be able to share her ancestors' story with others.

"These topics of manipulated truth, violence, injustice, and racism are so relevant today in light of what is going on around the world," she said. "I want people today to hear the stories and be aware of the horrors Nazi Germany imposed on real people and how they triumphed against the evil."

Neumark's first book chronicled how her experiences in congregational and community ministry in the Bronx led to a highly acclaimed book, "Breathing Space: A Spiritual Journey in the South Bronx" (Beacon Press).

Neumark said she's looking forward to meeting Steve Hunegs, Jane Becker Nelson and Deanna Thompson in person. "We've only met as a group during phone conversations," she said.

Expressing Judaism

Steve Hunegs, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas (JCRC), said in a phone interview last week that Neumark's visit would prompt important discussions about theology, history, cultural currents and artistic interpretations.

"Heidi's story works hard to honor the memory of her family within the Jewish framework of how they perished in the Holocaust," Hunegs said. "As a Lutheran pastor, her book brings out her faith and hope for the future

through what she's learned about her past and its legacy."

Hunegs said he hoped students attending the lecture and/or panel discussion would recognize the multiple crosscurrents with Neumark's personal journey of discovering her Jewish roots as a Lutheran pastor.

"I hope students glean the importance of civility and open-mindedness," he said. "I hope they understand how wonderful having difficult conversations about different approaches to life can be."

Identity shift

The Lutheran Center's Thompson said she was curious about how Neumark accepted her discovery of a shifted religious identity.

"As a Lutheran pastor, a Christian, who discovers and thoughtfully reflects upon and honors her Jewish family members, I wonder who is she now," Thompson said. "Her image of herself has been broken apart, just like the dismembered pieces of posters used in the exhibit."

The Making Known exhibit

The Tetlie Collection consists of 147 World War II propaganda posters that are large sheets of paper with images and text that were affixed to the sides of buildings across Nazi-occupied France, Belgium and Luxembourg.

But how did the posters come to St. Olaf's Northfield campus?

Duncan Emrich was a historian and former intelligence officer, who had been sent to Europe by the Eisenhower administration. He had been tasked with collecting as many traces of the Nazi propaganda campaign as he could find.

The posters Emrich found

were exhibited in Washington, D.C. and New York then inadequately stored. Many years later, St. Olaf alumnus and art collector Richard Tetlie met Emrich through diplomatic connections, purchased the posters and later bequeathed the collection to St. Olaf.

Now, the posters are in the stewardship of the Flaten Art Museum.

Thompson said Benny Nemer's artwork in "The Making Known" exhibit containing scraps of paper from the disintegrating posters addresses the idea of releasing the awful. "It's like the violent messages inherent in the text and imagery of those old posters have broken apart," she said. "As if the paper released the hate it had harbored through the decades by decaying like puzzle pieces."

Becker Nelson said she agreed with that interpretation and called the exhibit "demanding."

"Benny Nemer was here seven days installing the exhibit with students close by," she explained. The choral collaboration for the audio guide took place over Zoom with Benny in Paris and the Chamber Singers in Boe Chapel. The singers vocalized letters about the exhibit and some actual text from the posters.

Becker Nelson said there were so many ideas in Neumark's book that resonated with her as she worked with artist Nemer on curating the exhibit.

"We wanted to be careful about re-traumatizing anyone through those hateful posters," she said. "We're an art museum not a Holocaust museum."

With a sigh she added, "At least we're in it together, to learn about the burdens of history."

CITY

From Page A1

Peterson, City Administrator Ben Martig, Mayor Rhonda Pownell, and city councilors Clarice Grenier Grabau and Brad Ness were present at the open house the city of Northfield hosted Wednesday, March 2 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Members of the public were welcome to comment on the proposed redistricting maps and ask questions of the staff.

The only public comment came from Sinda Nichols, director of Carleton College's Center for Community and Civic Engagement. Nichols asked the city to consider moving seven census blocks of Carleton students from Ward 4 Precinct 1 to Ward 1 Precinct 1. That way, she reasoned, all voting age Carleton College students would be in the same ward and precinct.

"Now that statewide redistricting has been completed," said Peterson, "cities must establish or reestablish election precincts, designate polling places, and, where applicable, confirm or redefine ward districts by March 29."

Peterson told the assembled community members that the redistricting changes that were presented to the council impacted Ward 1, Precinct 1 and Ward 1, Precinct 2.

"There are no other precinct changes proposed, nor are there any changes in any of the ward boundaries," she said.

The Council had indicated

ELECTION JUDGES

The City of Northfield is looking for election judges.

Serving as an election judge is a chance to learn about elections and is a service to the community. Election judges help guarantee that the rights of voters are protected and are responsible for administering election procedures in polling locations on election day.

No experience is necessary to be an election judge, as new judges will be trained. The primary election is Aug. 9, and the general election is Nov. 9. Apply today on Northfield's website at ci.northfield.mn.us/127/serving-as-an-Election-Judge.

support at the Feb. 8 council work session to support this city plan, as long as the state legislative districts or congressional districts didn't require them to be changed. Peterson said, since this was not the case, staff would proceed with plans as the amended redistricting process, timeline and principles indicated.

According to the city timeline, Northfield will receive public input on the proposed change in Ward 1, Precinct 1 and Ward 1, Precinct 2 boundaries from Feb. 23 through March 9. Due to COVID restrictions, city staff is also proposing changing the polling

location for Ward 3, Precinct 1 from Northfield Retirement Community to Emmaus Baptist Church.

Community members still have the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes via email to Lynette Peterson, city clerk, at lynette.peterson@ci.northfield.mn.us.

The City Council will approve a resolution reestablishing election precincts and designating polling places at the March 15 meeting. The public has the opportunity to make statements regarding redistricting at the meeting, which begins at 6 p.m. at Northfield City Hall, 801 Washington St.

Northfield Area Athlete of the Month



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LOCAL

Northfield City Council approves resolutions in favor of downtown grant and passenger rail

By PAMELA THOMPSON
pamela.thompson@apgsomn.com

Before the round tables were rolled into the middle of the Northfield City Council chambers for a work session, the full council approved two resolutions on its regular agenda.



Nakasian

The first resolution that passed was in support of a Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) Main Street Revitalization grant application to the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).

Last year, after the state passed \$80 million in funding for SMIF, the city of Northfield filed for a grant stating that downtown Northfield had suffered lost employment and an economic loss of \$1 million, due to the fire and destruction at Archer House. The city sent three letters of support from the community to DEED as requested.

City Administrator Ben Martig said the city was optimistic it would

receive this funding. The motion passed.

The second resolution concerned a reprise of the issue of a rail line corridor that would connect central and southern Minnesota to the Twin Cities metro.

"This would make quite a major impact if this vision became a reality," said Martig.

Councilor Suzie Nakasian, who has been a longtime and passionate advocate for passenger rail service in this area, said the federal government had allocated funding for similar rail lines.

"This rail corridor would boost our economy and grow jobs," Nakasian said. "This is very exciting. Minnesota is in a good position to be included in national rail connections."

She added that, not only are passenger rail lines great for economic development across the state, but also to cut down on the detrimental effects of having more and more cars on the roads polluting the environment. Nakasian said that connecting the private and public educational institutions by rail would also promote less expensive alter-



Under the 2015 Minnesota state rail plan, a line passing through Northfield, Faribault and Owatonna along the I-35 corridor is identified as a priority.

native for students to traverse the state.

"As a daughter of immigrants who relied on public transportation at night for my education, this rail line would connect the state's private college with most of the University of Minnesota campuses," she said.

"Those schools were founded on the rail lines. Our history is wound up in railroads."

The motion passed.

Martig then gave a brief city administrator update. "There are quite a few things happening this week," he

IF YOU GO

Mayor Rhonda Pownell invites the entire community to the 2022 State of the City Address on Monday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Carleton College's Weitz Center for Creativity, Kracum Performance Hall, 320 Third Street.

said. Then he rattled off open houses on redistricting, the Highway 19 study, and the drinking water treatment plant study.

He urged residents to take a minute to log their input on the Bridge Square development proposals. "Please watch the video then answer the short three question survey," he said.

Look for more discussion with the Northfield Heritage Preservation Commission coming up, he said.

Other future events coming up include the raingarden workshop, the Mayor's State of the City address, clean up days, paper shredding day, and activities leading up to Earth Day.

Public schools see enrollment decline over pandemic, as private schools pick up students

By ANDREW DEZIEL
Guest Contributor

Local public schools have seen attendance figures suffer during the pandemic, as some parents are opting to shift their children to local private schools or pursue alternatives, such as homeschooling.

Newly released data from the Minnesota Department of Education showed that, for the second year in a row, enrollment at Minnesota school districts declined over the last year. However, the enrollment drop was much smaller, at about 0.3% of total statewide enrollment.

Locally, Owatonna Public Schools (at 4,962 students in 2021-22) did see a slight increase in enrollment last year, though not as high as its drop the previous year. Tri-City United (1,929 students in 2021-22) is the only large school district in the area with enrollment levels currently above pre-pandemic levels, having seen a slight dip between 2019-20 and 2020-21, but a larger gain from 2020-21 to 2021-22. Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton (704 students in 2021-22) also increased in enrollment over the pandemic — an increase of 25 enrolled students from 2019-20 to 2021-22. The same for Cleveland Public School (559 students

in 2021-22), which has increased enrollment by 45 students.

By contrast, all other large local school districts saw a decline in enrollment the last two years. Faribault (3,328 students in 2021-22) and St. Peter (2,198 students in 2021-22) school districts have been hit particularly hard by recent enrollment trends, with both reporting an enrollment decline of close to 200 students in the last two years.

Northfield School District (3,914 students in 2021-22), where many students open enroll from outside the community, saw a dip of about 90 students over two years. Waseca School District (1,783 students in 2021-22) saw its numbers drop by over 100 students in two years. Le Sueur-Henderson (946 students in 2021-22), which continues to struggle with funding, dropped by 36 students over two years. Medford (900 students in 2021-22) dipped by 29 students. Waterville-Elysian-Morristown (754 students in 2021-22) dipped by 28 students.

Kenyon-Wanamingo (659 students in 2021-22) experienced the most severe drop in enrollment, percentage-wise, over the last two years, losing 91 students, a drop of 2.6% from 2019-20 to 2020-21 and then a drop of 9.2% from 2020-21 to 2021-22.

The decline in enrollment for area schools in 2021-22, even though much more modest for most districts than the year prior, is very much out of line with trends over the last decade. Throughout the 2010s, enrollment at local districts could be counted on to rise each year, even if by a small amount.

At local private schools, like St. Mary's in Owatonna, the opposite has happened. Principal Jen Swanson said that, for years, class sizes had been stagnant or in decline. Now, the K-8 side of the school has seen an increase in enrollment.

"Some families came to us, because we were able to stay in person, as some other schools went to distance or hybrid learning," she said. "We were able to stay in person because of our size."

At Trinity Lutheran School in Janesville, Principal Wade Stockman said that enrollment increased by about 20 students in the pandemic's wake — a huge increase for a school of roughly 100 students.

Aside from the early months of the pandemic, the school has been able to maintain in-person classes, other than a brief period of quarantine after one teacher contracted the virus. While parents appreciate the commitment

to in-person learning, Stockman said that the school's appeal is deeper than that.

"I think people have been looking for a school that speaks to what's going on in society and their beliefs," he said.

Lower enrollment is a financial challenge for local public school districts, given the structure of the state's per pupil funding formula. Districts with fewer students are now looking at having to make do with less.

St. Peter Public Schools Superintendent Bill Gronseth said

that, while St. Peter High School has managed to hang onto higher enrollment figures achieved after roughly a decade of growth, the decrease has been stark in primary school grades.

"We are seeing an increased number of families choosing to homeschool or go to a parochial school, because they didn't have as restrictive strategies for COVID," he said.

While the enrollment process is just starting, signals for the upcoming school year seem to indicate that the tide is start-

ing to shift, as the recovery in enrollment figures seen during the 2021-2022 school year continues apace.

In Faribault, projections provided by Superintendent Todd Sesker indicate that kindergarten enrollment is on pace to increase in the upcoming year. Similarly, Gronseth said that kindergarten enrollment in St. Peter has thus far been robust.

"A lot of families are signing up for kindergarten," he said. "We're already ahead of previous years."

Northfield Area Teacher of the Month

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One random winner each month.

OPINION

Northfield School District to reduce expenditures to match enrollment declines

The Northfield School District has a strong reputation for effectively managing its financial resources. It has been 11 years since the district had to make any significant reductions in its programming. Our financial oversight was recently validated through a bond rating by Standard & Poor's, who assigned the district a prestigious AA+ bond rating. Only three school districts in the state have a better bond rating than Northfield and only two others have an equivalent bond rating.

Unfortunately, the district is experiencing declining enrollment. Recently, the district commissioned a demographic study that indicates we will have approximately 400 fewer students over the next ten years. The study points to lower birth rates and lack of sufficient local housing



Another View

Matt Hillmann

inventory as the primary drivers of this loss of students. The vast majority of the district's funding is directly tied to the number of students enrolled. Fewer students means we will have less money to spend on our students. We will be proactive in reducing our expenditures by \$4.5 million over the next two years to meet the reality of fewer students while making sure our budget aligns with the vision, commitments, and benchmarks outlined in the district's updated strategic plan.

State funding has not kept pace with inflation over the last 30 years. Northfield taxpayers

have routinely (and generously) voted to fill in the gaps left by this chronic underfunding from the legislature. This past legislative session provided one of the best increases to the state student funding formula in years: 2.45%. As many of you know, the latest inflation rates are well above 6%. According to Schools for Equity in Education, the per-pupil funding formula would need to be increased by \$1,605 to match the spending power it had in 1991.

One budget challenge all Minnesota districts face is the special education cross-subsidy. The special education cross-subsidy is general fund money that districts spend on required (and morally imperative) services for students with disabilities. In fiscal year 2020, Northfield Public Schools spent approximately \$5 million out of a \$55 million bud-

get on the cross-subsidy. To be clear, these required services are critical to meet the educational needs of children with disabilities. However, the cross-subsidy has a cascading effect on general education programming. These impacts can include larger class sizes or reduced programming and services. That also impacts special education students because they are general education students first.

In St. Paul, legislators are considering how to use the projected \$9.3 billion budget surplus responsibly. There are competing ideas for these hard earned resources. One investment that would positively impact nearly every district in Minnesota is to fully fund the special education cross-subsidy. Fully supporting these services will relieve the general fund pressure that many

Minnesota districts, including Northfield, face right now. The cost of doing so is \$780 million, something that is well within the grasp of a Legislature that has more than ten times that in its projected surplus. The special education cross-subsidy is not a new problem. If our state government cannot address this problem with this surplus, there is little chance they will ever address it.

A combination of fewer students, state underfunding, and budget challenges like the special education cross-subsidy have resulted in deficit spending two of the last three years in Northfield. We have maintained a budget reserve that has allowed us to survive the initial impacts of declining enrollment and the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. We

have saved a substantial portion of our federal COVID-19 relief aid for budget stabilization. As a responsible school district, we will make these expenditure adjustments to align with the budget impact of lower enrollment. However, it doesn't have to be this way. Right now, our call to action is insisting the Legislature use less than 10% of its forecasted surplus to eliminate the special education cross-subsidy shortfall. Please consider contacting your state representative and senator, advocating for this single strategic investment that will have a cascading impact with positive results for Minnesota schools, especially Northfield.

Matt Hillmann, Ed.D. is Superintendent of Northfield District Schools

Northfield Garden Club: Founded in 1950

What comes to mind when you think of the Northfield Garden Club? Colorful flowers in planters on Bridge Square and along the Riverwalk — or baskets on the Pedestrian bridge below the Cannon River falls in downtown Northfield — or hanging baskets on downtown lamp posts? Or perhaps the butterfly, dragonfly, and bee pollinator gardens in Riverside Park?

But I bet very few of you know that the garden club also was responsible, through the Landscape Partnership Program, for the corridor of 149 trees added by the club in 2012 and 2014 along Highway 3 south from the Dairy Queen to St Olaf Ave and from the Cannon River bridge south to Jefferson Parkway by Allina.

Another View

Elizabeth Olson

NGC also provides grant money to individuals or groups to pursue gardening projects: landscaping at the depot, creating a butterfly garden in front of the former Greenvale School, developing landscaping around the pergola in Riverside Park and around the gazebo along the river by 2nd St, plus adding the tables and umbrellas along the Riverwalk.

I could go on and on but this is not about garden club's accomplishments and ongoing contributions toward a vibrant sense of community spirit that has visitors returning to Northfield again and again. This is a call to support the purpose of

the NGC to advance and promote the art and science of horticulture and encourage all forms of home and civic gardening projects in Northfield.

It takes more than just the gardening club to accomplish this. It takes YOU, the citizens, elected officials, city employees, and neighborhood friends all pitching in to create an old-fashioned, small town feel in Northfield. Plant a tree, water a tree, trim a tree, plant a flower, and pull a weed. Bet you can't stop with just one!

Visit www.TheNorthfieldGardenClub.org for more information. And join us at one of our monthly meetings held the second Tuesday of each month. Guests are always welcome.

Elizabeth Olson, president Northfield Garden Club

Change toward healthy relationships can be gauged

Meaningful change within a relationship can be difficult to undertake successfully. For relationships in which there are unhealthy dynamics and one partner suffers as the result, gauging the progress of sought-after change can be fraught with issues — many related to power and control.

For the purposes of this article, I will use male pronouns for the perpetrator in the relationship and female for the victim since the vast majority of relationship violence cases follow that pattern. It is important to note, however, that there are situations in which the female is the perpetrator and these dynamics also do, of course, occur in same-sex relationships.

By the time a relationship is at its breaking point and the perpetrator says he is willing to change, it can be difficult for the victim to gauge whether progress is really being made. It is possible, however, to look at actions and behaviors in a way that indicates whether there is true and lasting change taking place.

A good place to start is whether he has admitted fully to his bad behavior in the relationship. Has he stopped making excuses? Has he stopped blaming her? Has he accepted responsibility?

Another good indication is whether he is carrying his weight in the home. In general,



Another View

Erica Staab-Absher

women are taught to take responsibility for the quality of the relationship and the smooth functioning of the family. However, it is important to achieve a balance that results in the responsibility and the workload being shared appropriately.

There is a related behavior called "weaponized incompetence" in which one member of the relationship feigns an inability to successfully complete tasks. This results in the other partner taking on additional responsibilities which can be as benign as loading the dishwasher or as critical as parenting.

This unwillingness to cooperate doesn't nourish the relationship and, in fact, can lead to a combative dynamic in which the victim feels overwhelmed and resentful.

Paying attention to the perpetrator's actions during disagreements can also be an indication of whether he is truly evidencing healthy relationship behavior. Does he revert to old patterns? Does he remain respectful of his partner? Does he resort to threats of violence? Does he accept the consequences of his actions?

It is important to note that

the perpetrator will only be willing to change his behavior if he is motivated to do so. He has gained power and control and he enjoys all of the benefits without any of the work. The victim must make it clear that his behavior is no longer acceptable and, in fact, that he will lose everything if he doesn't change.

Reaching out to resources that can help change behavior is important but, again, be mindful of who is taking responsibility for the change. One way for a partner to show his commitment to improving is for him to be in charge of making appointments. His continuing commitment includes showing up and staying committed to change over time.

Another way to measure change is how he responds to boundary setting and the shifting responsibility. In order for things to change, things must change. Either partner can start that process but, for meaningful change to happen, both partners must be willing to shift toxic and difficult dynamics.

If you or someone you know wants to change, please reach out. We can connect you to resources that can help.

Erica Staab-Absher is executive director of the HOPE Center. Reach the center at 507-332-0882.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Too many "wars"

To the Editor:

America has had too many "wars" in so-called countries — one of which was nothing but a landlocked desert run by superstitious idiots.

Remember the guy in the flight jacket shouting "Mission accomplished!" on an aircraft carrier? We'd be better off invading Grenada again!

At present a real country with a Christian civilization going back over 1,000 years is threatened by a cabal of criminals. Our response is to have another Munich conference and "negotiate" a "peace." It's 1939 all over again!

I hope our leaders in Munich — including Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) — have packed their umbrellas.

Chester Graham
Northfield

This is not freedom

To the editor

How many more innocent children must be sacrificed on the crucifix of the second amendment? This is not freedom. It is enslavement to fear. It is immoral and uncivilized.

Jon P. Frasz
Northfield

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rep.pat.garofalo@house.mn 651-296-1069

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St. Paul, MN 55155 sen.rich.draheim@senate.mn 651-296-5558

Sen. Matt Little, (District 58)
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sen.matt.little@senate.mn 651-296-5252

Gov. Tim Walz
130 State Capitol 75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-201-3400

COMMUNITY

The Northfield Arts Guild is proud to announce 'Newsies Jr!'

The Northfield Arts Guild is proud to announce our next season's Purple Door Youth Theater show will be "Newsies Jr!"

Purple Door Youth Theater is an immersive educational theater experience. Elementary, middle and high school students are involved with every aspect of producing a show like performing, designing, building, marketing and ushering in a safe and supportive environment.

PDYT Founder, Rachel Haider will be directing the show, and is joined by Music Director Liz Shepley and Choreographer Jana Hirsch.

"Newsies, Jr. is a dream come true for our Purple Door Youth Theater musical team," says Haider. "It's a show that all three of us have wanted to bring to Northfield since seeing the original film way back in the 1990s- long before it was penned for the stage. Based on a true story, this remarkable tale teaches us about standing up for what is fair and just. Through amazing song and dance, it's a story about strength and hope. PDYT strives to help our youth celebrate and improve their lives and community, just like the Newsies do. We can't wait to Seize the Day!"

Youth grades 4 through 12 are encouraged to audition as actors, dedicated technicians, or both. PDYT is a tuition and audition/interview based educational theater program. Registration is available to those in the cast or crew following auditions/tech interviews. Scholarships may be available.

Auditions will be held Fall 2022, and information will be posted on our website at www.northfieldartsguild.org.



Student wins Red Cross scholarship

Maya Deschamp, of Faribault, hosted an American Red Cross blood drive and earned a \$1,500 scholarship as a result of her lifesaving efforts.



Deschamp

As part of the Red Cross Leaders Save Lives program, the Northfield High School junior hosted a blood drive at the Northfield Police Department on Dec. 30, which collected 63 blood donations.

Blood drive hosts were entered into a drawing for a scholarship and Deschamp was chosen as a winner. She was also awarded a gift card.

Although Deschamps does not know anyone who has ever needed blood products, she understands the importance of having blood available.

"Blood is always needed, and I saw a way to help people in a big way by giving a small bit of my time," she said. "Host-

ing a blood drive is an experience that pushed my leadership skills, along with helping people who are in need of blood."

Deschamps is planning on attending a four year college to study chemistry following graduation in 2023.

"I am beyond grateful for this opportunity and blessing," she said. "Never did I think that I would win the scholarship. I just knew that I was on this journey to help those in need."

The Leaders Save Lives program encourages high school and college students to host blood drives to help maintain the blood supply for patients in need of lifesaving transfusions.

For more information visit RedCrossBlood.org/LeadersSaveLives.

NAMES TO NOTE

South Central College — President's and Dean's List

Dundas- Zachary Varner, President's and Dean's List

Nerstrand — Felicity Foxhoven, President's and Dean's List

Northfield — Jonathan Greer, Dean's List

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COMMUNITY/LOCAL

WHAT'S GOING ON?

The calendar of events is a regular feature of Northfield News. Readers are invited to submit items for publication. Calendar items/events must be open to the public. To submit, email the particulars to news@apgsomn.com

Wednesday, March 9**Stepsister of Northfield AA•**

12:05 p.m., Closed meeting for women who desire to quit drinking. In person and on Zoom, at the United Methodist Church, 1401 Maple St., door 1. Contact Kate at 612-437-0246 for Zoom instructions.

Overeaters Anonymous• 4:30-5:30 p.m., Bethel Ridge Church, 1401 Bethel Ct., Faribault. Use the side door. For people who are recovering from overeating and other food behaviors. Newcomers welcome. 507-339-0962

Friday, March 11

Unity on Division• 10:30 a.m., Hot Spot, 801 Division St. S, Northfield. A.A. group meeting.

Saturday, March 12**Stepsister of Northfield AA•**

9:30 a.m., Closed meeting for women who desire to quit drinking. In person and on Zoom, at United Methodist Church, 1401 Maple St., door 1. Contact Kate at 612-437-0246 Zoom instructions.

Sunday, March 13**Living Alone: Walking Together•**

3 p.m., For all who live alone to meet new friends, and find support, networking and fun with others who also live alone. Call 507-301-5632 for week's location.

Monday, March 14**Stepsister of Northfield AA•**

8 a.m., Closed meeting for women who desire to quit drinking. On Zoom only. Contact Kate at 612-437-0246 for Zoom instructions.

Wednesday, March 16**Stepsister of Northfield AA•**

12:05 p.m., Closed meeting for women who desire to quit drinking. In person and on Zoom, at the United Methodist Church, 1401 Maple St., door 1. Contact Kate at 612-437-0246 for Zoom instructions.

Overeaters Anonymous• 4:30-5:30 p.m., Bethel Ridge Church, 1401 Bethel Ct., Faribault. Use the side door. For people who are recovering from overeating and other food behaviors. Newcomers welcome. 507-339-0962

District jazz bands to present concert

The Northfield Middle School and Northfield High School jazz bands will perform their Spring Concert on Tuesday, March 15th at 7 p.m. in the Northfield High School Theater. Three jazz bands will play that evening: the Northfield Middle School Jazz Band, the Northfield High School Wednesday and Thursday morning jazz bands. The concert is free of charge and is open to the public. Masking is optional in Northfield schools at this time.



Raising healthy kids for three decades

When my husband, Steve, and I moved to Northfield from St. Paul in 1998 with our 2-year-old daughter and infant son, we were looking for a place to put down roots and raise a family. We were attracted by the historic downtown, the reputation of the schools, the rich arts scene, the vibrancy of the two colleges, and the draw of having extended family living here. We joked that we were looking for a "cool small town," and although Northfield seemed to have everything we were looking for, we weren't sure how long we would stay.

I didn't know then about Healthy Community Initiative (HCI), even though it was already established as a nonprofit organization that was making a positive difference in the lives of local youth and families. I didn't become aware of HCI's work until a few years later, after the birth of our third child, when I wrote articles about HCI for the Northfield News. I later joined the HCI Board of Directors and served as a board member for 10 years, gaining an even greater understanding of the importance of HCI's work. In March 2020, I took a job as HCI's commu-



Another View

Joy Riggs

nications coordinator; from that insider vantage point, I acquired a deep appreciation for the dedication of my fellow staff members, as I watched them adeptly pivot to meet the needs of youth and families in Rice County throughout the pandemic.

What exactly is HCI, and what does it do? The organization formed in 1992, when a group of community members and medical professionals joined forces to support youth asset-building in Northfield. Over the years, those efforts expanded to include Faribault and all of Rice County. The organization now provides behind-the-scenes support to more than 30 initiatives, helping them further leverage resources for programs that benefit youth and families. HCI strives to make Rice County a place where youth want to grow up, live, work,

and give back to the community. It has helped bring in more than \$19 million from outside the community to benefit youth.

Collaboration has been key to HCI's success, and as the organization enters its 30th year, we invite you to celebrate with us! HCI is hosting a drive-through celebration and fundraiser on Thursday, April 7, from 7:30-8:30 a.m. at Sechler Park, 1200 Armstrong Road in Northfield. Enjoy coffee and pastries, pick up information about HCI-supported initiatives, and meet staff and board members. For more information, please go to our website, www.healthycommunityinitiative.org. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

As the mom of three now-grown children, I am grateful that my husband and I chose to put down roots in this "cool small town," and I am excited to see what the future holds for our community. I hope to see you next month at the 30th anniversary celebration!

Joy Riggs is the communications coordinator for HCI.

BRIEFLY

MnDOT invites input on freight plan

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is inviting the public to provide their thoughts about the recommended strategies to improve freight mobility and safety in southeast Minnesota.

People can go online and review the draft plan through Monday, March 21. The plan is at district6freightplan.com

The District 6 Freight Plan is being completed by MnDOT to provide a vision and strategies for long-term freight improvements in the region's transportation system.

Public input will help MnDOT finalize the recommended strategies to improve the movement of goods in southeast Minnesota. The final recommendations will affect others using the transportation system, like motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

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RECORDS

Tina Marie Elg

1964 ~ 2022

NORTHFIELD — Tina Elg, age 57, passed away Saturday morning, March 5, 2022, at Fairview Southdale Hospital in Edina, after suffering an allergic reaction a few days before.

Tina Marie Elg was born October 20, 1964, at the Northfield Hospital to Lorene Ardis Elg (Schiller) and Gerald Walfred Elg. She was baptized, confirmed and attended St. John's Lutheran Church in Northfield, and she remained in Northfield until her death. Tina was a graduate of Northfield Senior High School class of 1983.

Tina had a beautiful, welcoming smile and an infectious laugh that could light up any room. She loved sports, crime mystery shows, music and animals. She especially loved being mama to her many fur babies over the years. Her greatest love was being at the lake and playing Yahtzee with her mother and best friend.

Survivors include her mother Lorene Elg and Lorene's companion Steve Sarafolean, her brother Adam Elg and Adam's husband Roger Miller, her uncles and aunts Donald & Margaret Schiller, Joan Springborg, Janice Kettner, Lola Dahmes, David & Jean Schiller, Rodney & Bonnie Leopold, Dudley Leonard, Roger Radatz, James & Kay Schmidt,



Darvin & Ardis Schiller, Douglas & Marcia Schiller, Lloyd & Elizabeth Jacobson, Jolene Krueger, Daniel & Vicki Schiller, Larry & Jeanne Elg, many cousins, other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her father Gerald, her grandparents Burt and Emeline Elg and Edward and Mildred Schiller, her uncles James Elg, Robert Kettner, Delbert Johnson, Louis Springborg, Dennis Schiller, Arvin Dahmes, Richard Quesenberry and Andy Marsh, and her aunts Eileen Raddatz, Lou-Ann Leopold, Roberta Johnson, Donna Leonard, Jan Elg and Shirley Elg.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00AM, Saturday, March 12, 2022, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Northfield. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service and a reception will follow.

www.northfieldfuneral.com

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Larry L. Sargent

1948 ~ 2022

NORTHFIELD — Larry Sargent, age 73, of Northfield, passed away at his home with his wife and daughter at his side on Saturday, March 5, 2022.

Larry was born June 18, 1948, to Ruth (Fredenburg) Sargent in Northfield. He entered the United States Navy in 1965 and served during the Vietnam War. After receiving his rank as petty officer 3rd class, and his honorable discharge, he returned to Northfield. Larry went on to receive his associate degree in tool and die. He was employed by Crown Cork and Seal in Faribault and later for Mercury Steel Manufacturing. He was united in marriage to Melba Joy Howell on May 16, 1998, at Little Prairie United Methodist Church. The couple made their home in Northfield.

First and foremost, Larry was an awesome grandpa. When the grandchildren were over to play, Larry would get right down on the floor with them. He loved their visits. He had a great sense of humor and always gave his son and grandsons, who also served in the Army and Marines, a hard time saying that being in the Navy was best. Larry enjoyed watching all sports, but especially the Army/Navy football game. He had a kind heart, very giving and donated many of his items to charity. He was a proud veteran and a proud husband. If there was remodeling projects to do in the house, he would often ask if it was good enough for his wife, Joy? Not that she was particular, but he just



wanted it to be right for her. He was very thoughtful and considerate. Many times, Larry and Joy would just get in the car and go for a drive just to see new scenery and spend time together.

Larry is survived by his wife Joy of Northfield; his children Kathy Sargent of Beloit, WI, Ben Sargent of Inver Grove Heights, Mike (Stacy) James of Albert Lea, Chuck (Sheri) James of Dodge Center, David James of Coos Bay, OR, and James (Dawn) Ingham of Columbus Junction, IA/Dundas. He is also survived by nine grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces. Larry was preceded in death by his siblings Gertrude Moravec, Mary Ann Brayton, Judy Jones, Linda Sargent, Donald Sargent and two children Jack and Margaret.

Funeral services will be at Hosanna Church in Dundas on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, beginning at 11:00 AM with Reverend Dean Swenson officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service in the church. Interment will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis. biermanfuneralhome.com.

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Leah M Lamberty

1935 ~ 2022

ELGIN, IL — Leah M Lamberty, 86, of Elgin, IL peacefully passed away, surrounded by her children on February 27, 2022 at Grand Strand Medical Center, Myrtle Beach, SC. She was born on May 17, 1935 in Northfield, MN the only child of Lee & Mae (Letourneau) Larkin.

Leah attended St Mary's Nursing School. In 1956 she married Paul Lamberty, whom she met in grade school. They enjoyed the many ventures of life together, until Paul's passing in 2012. Leah was a devoted mother who spent years sewing clothes for family and who was an excellent baker. She will always be remembered for her delicious blueberry coffee cake and homemade bread. After her kids were raised, Leah worked at Osco Pharmacy as a Pharmacy Technician. During her retirement, she spent time in Myrtle Beach where she devoted countless hours organizing social events at her condo building, including potluck dinners, morning coffees, book club, and creating a library of books for other guests and residents. She also loved playing and teaching Mahjong. Leah

established treasured friendships in every community where she lived.

Survivors include her 3 children, Ronald (Loree) Lamberty, Kenneth (Eileen) Lamberty, and Julie (Gerhard) Zentner, 9 grandchildren, Emily (Rory) Endres, Stephen (Nicole) Lamberty, Nicholas Lamberty, Claire (Trevor) Thomas, Kelly (Eric) Swanson, Katie Lamberty, Erik (Taylor) Zentner, Brett and Alex Zentner, 8 great-grandchildren, and other family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and beloved husband. Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, March 11, 2022 at 10:30 AM at St. Laurence Catholic Church, Elgin. Burial will be private. Visitation will be held on Thursday, March 10 from 4-7 PM at the Laird Funeral Home in Elgin and on Friday Morning at the church from 9:30 AM until the time of Mass. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND), Mankato, MN, St. Laurence Catholic Church, Elgin, IL or charity of your choice. For information call 847-741-8800 or www.lairdfamilyfuneralservices.com

Milburn Allen "Red" Jackson

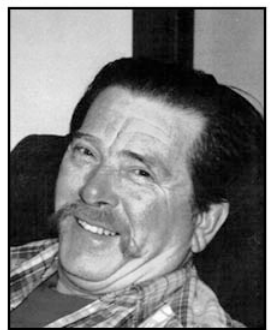
1936 ~ 2022

FARIBAULT — Milburn 'Red' Jackson, age 86 of Faribault, died on Monday, March 7, 2022 at Faribault Senior Living.

Private family services were held.

Milburn Allen, the son of Robert and Eleanor (Berg) Jackson, was born March 3, 1936 near Nisswa, MN. He attended high school in Wisconsin prior to serving in the U.S. Army. Following his service, he farmed with his father-in-law. He was united in marriage to Marlys Waxson on March 27, 1954. Red worked in auto body for many years and owned and operated Red's Auto Body in Dundas.

He is survived by two daughters, Linda (Robin) Gilligan and Cathie Spaulding, both of Faribault; four grandchildren: Holly Hubers, Dustin (Eva) Gilligan, Whitney (Brian) Bengen and Andrew (Abbey) Tussing; 10 great grandchildren: Bailey, Tegan, Casey, Rylee, Muriel,



Sophia, Sloane, Emery, Charlotte and Case; great grandchildren, Payton and Paxton and a sister, Julie (Jerry) Olson of ND.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Marlys; a daughter, Sue McAllister, a great-grandchild, Devan; two sons-in-law, Tom Spaulding and Tom McAllister and siblings, Dee Dee, Jenny, Robert and Bill.

Visit boldtfuneralhome.com for information and guest book.

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Mayor Pownell invites community to the State of the City Address

Mayor Rhonda Pownell invites the entire community to the 2022 State of the City Address on Monday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Carleton College's Weitz Center for Creativity, Kracum Performance Hall, 320 Third Street. Mayor Pownell will celebrate what Northfield has accomplished this past year and what is being worked on this upcoming year.

The program will feature live music, video presentations of annual awards such as the Mayor for a Day Essay Contest, Board & Commission Member Excellence Award, Human Rights Award and the Employee Excellence Award.

Attendees are expected to be fully vaccinated and boosted (if eligible) or to have received a negative COVID-19 test result no more than 24 hours before the event. ASL and Spanish interpreters will be available.

A recording of the event will be available in English and Spanish on Northfield Public Broadcasting channels 180 and 187 and on the city's YouTube Channel throughout the year.

Northfield Garden Club: Best Garden Plants of 2022

The Northfield Garden Club will meet remotely via Zoom Tuesday, March 8 at 1 p.m. Bernie Emery, a certified nursery & landscape professional at Knecht's Nurseries, will share information about the best garden plants of 2022. A short meeting will follow the program.

Guests are welcome. Attendees will be asked to sign in. The "rename" feature accomplishes this.

Go to the garden club's website www.TheNorthfieldGardenClub.org for more detailed Zoom meeting information.

LOCAL

Final suspect pleads guilty in deadly burglary

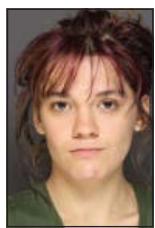
A woman who was involved in a burglary that left a rural Northfield man dead has pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting first-degree assault.

Ryann Elizabeth Smith, 23, of White Bear Lake, pleaded guilty to the felony charge March 1 in Dakota County District Court. She initially was charged with second-degree murder.

According to court documents:

Smith and three other people burglarized the home of Chris Jon Lafontaine, 55, in Greenvale Township on July 1-2.

A neighbor reported seeing intruders and Dakota County Sheriff's Office deputies found Lafonte dead in a bathroom. His hands and feet were bound and a rag and glove were tied over his mouth.



Ryann Smith

An autopsy revealed he died from asphyxia.

Smith reportedly told an accomplice she hit Lafontaine on the head with a large flashlight and he lost consciousness.

Nicholas Alan Taylor, 29, of St. Paul, reportedly tied up Lafontaine and later told an accomplice he might have tied up Lafontaine too tightly and killed him.

Smith is being held in the Dakota County Jail without bail. She will be sentenced in June.

"We are pleased that Ms. Smith has taken responsibility for her role in the senseless death of Mr. Lafontaine," Dakota County Attorney Kathy Kena said in a statement.

Smith is the final suspect to plead guilty to a felony charge in connection to the case. Taylor pleaded guilty to second-degree murder last month and is in jail pending sentencing in June.

Timothy William Tuit, of Welch, and Stephanie Marie Peabody, of South St. Paul, pleaded guilty in December to aiding an offender and will be sentenced in May.

Judicial Branch seeks public input

The Minnesota Judicial Branch is seeking input on ways the courts can increase access and improve customer service and public accountability.

The Minnesota Judicial Branch Strategic Planning Survey invites participants to share feedback on the Judicial Branch's three strategic goals: "access to justice," "effective administration of justice" and "public trust and accountability."

Responses to the survey will help the Judicial Branch identify short-term and long-term priorities for its strategic planning. The survey is open through March 14.

"The lessons we have learned from a shift to virtual hearings during the pandemic, and rapidly evolving technology, are driving forces behind our strategic planning," said State Court Administrator Jeff Shorba. "Equally as important is how the courts should adapt and evolve to reflect what Min-

nesotans expect to see from their court system. This survey is an opportunity for the public to help shape the Judicial Branch's strategic priorities."

The Judicial Branch creates a strategic plan every two years. This year, the Judicial Branch is also engaging in long-term strategic planning to assist in developing priorities and projects over the next 10 years.

Previous strategic plans developed by the Judicial Branch have led to initiatives including eCourtMN, which is an electronic court access system that allows people to view, file, or add information to court cases in district courts; enhanced online access to district court case documents; a mobile application for people summoned for jury service; and new resources to support people who choose to represent themselves in court proceedings.

Faribault man accused of assault with metal box

A Faribault man allegedly hit a woman he knows with a metal box, damaging the woman's teeth.

Chalin Riley Marcum, 20, was charged with felony assault and gross misdemeanor domestic assault Feb. 22 in Rice County District Court.

Police were called to an assault at an apartment in Northfield on Feb. 19, according to a court complaint.

A woman said Marcum threw objects at her, dragged her and punched her in the head multiple times. He also reportedly hit her in the face

with a metal lockbox that was around 1-foot wide.

One of the woman's front teeth was partially broken off and another tooth was knocked loose. She also had cuts in and around her mouth and a bump above an eye, the charges say.

Officers found blood and

broken items strewn about the woman's apartment.

Marcum had left before officers arrived but he was later located and arrested. He has since been released from jail with an order to make a first court appearance on April 12.

Faribault man sentenced for burglary, fleeing, drug crimes

By KRISTINE GOODRICH

kristine.goodrich@apgsomn.com

A former Faribault man's stay in prison has been extended following new convictions for fleeing police, burglary and drug possession in Rice County and drug possession in Steele County.

Benjamin Jacob Hunt, 32, recently was sentenced in four different cases. He pleaded guilty to a felony charge in each case.

Hunt already was serving prison time for five crimes in four different counties.

He received concurrent sentences in the four new cases. The longest of those sentences will keep him in prison until at least 2027.

In that case, filed in May in Steele County, Hunt was involved in a plan to go to Colorado to buy methamphetamine and marijuana. Two accomplices were stopped in Steele County with a quarter-pound of meth and over a third-pound of marijuana, the charges said. Phone messages led inves-

tigators to Hunt, who admitted he helped secure funding for the drug purchase.

Hunt pleaded guilty to felony drug possession and was sentenced last month to 111 months in prison, minus time already served.

Hunt also was sentenced last week for three crimes in Rice County.

He received 30 months in prison for breaking into the Ziggy's gas station in Northfield in February 2020.

He climbed in through a rooftop vent, took three cartons of cigarettes, then broke a glass door to get out, the charges said. He was identified by members of the public after the Northfield Police Department released surveillance images of the burglar.

Hunt also was sentenced to 19 months in prison for fleeing Faribault police officers in July 2020.

He sped away after an officer stopped him and told him he was under arrest on warrants, the charges said. He drove on the wrong side of Seventh Street NW, ran a red light, crashed into a parked car and ran away on foot before he was caught.

Hunt was sentenced to 21 months in prison after he was caught with drugs in his possession in December 2020. An officer observed Hunt had a marijuana joint behind his ear during a traffic stop, charges said.

A subsequent search of his pockets found methamphetamine and cocaine.

Hunt is at the Stillwater Correctional Facility. He already was serving time on prior convictions for auto theft and drug possession in Steele County, burglaries in Anoka and Dakota counties, and fleeing police in Goodhue County.

In Minnesota prison sentences are served concurrently, meaning only the longest of multiple sentences is applicable. The final third of the sentence is typically served on supervised release.

Hunt will be eligible for release in February 2027.



Hunt

Charges dismissed in domestic assault case

Charges against a Northfield man accused of strangling a woman have been dropped.

The woman who accused Jeffrey Lee Evenmo, 40, requested the charges be dismissed, according to court documents.

The threats and domestic as-

sault charges were filed last fall and alleged Evenmo assaulted, choked and threatened to kill a woman he knows. Evenmo told police he held the woman down after she punched him.

The case was scheduled to go to trial Feb. 28 but was instead

dismissed on Feb. 23.

In a document dismissing the charges, Assistant Rice County Attorney Adam Johnson said the woman's attorney has reported she wants the case to be dismissed and is "unwilling to speak with our office prior to trial."

"Due to the nature of the charges and evidence in this matter, the victim's unwillingness to communicate with the state hinders any further prosecution at this time," Johnson wrote. "This dismissal is without prejudice to the state's right to re-charge."

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LOCAL

County approves solar fields near Northfield

By KRISTINE GOODRICH

kristine.goodrich@apgsomn.com

Two solar panel arrays are coming to the Northfield area.

The Rice County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday OK'd two 1-megawatt solar developments on rural properties east of the city.

Both projects are being developed by Novel Green Solar — a St. Paul-based company. The energy generated will be fed to the existing Xcel Energy electrical grid, according to application materials.

For both projects, construction will occur over the summer and take approximately five weeks.

The larger development will have 53 solar panels on 10 to 12 acres on the north side of 90th St. E., around 4 miles east of Northfield. The panels are going on a 156-acre property, which is zoned agricultural and owned by the Gwendolyn Green Trust.

The nearest residence is over 750 feet away, and there is a large grove of trees in between, the application notes.

The other approved solar array will have 32 panels on the east side of Hall Avenue, just

east of the city and Carlton College. The panels will be located on 8-to-10 acres of a 67-acre property owned by Michael Peterson. The site is zoned as urban reserve.

"There is significant separation and screening from nearby residences," the application states.

Requirements of the conditional use permits include a minimum 70-foot setback from roads and a security fence. The property must be returned to agricultural land if the solar panels are removed.

"The impact to the area is low from a construction, operation and end of life perspective," Novel Green Solar representative Scott Tempel wrote in the applications. "Construction and setup are not invasive. Solar energy production is a passive activity, and the system does not alter the underlying nature of the land which can be returned to any other appropriate use."

No members of the public objected to either proposal, and county commissioners approved them without any discussion.

Both developments will have dual-axis panels, which are mounted on poles and can move in all directions to capture the most sunlight.



Two solar gardens near Northfield will join several already in operation in the region, including this in Faribault on Rita Carver's property. (File photo courtesy of Nokomis Energy)

County commissioners also approved a permit amendment to allow dual-axis panels at another previously approved solar project. That 32-panel solar development is happening at 7609

Dennison Blvd., which is 1 mile

south of Northfield.

Reach Associate Editor
Kristine Goodrich at 507-333-3134. ©Copyright 2022 APG Media of Southern Minnesota. All rights reserved.



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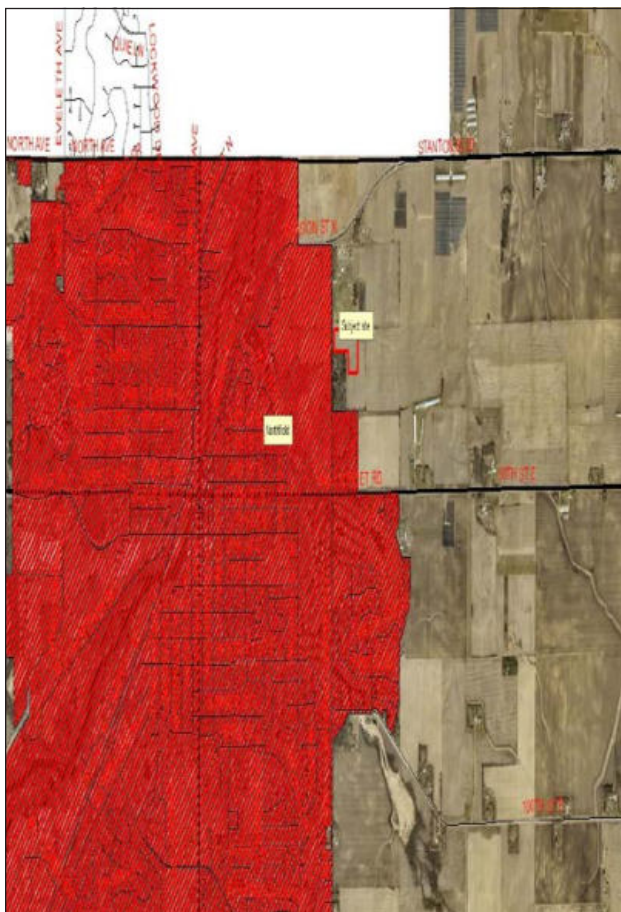
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LOCAL

Researchers: Kernza at a turning point

By KRISTINE GOODRICH

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Kernza is in the “valley of death,” presenters at a University of Minnesota conference about the new crop said Monday.

The perennial grain is appearing to have environmental benefits and yields are increasing, university researchers and commercial partners explained at the meeting in Dundas. Host Colin Cureton and other presenters said that the now the experimental crop is at a turning point.

The crop has been successfully developed and launched. But it needs to be successfully commercialized to make it out of the “valley of death,” according to Cureton.

Kernza is a cousin of wheat being developed by the University of Minnesota and others. Southern Minnesota has become one of the most prevalent homes for the budding crop.

“It has a long way to go in the commercialization process, but it’s not just a new crop,” said Cureton, director of adoption and scaling for the University of Minnesota Forever Green Initiative.

Farmers and others interested in Kernza were invited to the informational meeting held in-person in Dundas as well as virtually. Attendees learned about the history of the crop and its future prospects.

The University of Minnesota released its first Kernza variety in 2019.

Nearly 4,000 acres of Kernza were grown throughout the country last year, according to Sophia Skelly, a researcher with the Land Institute, which also is developing crop.

University professor and

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For more information about Kernza see the following websites:
www.kernza.org
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researcher Jake Jungers acknowledged that being among the early growers of Kernza is an “inherently risky endeavor.” But he said the university is “committed to providing the resources to you all.”

The presenters said early research is suggesting Kernza has a number of environmental benefits. Its deep roots protect soil from erosion and might improve soil quality. It requires less fertilizer and pesticide than many traditional crops and results in less runoff of chemicals into bodies of water.

The grain also has several prospective uses, the presenters said. There is not yet consensus on which markets to concentrate on first, according to Cureton.

“We might have different visions but we’re all on the same team,” he said.

Potential business paths include a mass market food ingredient, a premium niche ingredient, or joining the United States Department of Agriculture Climate-Smart Commodities program.

Kernza yields have been increasing 5-10% per year, Jungers said, adding that that rate will not be sustainable. The university has new varieties in development, he added, and will release the next one in 2023 or 2024.

Reach Associate Editor
 Kristine Goodrich at 507-333-3134. ©Copyright 2022 APG Media of Southern Minnesota. All rights reserved.



The future of a new perennial grain called Kernza is at a turning post, researchers said at a Monday presentation in Dundas. (Photo courtesy of The Land Institute)



Denise Mulenberg, right, receives a LocAle beer sample from brewer Jim Parejko during a Kernza event in St. Peter July 22. The beer, Prairie Roots, was on tap over the summer at LocAle. It included 15% Kernza, a new perennial wheat-like grain grown primarily in Minnesota. (File photo/southernminn.com)

Accountant Gary Bruggenthies is running for Minnesota House of Reps seat

By SPENCER BEISSEL

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Gary Bruggenthies is among those concerned with the country’s financial state.

With a background in accounting and the drive to make a difference, Bruggenthies says he is ready to serve in state office. The Wheatland Township resident is

running as a Republican for the Minnesota House of Representatives District 58A seat.

“I’ve got time, energy and experience,” Bruggenthies said. “I’ve got a lot of gas left in my tank, and I’ve got a lot of passion to leave things better for the next generation.”

As a longtime accountant and father of six, Bruggenthies said that he has a lot of experience managing money.

“I work at the highway department in Jordan. I’ve worked in Scott County for 23 years now. I’m an accountant by trade. I’ve been involved in politics in my own world in Wheatland Town-

ship since 2006.”

Bruggenthies announced his run for the District 58 seat at a recent event put on by the Rice County Republicans. The newly drawn district includes most of northern Rice County.

Rice County GOP Chair Jim Flaherty called Bruggenthies “fiscally responsible.”

“He’s a good person who understands how the government works, which is always an important thing,” Flaherty said. “It should cut his learning curve down.”

Bruggenthies is nearing retirement from the Highway Department in Jordan and is looking forward to the next stage of his life.

“Like I said before, I have a lot of energy,” Bruggenthies said. “How you do anything is how you do everything. I’m assuming I’ll get the nomination on March 26. I’m gonna be a door knocker. I want people to know who I am. I want them to see a face with the name and hear a voice with it.”

Bruggenthies will be seeking local Republican party endorsements.

“Right now, everything is about March 26th,” he said. I will be making calls to delegates and introducing myself, telling them

about who I am. It’s all about taking baby steps.”

Bruggenthies said his children are one of his reasons for running.

“I want my kids to know that I’m handing it off to them. I need them to know to get involved, not to just sit in the stands,” he said.

Bruggenthies said reducing taxes one of his top priorities.

“I think the state needs to focus on decreasing tax revenue,”

he said. “I have a lot of experience squeezing six cents out of a nickel. I think we need to reign back on the spending.”



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LOCAL

Legislators debate what should be done with even larger than expected surplus

By **ANDREW DEZIEL**
Guest Contributor

Minnesota's projected budget surplus ballooned to \$9.25 billion in last week's fiscal forecast, providing a boost to local lawmakers seeking tax relief and additional investments in public safety, housing and infrastructure ahead of this fall's election campaign.

Driven primarily by greater than expected tax revenues, the projected surplus now dwarfs the modest surpluses legislators have enjoyed for most of the last decade. In total, the surplus now sits at roughly 1 out of every 6 dollars collected over the biennium.

Still, Minnesota Management and Budget Commissioner Jim Schowalter was quick to emphasize that the state's fiscal picture remains uncertain. He pointed to a potential rise in energy prices linked to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, along with inflation and the potential for new COVID variants, as possible stumbling blocks, which could slow economic growth.

"It's a challenging time to be making a long-term budget projection," he said.

The announcement marked a dramatic end to the first month of a legislative session that has so far been heavy on sweeping, expensive policy proposals but light on the bipartisan cooperation needed to shepherd any bills through the state's divided Legislature.

Both sides are tailoring their proposals with an eye to securing public approval, because, along with Gov. Tim Walz and the full Minnesota Executive Council (Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan, Attorney General Keith Ellison, Secretary of State Steve Simon and State Auditor Julie Blaha) all 201 legislators will be on the ballot this fall.

Unemployment insurance

Legislators will have several months left in which to debate the merits of competing proposals around public safety, tax reform, infrastructure and other key issues. However, the issue of the state's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund is set to come to a head much sooner.

That's because the state only has until March 15 to refill the fund, which went from having \$1.5 billion in reserves to being \$1.2 billion in the red, due to the large number of benefits

paid out during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Those dollars were effectively borrowed from the federal government and are required by law to be repaid this spring. Unless legislators agree to spend a portion of their surplus on repaying that debt, businesses would incur increased payroll taxes.

Legislation to replenish the trust fund has been endorsed by Gov. Tim Walz's Administration and legislators of both parties, but the House DFL and Senate Republicans have taken different approaches to the issue and have not yet come to a compromise.

House DFLers have tried to tie the effort to their large "Hero Pay" bill, which would provide about \$1 billion in bonuses for frontline workers. Last fall, the House DFL and Senate Republicans agreed to the framework for a much smaller "Hero Pay" bill of around \$250 million.

An effort to tie the bills together in the Senate failed, with senators opting instead last month to pass a standalone bill authored by Sen. Rich Draheim, R-Madison Lake, to provide the full \$2.7 billion to replenish the



Schowalter



Lippert



Draheim

trust fund on a 55-11 vote.

Walz and his handpicked Commissioner of Employment and Economic Development, Northfield native Steve Grove, have also endorsed allocating \$2.7 billion for a full replenishment of the Unemployment Trust Fund.

House DFLers have backed legislation that would repay only the \$1.2 billion owed to the federal government. However, Grove has warned that only the full replenishment of the fund would avert payroll tax increases.

Tax cuts

Averting those tax increases has become a central rallying cry for local Republican legislators. A majority of the House GOP caucus has signed onto the lower chamber's companion bill of the Senate, offered by Rep. Barb Haley, R-Red Wing.

Rep. Susan Akland, R-St. Peter, is a co-sponsor and argues that it should be the Legislature's most immediate priority.

However, she hopes that legislators will follow that up with broad-based tax relief, as has been proposed by House and Senate Republicans.

"What I'm hearing from my constituents, with few exceptions, is that this is taxpayer money, and we should return it," she said.

Drawing a contrast with Walz's proposals for a one-time tax refund, Rep. Brian Pfarr, R-Le Sueur, said that given the state's fiscal situation, he believes that legislators can and should enact ongoing tax relief.

"I still want to get it back to the taxpayers who paid it in and not in the form of a check," he said. "I think we should look at meaningful, permanent tax reform."

Other local Republicans were quick to emphasize their belief

that the large majority of the surplus should go to tax cuts. Under the plan backed by Senate Republicans, the first tier income tax bracket would be roughly halved, and taxes on Social Security benefits eliminated.

Prioritized spending

Rep. Todd Lippert, DFL-Northfield, laid out a different approach. Lippert argued that the surplus has been driven by a rise in corporate profits and should be spent on helping working Minnesotans with investments in childcare, housing and health care.

The vice chair for the House's Long Term Care Division during his first term in the Legislature, Lippert said that the surplus could also allow for a much needed increase in reimbursement rates for the state's personal care attendants.

Lippert also indicated that he would like to see a boost to the state's education funding, as well. In particular, he said it's time for the state to address the ongoing special education cross subsidy, whereby the state and federal governments haven't provided the funding needed to cover

special education mandates, often forcing local districts to cut programming in other areas to compensate.

Sen. Nick Frentz, DFL-North Mankato, also called for more investment in education after "a difficult two years in the classroom." Frentz said he hopes that additional investment in education could reduce class sizes.

Frentz, the ranking member on the Senate's Energy and Utilities Committee, also hopes to see the state pass legislation to help combat rising energy costs. With inflation eating into pocketbooks, he said that investments in childcare, housing and energy affordability could go a long way to helping keep the cost of living manageable for working families.

As chair of the Senate Housing Committee, Sen. Draheim will play a key role in crafting any final legislation around the topic. Draheim reiterated that his focus will be on promoting single family homeownership using reforms designed to engage the free market rather than government spending, with a particular emphasis on relaxing regulations.

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LOCAL

Teen space opens in Pye Room at Northfield Public Library

By PAMELA THOMPSON

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Northfield teens now have another option when they want to hang out with their friends outside of home and school.

They can go to the library.

They could do that before, of course, but the idea for a teens-only space at the Northfield Public Library had been tossed around for some time. It didn't come to fruition until Library Director Natalie Draper tapped Catherine Stricklan, youth services librarian, with creating an inviting and colorful "third space" for teens.

Once the Pye Room was chosen as the location, and its collection of historic tomes were moved temporarily into Draper's office, then the repurposing of the original 1910 space into a 21st century theme began in earnest.

Stricklan, whose bubble tea earrings bounced on either side of her pink hair, as she talked excitedly about the teen space, said the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) had already put together a list of ideas for decorating the second floor room, as well as recommendations for fun and functional programs and events.

"This space can be in transition for a while," said Stricklan. "It can adapt to the needs of the teens."

The room itself comes with a lot of history

Years after the Carnegie Library was built in 1910, the cozy room immediately to the right of the stairs on the second floor was designated as the Pye Reading Room. William W. Pye was a Northfield attorney and bank president (1870-1915).

Many of the books in the Pye collection were housed in locked cabinets and on the original Carnegie Library wooden shelves. Draper said some of the volumes included old genealogy books, a complete collection of Northfield High School yearbooks and old books about Jesse James and the Younger Brothers.

Draper explained that libraries around the country have focused programming around teens because for so long they were an underserved population with distinct customer service needs.



Catherine Stricklan, youth services librarian, sits in the new teen space as she discussed her work with Northfield teens on planning fun, inspiring age-appropriate programs and events. (Pamela Thompson/southernminn.com)

"When I was a teen, I remember not feeling welcomed," she said. "We want teens to be themselves, be expressive and feel welcome. We thought to give them their own defined space, where they are still visible but separate from the rest of the library."

Draper said TAB has been a great resource as a service group that "gives teens a voice at our library and makes the library a better place for teens to visit and find what they need."

Draper said the teen advisory board had been in place well before the teen space was conceived. Any teens in middle school and high school can become TAB members. TAB members volunteer to plan, promote, and implement programs for teen events, recommend materials for the library's collection, and serve as a voice for teens in the community.

Teen space taking shape, forming a personality

Stricklan has been in her youth services position for one year. She arrived in Northfield fresh from a fellowship, where she shadowed a teen librarian in Darien, Connecticut, who had a special way of relating with teenagers, who can sometimes feel awkward, distrustful or reticent when talking with adults.

"She was a kind and compassionate leader who had a unique vibe with teens," Stricklan said. "I learned a lot from her."

With a lot of input from TAB, the room has begun to take shape and develop a personality. Right now, pur-

ple couches, blue walls, a flat screen TV, Ikea corner shelving, young adult books and graphic novels, board games, a Nintendo station, and a magnetic word board fill the space. The wish list of new items includes beanbag chairs, lap desks and a charging station.

"The room has reflect teens' needs and be teen specific," Stricklan said.

Other decorative ideas teens want include book posters, a record player, big letters spelling out TEEN SPACE, a comment box, needle-felted mobiles and other teen-made



Blue walls, purple couches and a flat-screen T.V. currently decorate the new teen space on the second floor of the Northfield Public Library. (Pamela Thompson/southernminn.com)

art like pom-pom strings and origami folded crane mobiles.

"We've got to make the big shift from a room housing local history to one where teens feel comfortable," she said.

In just a few weeks since the room transitioned, Stricklan said she's noticed at least two different teen groups using the room. She wants to outline a user's guide explaining how to treat "the little fishbowl room" with respect.

Obviously, respectful users would prohibit loud noises,

restrict loud voices and omit roughhousing, she said.

Already teens have filled the room to play board games like Uno, Dungeon and Dragons and Throw Throw Burrito. Snacks like candy, chips and pizza have been served, but Stricklan said she might have to draw the line on super messy crafts like slime making and tie-dye.

"Those kinds of activities we'll take outside once the weather cooperates," she said.

Stricklan would like to plan

a launch party to attract more teens to the new space beyond the 12 who serve on TAB. She said she's debating about planning an event in April or waiting until the end of the school year.

Stay tuned after spring break for news about the official teen space debut.

"Teens are ephemera," Stricklan said. "They're here, then not here, then new teens come in. We want to be as flexible as possible with their space."

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SOUTHERN MINN

SCENE.COM

ROCK THE LEGION TRI-EIGHT

12-MAR Rock the Legion Tri Eight "American Legion, 137 W. Broadway St., Owatonna" 7-11 p.m. Great tunes on the menu along with plenty of Live-a-tion. Rocking the place with classic hit music from the 70s to the 90s. Great place to meet up with good friends and to kick back and enjoy. <https://go.evnt.com/1033440-0 trieight@yahoo>.

EDITOR'S CHOICE



IV PLAY AT ST. PATRICK'S CELEBRATION LE CENTER

12-MAR IV Play at St. Patrick's Celebration Le Center St. Patrick's Day Celebration "American Legion, 97 S. Park Ave., Le Center" 9:15-11:59 p.m. "Part of the festivities in Le Center for St. Patrick's Day, IV Play rocks the legion." <https://go.evnt.com/1033453-0 editor@southernminnscene.com>



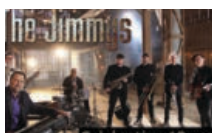
ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

17-MAR St. Patrick's Day Parade St. Peter Ambassadors "South Third Street, S Third Street South Third Street, Saint Peter" 5:30-7 p.m. Annual family friendly parade runs along Third Street in St. Peter. Everyone encouraged to wear green. Buy a raffle ticket for a chance at prizes - up to \$500 in St. Peter Chamber bucks. <https://go.evnt.com/1033511-0 contact@stpeterambassadors.com>

EDITOR'S CHOICE



11-MAR The Jimmys Paradise Center for the Arts "Paradise Center for the Arts, 321 Central Ave. N., Faribault" 7:30-10 p.m. "Over the past twelve years, The Jimmys have solidified their brand of Blues and R&B across the Midwest, Canada, Europe, and the Caribbean. A festival favorite in numerous reviews. Tickets online." <https://go.evnt.com/1033447-0 info@paradisecenterforthearts.org>



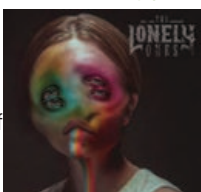
11-MAR Red Dirt Road "The Square Deal, 521 S. Front St., Mankato" 10 p.m.-2 a.m. "Red Dirt Road was formed in June of 2013 and has morphed into one of the Midwest's premier country and rock shows. They combine great musicianship, killer harmonies, an arena style light show, a high energy performance, and great songs that you know and love into a show that you will not want to miss. You can find them performing all over the Midwest at county fairs, street dances, bars, event centers, and weddings." [bandsintown.com](https://go.evnt.com/1033447-0 info@paradisecenterforthearts.org)



12-MAR Relativity Indian Island Winery "Indian Island Winery, 18018 631st Ave., Janesville" 5:30-8:30 p.m. "The band combines outstanding vocals, guitar, mandolin and blazing fiddle to create a fun and eclectic evening. A request list of a couple hundred songs from acoustic top 40 to classic and folk rock." <https://go.evnt.com/1033451-0 indianislandwinery@yahoo.com>



12-MAR The Lonely Ones "The What's Up Lounge, 118 E. Rock St., Mankato" 7-11 p.m. "Formed in the summer of 2019, The Lonely Ones are a four-piece vocal-oriented hard rock band with an ear for melody and a taste for success. No strangers to the hardships of the music industry, The Lonely Ones know what they want and know how to get it" [bandsintown.com](https://go.evnt.com/1033447-0 info@paradisecenterforthearts.org)



12-MAR Hitchville: Wild West Days "Green Mill Restaurant & Bar, 1201 Torgerson Drive, Fairmont" 7-11 p.m. "Country super group Hitchville has quickly solidified themselves among the upper echelon of regional talent. Under the leadership of dynamic lead vocalists Heidi Owens and Matthew Kneefe, the group's trademark harmonies are hardly the last thing attending "Hitchville Residents" are talking about long after the smoke has cleared and the group has left the stage. The combination of face-melting vocals and "don't try this at home" instrumental solos leads to an unforgettable live show in which the band has worked tirelessly to produce." [bandsintown.com](https://go.evnt.com/1032986-2 info@paradisecenterforthearts.org)



13-MAR Sip and Spin on a Sunday Paradise Center for the Arts "Paradise Center for the Arts, 321 Central Ave. N., Faribault" 507-332-7372 1-4 p.m. Tickets \$50. wool spin class. <https://go.evnt.com/1032986-2 info@paradisecenterforthearts.org>



17-MAR Local Foods Tradeshow FEAST! "The Grand O2 Event Center, 32057 64th Ave., Cannon Falls" 8 a.m.-7 p.m. "The FEAST! tradeshow day includes a Buyers' Expo, Lunch and Awards Presentation, and Makers' Forum panel discussions. It's all about local foods. Tickets are \$50 for attendees." <https://go.evnt.com/1033502-0 info@local-feast.org>



17-MAR Farm and Power Show Tradeexpos "Steele County Four Seasons Centre, 1525 S. Elm Ave., Owatonna" 9 a.m.-5 p.m. "Bringing the industry's leading innovators in agriculture technology, equipment, and science to the front step of America's farming heartland. Featuring vendors, seminars and more. Free admission." <https://go.evnt.com/1033461-0 editor@southernminnscene.com>



17-MAR St. Patrick's at the NaKato NaKato Bar & Grill "NaKato Bar & Grill, 253 Belgrade Ave., Mankato" 7-11:59 p.m. "Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with music from Bonnie Drunken Ladd, a folk band playing an assortment of traditional and modern Irish, Scottish, Sea Shanties, and drinkin' songs!" <https://go.evnt.com/1033498-0 editor@southernminnscene.com>



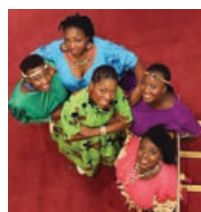
18-MAR Jeff Kelly and the Graveyard Shift: Jeff Kelly at Staghead "Staghead Gastropub, 219 Bush St., Red Wing" 5-9 p.m. "Jeff Kelly- Independent Artist/Singer Songwriter currently residing in Red Wing, Minnesota International Artist with Stonebridge Guitars Current student of the Guitar Building and Repair Program at MSCSE Endlessly weaving between genres, stories, and styles, Jeff paints an interesting landscape of music." [bandsintown.com](https://go.evnt.com/1033498-0 editor@southernminnscene.com)



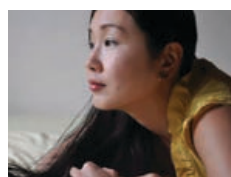
18-MAR Michael Shynes: 'Thinking Songs and Drinking Songs' at Chankaska Event Center (St Patts Show) "Chankaska Creek Ranch & Winery, 1179 E. Pearl St., Kasota" 7-11 p.m. "Says Shynes, 'Over the last several months I have become friends with the legend that is Chris Kroeze. He is one of the best vocalists and guitar players I have come across and he almost won The Voice. We have been writing songs together, hanging out a good bit, and we get along great so its probably time to put this thing on stage.'" [bandsintown.com](https://go.evnt.com/1033498-0 editor@southernminnscene.com)



18-MAR Quince "Carleton College, Sayles Hill Campus Center, Northfield" 7:30-11:30 p.m. "We will be giving the world premieres of Asuka Kakitani's 'Songs of One's Own' and Evan Williams' 'Dust Bowl', as well as performing works by Courtney Bryan, Carrie Henneman Shaw, Eliza Brown, and Michael Miller!" [bandsintown.com](https://go.evnt.com/1033498-0 editor@southernminnscene.com)



18-MAR Nobuntu "Sheldon Theatre, 443 W. Third St., Red Wing" 7:30-11:30 p.m. "Nobuntu, the female a cappella quintet from Zimbabwe, has drawn international acclaim for its inventive performances that range from traditional Zimbabwean songs to Afro Jazz to Gospel." [bandsintown.com](https://go.evnt.com/1033498-0 editor@southernminnscene.com)



NORTHFIELD ARTS GUILD: The light of live theater

By ANDREA SJOGREN
Guest Columnist

"Now is the winter of our discontent..." I'm guessing we can all relate to these words right about now. The character of Richard delivers this line in Act One of Shakespeare's Richard III and we use these words often for times such as these.

It's been a long, cold winter made worse by endless days, months, and now years spent living through a worldwide pandemic. However, Richard speaks them as a preamble to the next line of the soliloquy when he adds "...made glorious summer by this sun of York".

The sun Richard referred to was actually his brother Edward and things get complicated from there, but we'll take some liberties here as we look toward our own "sun". This winter of discontent is sure to be over soon made glorious by the light of the sun and the light of optimism, more in-person connections, and good health...even now we can see a light in our winter of discontent.

Isn't live theater great? Theater reminds us there is good all around. Theater allows us to interpret meaning and see new perspectives. Theater shines a light in the darkness. It brings people together, is stress relieving, and can add levity and meaning to any day. Theater is a shared activity that helps to promote social discourse and social change. Theater shares stories that illuminate who we are as people. Live theater provides human connection.

As we now hopefully enter our own "days made glorious by the sun of York", take some time to add a theater experience or two to your schedule. You'll be glad you did! If you've never been, now's your time. If you are a regular patron and have missed live performance during the pandemic, live theater is back, it's energized, and it's ready for you as audience members, patrons, and friends.

The Northfield Arts Guild invites you to share and connect with the storytelling of live theater on our stages in the weeks and months ahead. Our musical, Bright Star opened this past week and shares a profound and true story with audience members. Directed by Mishia Burns Edwards, Bright Star tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the rich backdrop of the American South in the 1920s and 1940s.

This show blends gorgeous music, beautiful harmony, and rich storytelling to engage audience members for six more performances before closing night. Call the Guild box office today at 507-645-8877 to secure your tickets for remaining performances, March 11-13, and March 18-20. The Guild Theater is located at 411 Third Street West, Northfield.

Then get ready for Native Gardens, opening May 6th and continuing through May 15th on the Guild stage. Directed by Justin Cervantes, this show mixes humor with real-world issues. This is a story about social, racial, and ethnic conflict allowing us to view the characters - and ourselves - with grace and humor. Get your tickets now for this witty and wise production. Check the Guild's website at northfieldartsguild.org.

Peter and the Starcatcher, directed by Rachel Haider, takes the stage this summer. As a prequel to Peter Pan, Peter and the Starcatcher is a charming adventure with intelligent dialogue, amusing physical comedy, and a reinvention of Neverland. The show playfully explores the depths of greed and despair, the bonds of friendship, duty, and love, and the belief in magical possibilities. Make plans now to see this wonderful story told live on the Guild stage from July 15-24. Tickets on sale soon.

As if that weren't enough, stay tuned for the announcement of the Guild's 63rd theater season scheduled to be released at the end of April. We are thrilled with the season that is being developed and know that you will be too. Season tickets for 2022-23 will go on sale shortly after the season announcement.

The winter of our discontent is being made glorious by the sun of spring, summer, and good health, along with a renewed focus on relationships, community, and connection. Make plans now to return to the theater to share stories, find your community, be entertained, laugh, cry, think, discuss, and enjoy... together! See you there.

Andrea Sjogren is the executive director at the Northfield Arts Guild.



SJOGREN

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Become a Successful Freelancer

According to the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research study, about 42% of Americans are currently working at home.

To gain a perspective on the change, the United States Bureau of Labor documented that the category only consisted of 24% of employed persons in 2019.

This adjustment in employment is of course, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic and caused by the efforts of numerous companies doing their part to limit the virus and keep people at home.

However, when the country returns to a sense of normalcy, will the workplace return to its traditional setting, or is working from home here to stay?

Whether you're currently employed by a company

that has set you up with an at-home opportunity or are looking for a way to work for yourself, freelancing can open doors to numerous opportunities.

Why Become a Freelancer?

Freelancers are in high demand among companies throughout numerous industries. Whether you excel at writing, consulting business growth or flourish in digital design, there may be a remote opportunity waiting.

According to the Society for Human Resource Management, hiring managers turn to on-demand workers for these critical reasons:

- More cost-efficient than hiring a full-time employee with benefits.
- Creates flexibility to reduce capacity if demand drops.
- Introduces a specialized skill set and more productivity.
- Job positions are filled

faster than the traditional interview and recruitment process.

Freelance employees benefit from a vast variety of available jobs and experience working with numerous companies and the opportunity to network with industry experts. A remote position also provides exceptional schedule flexibility and allows most to work at their own pace.

How to Become an On-Demand Worker

Since some on-demand positions are completely remote, getting started without an online persona can be challenging.

If you don't have the experience to build a portfolio, consider creating a professional website where you can showcase your talents and skills. Don't be afraid to take on free or low-paying gigs to build your repertoire. Consider the site your hub to show clients what they can expect and how



to get in contact.

With your message displayed to entice employers and prove yourself, it's imperative to advertise your brand. Start with researching companies who typically hire with on-demand tactics. You can easily find them through social media posts, professional networking sites and by sharing your own link on

highly visible web pages.

Gaining Experience

Ideally, your freelance journey will be profitable and filled with positive experiences with interesting clients. Unfortunately, you may have to wade through some jobs that aren't what you had in mind. Document the interac-

tions throughout your career to have a journal to look back on when you need to reflect. Another rule of thumb is to consider all advice given from your clients as constructive.

With enough perseverance, your role as an on-demand worker can turn into a full-fledged career if you find the right connections.

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Apply in person at 330 Highway Street E, Dodge Center, MN or via email at alicia.lobdell@imsicon.com. Please call 507-634-7778 with any questions.

JOIN OUR HAPPY FAMILY! CNA/HHA

Circle Drive Manor Assisted Living in West Concord is now hiring for 2 HHA/CNA positions.

1 FULL TIME HHA/CNA
for a 72 hour per pay period, which includes mostly overnight hours (not all overnight hours are "awake") with morning hours every other weekend.

1 PART TIME HHA/CNA
for a 12 noon-8 p.m. shift every other weekend. Must be 18 years old to apply.

Starting wage \$18 if you have experience. We are also giving A \$200 bonus after each quarter worked for first year.

PLEASE CALL 507-527-2424 OR STOP IN TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION.

J.B. Hunt is hiring truck drivers for a local position based in Faribault. Drive dedicated with J.B. Hunt and enjoy new equipment, local management, paid time off and no touch freight. Contact us today to learn more and prequalify!

HIRING CDL-A Truck Drivers

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Garage Sales

Used Book Sale!

3200 180TH ST W,
Faribault
Friday & Saturday
March 11 & 12 (9-5pm)
in heated garage.
Children's and adult books

General Employment

\$3,000 HIRE BONUS! *Higher Starting Wages & Shift Differentials*

Direct Care Staff needed to work with DD individuals in Faribault group homes. FT & PT All Shifts. Prefer current MN drivers license & must pass background check. COVID-19 vaccines preferred but not required. Under 18 = \$14.50/hr; 18/older = \$15/hr. PM, Overnight and Weekend Shift Differentials and OC Bonuses. Excellent benefits (medical, dental, vision, retirement, etc) for qualifying positions. Apply at 402 Heritage Place in Faribault or email resume to cenneidighinc@gmail.com. "EOE"

\$3,000 Hire Bonus!

Looking for Full-Time Job Coach/Crew Supervisor to supervise disabled individuals in work settings. Mostly daytime hours with some additional hours as needed. Must be 18, have current MN drivers license with good driving record and pass background check. \$15/hour. Excellent benefits after 30 days (medical, dental, vision, retirement, etc.). Apply at KCCQ, Inc. 402 Heritage Place, Faribault or email resume to melissa@kccqinc.com.

General Employment

Custodial Workers

Age 55+ workers
needed for part time light custodial work at the Heath Creek & New Market Rest Areas located on I-35 near Faribault and New Market. Please call Green View at 651-639-1913.

Sales & Customer /Service Manager

Northfield based company is an importer/wholesaler of Christmas and Garden merchandise. Position shall support CEO in all activities including sales presentations, customer service, and new customer prospecting. Bachelor's Degree required. COVID vaccination required. Part-time or Full-time employment is possible. Salary is competitive and commensurate with market and experience. Send resume and/or request full job description at info@glenhavenhomeholiday.com. No phone calls please.

Appliances

Frigidaire 6.0 Cubic Chest White Freezer chest. 3 years old and like new. \$150
Call (507)319-8711 FBO

Furniture & Rugs

Nearly New Recliner Lift Chair Dark Brown, Excellent condition. Came from Slumberland \$500 (507)451-0825 or 507-456-9246 Owatonna

Bargain Hunters

4 unopened Cartridges for an Epson Printer XP 320. 220 Epson Printer Cartridge and 4 partially used cartridges. \$35
Call 507-412-9116

Women's Ugg Boots, Tan Color, and size 8. Like New \$50
Call (507)451-4031

Miscellaneous for Sale

Frigidaire Electric Stove 4 Burner electric with glass top. Only 3 1/2 Years old. Works well. \$250
(507)209-0018

The Univ. of MN Southern Research and Outreach Center, (SROC) Waseca, MN offers for sale on a sealed bid basis:

- 2001 Ford F650 Super duty 95,864 mi.
 - 2001 JD 1445 mower 72" front deck 5628 hours
 - 1988 642B Bobcat skid steer
 - 2005 26' Wil Rich Excel series field cultivator
 - 2001 70 kw natural gas continuous standby generator
 - 2011 Teagle 8080B Tomahawk bale shredder
 - JD 6000 high boy sprayer 60' booms
 - Pull type sprayer 500 gal. tank - 45' booms
 - Various other items include: 6' snow plow, 4000# cherry picker, metal band saw, metal cutoff saw, 4 ton feed bin, drill press, gas engines,
- Bid form available:
<http://sroc.cfans.umn.edu>,
Bids due 3/31/2022 by noon.
Questions 507-837- 5630.



Autos for Sale



2002 Chevy S10 Pickup 2.2L With 5 Speed Transmission. Has 104,000 actual miles. Rusty but reliable and good tires. \$1800 OBO Call (507)676-7010

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Baseball Cards \$\$\$\$ BUYING - SPORTS CARDS & POKEMON CARDS

Do you have any sports cards or Pokémon cards that you would like to turn into \$\$\$\$ Football, basketball, baseball, hockey, soccer....
Buying vintage or current singles, sets or full collections.
Call or text Lundy 612-306-1396

Public Notices

AMENDED NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF RICE
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 66-PR-22-361
Estate of
Donavan Leroy Beckman,
also known as Donovan L.
Beckman, Donovan Beckman,
and Donovan Leroy Beckman
Decedent
It is Ordered and Notice is
given that on April 8, 2022,
at 10:00 a.m., a hearing will
be held in this Court at Rice
County Courthouse, 218 Third

WANTED JUNKERS AND REPAIRABLES

\$75 to \$3000

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Public Notices

St. NW, Faribault, MN 55021 by Zoom, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent, dated March 6, 2018, and for the appointment of Todd Lewis Beckman, whose address is 1905 Lincoln Street South, Northfield, MN 55057 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in UNSUPERVISED administration. There will be no in person appearances. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred. A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 501B.41, subdivision 5.
BY THE COURT
Dated: 02/28/2022

Public Notices

/s/ Christine A. Long
Judge of District Court
Attorney for Petitioner
James Y. Prichard
101 Fifth Street East, Suite 202
Northfield, MN 55057
Attorney License No: 0185164
Telephone: 507-645-0744
Email: prichardjy@gmail.com
115397 3/9 NN

"NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS – ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS Northfield Public Schools ISD 659 is requesting bids for the High School Main Office Renovation, information can be found: www.franzrepro.com and selecting the Franz Public Plan Room. From there select the project. Sealed bids are due at 2:00 PM CST, Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 201 Orchard Street North, Northfield, MN 55057. Please contact Keane McWaters, Senior Project Manager at Knutson Construction (507-884-6070) with any questions." 114556 2/16,2/23,3/2,3/9 NN

Notice

Legals

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Independent School District No. 659 Summary of Regular School Board Meeting February 14, 2022 Northfield District Office Boardroom

Board Chair Claudia Gonzalez-George called the Regular meeting of the Northfield Board of Education of Independent School District No. 659 to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Baraniak, Butler, Gonzalez-George, Goerwitz, Pritchard and Quinnell. Stratmoen arrived at 6:01 p.m. Absent: None. This meeting was open to the public, live-streamed and recorded, and access to the recording was posted to the school district website.

On a motion by Goerwitz, seconded by Quinnell, the board approved the agenda. There was public comment and announcements.

Board Chair Gonzalez-George requested all members of the public to properly wear their face mask. At 6:13 p.m. Gonzalez-George called a 20 minute recess due to masking non-compliance. The board reconvened at 6:35 p.m. Board Chair Gonzalez-George requested all members of the public to properly wear their face mask. At 6:35 p.m. Gonzalez-George called a 10 minute recess due to masking non-compliance. The board reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

Director of Finance Mertesdorf presented the 2022-2023 Operating Capital Budget and Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Plan. Director Mertesdorf and Director of Buildings & Grounds Nelson reviewed the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance ten year revenue and expenditure plan. In addition, the Indoor Air Quality Management Plan is part of the ten year plan and must be reviewed annually. Superintendent Hillmann and Director Meresdorf previewed the upcoming budget prioritization process, and Dr. Hillmann provided a COVID update.

Items for Consent Agenda. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Baraniak, the board approved the consent agenda which included minutes of the Regular School Board meetings held on Jan. 24, 2022, a gift agreement, financial reports, grant applications, and personnel items.

Items for Individual Action

Revised 2022-23 School Year Calendar. On a motion by Pritchard, seconded by Baraniak, the board approved the revised 2022-23 school year calendar as presented at the January 24, 2022 board meeting. The updates to the calendar are the result of recently completed negotiations with the Northfield Education Association. Policies 503, 515, 524.2 and 534. On a motion by Butler, seconded by Baraniak, the board approved policies 503, 515, 524.2 and 534. Resolution Approving Purchase Agreement and Authorizing Sale of Property. On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Pritchard, the board adopted the Resolution Approving Purchase Agreement and Authorizing Sale of Property. The board had previously approved an option agreement with Rebound Real Estate by which a small parcel of school district property would be sold to Rebound if it exercised the option to acquire the property and Rebound has exercised the option to purchase the property on the terms and conditions set forth in the purchase agreement. The property that is the subject of the purchase agreement is hereby declared to be surplus property, and the board authorizes its sale on the terms of the purchase agreement, which is hereby approved by the board. The school board chair and clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the requisite deed conveying the property to Rebound Real Estate. The superintendent, or their designee are authorized to execute all other documents necessary for closing of the transaction contemplated by the purchase agreement. Voting 'yes' were Goerwitz, Gonzalez-George, Pritchard, Quinnell and Stratmoen. Voting 'no' was Butler. Abstaining was Baraniak. Northfield School District 2021-22 COVID-19 Safety Protocols. On a motion by Quinnell, seconded by Pritchard, the board approved proposed changes to the district's COVID-19 safety protocols.

On a motion by Goerwitz, seconded by Pritchard, the board approved to continue the meeting beyond 9:00 p.m. Dr. Hillmann reviewed the February 2022 enrollment report. On a motion by Stratmoen, seconded by Goerwitz, the board adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

The above is a summary of meeting proceedings. The complete minutes are available at www.northfieldschools.org and on file and available for review in the District Office, 201 Orchard Street South.

115212 3/9 NN

City of Northfield 2022 NW AREA MILL AND OVERLAY CLOSING DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2022

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE is hereby given that **SEALED BIDS** for the furnishing of all labor, materials, tools, equipment and services will be received by the Northfield City Clerk at 801 Washington Street, Northfield, MN 55057 until **2:00 p.m.** on **March 17, 2022**, for the following City of Northfield Project, all in accordance with applicable Minnesota Statutes, Northfield City Code and City approved project plans and specifications and the Bidding Documents:

LOCATION: Various locations, including mill and overlay segments below:

Thye Parkway from Eveleth Ave W to Lockwood Drive, Lockwood Drive from Thye Pkwy to Gill Ln, Quie Lane from Lockwood Dr to 150 feet west of Rolvaag Ct, Rolvaag Court from Quie Ln to the end of the cul-de-sac, Lupine Drive from Eveleth Ave W to Cannon Valley Dr, Lupine Court from Lupine Dr to the end of the cul-de-sac, Cannon Valley Drive from North Ave to 600 feet north of Lupine Dr, Greenleaf Court from Woodland Trail to the end of the cul-de-sac, Wildwood Court from Woodland Trail to the end of the cul-de-sac, Woodland Trail from North Ave (curves around) to North Ave, North Avenue from Eveleth Ave W to Zanmiller Dr, Juniper Avenue from Lincoln St to Lincoln Pkwy, Joann Court from Juniper Ave to the end of the cul-de-sac, Headley Court from Dresden Ave to the end of the cul-de-sac, St. Olaf Avenue from Lincoln St to TH-3, and Forest Avenue from Lincoln St to 550 feet east of Madison St

TYPE OF WORK: Bituminous mill and overlay, bituminous trail, concrete curb and gutter, concrete walk, ADA improvements, and storm sewer.

The major items of work are approximately:

166	TREE	CLEARING AND GRUBBING
98,118	SY	MILL BITUMINOUS SURFACE (2.0")
12,320	TON	TYPE SP 9.5 WEARING COURSE MIX (3:B)
19,166	SF	4" CONCRETE WALK
5,948	LF	CONCRETE CURB AND GUTTER DESIGN B618
31,000	LF	STRIPING

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time and place stated above. Bids received after that time will not be accepted.

Plans and Specifications for the project may be examined at the City of Northfield Engineering office, 801 Washington Street, Northfield, MN 55057. Plans and Specifications may be downloaded for no charge from the City of Northfield web site at: <https://egram.ci.northfield.mn.us/oneoffice/bidding>.

Bids must be sealed, identified on the envelope and accompanied by a Bidder's Bond or Certified Check in an amount equal to at least 5% of the total bid made payable to the City of Northfield City Clerk.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of City of Northfield, Minnesota.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish and pay for a satisfactory performance and payment bonds in the full amount of the awarded bid.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities thereof.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 2022
Lynette Peterson City Clerk, City of Northfield, MN

Publish in Northfield News – February 23, 2022, March 2, 2022, and March 9, 2022
Publish on City of Northfield Engineering Website: February 23, 2022 – March 17, 2022
Publish on MnDOT E-Advert Site: February 23, 2022 – March 17, 2022
114820 2/23,3/2,3/9 NN

City of Northfield Hidden Valley Park Pond & Prairie Hills #1 Pond Dredging Project CLOSING DATE: March 31, 2022

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE is hereby given that **SEALED BIDS** for the furnishing of all labor, materials, tools, equipment and services will be received by the Northfield City Clerk at 801 Washington Street, Northfield, MN 55057 until **2:00 p.m.** on **March 31, 2022**, for the following City of Northfield Project, all in accordance with applicable Minnesota Statutes, Northfield City Code and City approved project plans and specifications and the Bidding Documents:

LOCATION: Hidden Valley Park Pond located north of Heritage Drive, east of Hidden Valley Road, south of Peterson Drive, and west of Lincoln Street; and Prairie Hills #1 Pond located north of Woodland Trail, east of Cannon Valley Drive, south of Thye Parkway, and west of Quie Lane.

TYPE OF WORK: Pond Dredging, Storm Sewer, Restoration

The major items of work are approximately:

38	EA	CLEARING & GRUBBING
5,030	CY	EXCAVATION - MUCK
1	LS	POND DEWATERING
4,140	SF	3" BITUMINOUS WALK
1,191	CY	COMMON TOPSOIL BORROW
17,691	SY	ROLLED EROSION PREVENTION CATEGORY 20 AND SEED MIXTURE

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time and place stated above. Bids received after that time will not be accepted.

Plans and Specifications for the project may be examined at the City of Northfield Engineering office, 801 Washington Street, Northfield, MN 55057. Plans and Specifications may be downloaded for no charge from the City of Northfield web site at: <https://egram.ci.northfield.mn.us/oneoffice/bidding>

Bids must be sealed, identified on the envelope and accompanied by a Bidder's Bond or Certified Check in an amount equal to at least 5% of the total bid made payable to the City of Northfield City Clerk.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of City of Northfield, Minnesota.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish and pay for a satisfactory performance and payment bonds in the full amount of the awarded bid.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities thereof.

Dated this 1st day of March, 2022
Lynette Peterson, City Clerk, City of Northfield, MN

Publish in Northfield News – March 9, 2022, March 16, 2022, and March 23, 2022
Publish on City of Northfield Engineering Website: March 9, 2022 – March 31, 2022
Publish on MnDOT E-Advert Site: March 9, 2022 – March 31, 2022
115337 3/9 3/16 3/23 NN

State Legals

Notice

PUBLIC NOTICES

To place a Public Notice Ad email publicnotices@apgsomn.com

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SouthernMinn

CLASSIFIEDS.com

Email classifieds@apgsomn.com

UP & DOWN Words™

By David L. Hoyt and Russell L. Hoyt

1. STICKY
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____ HITTER

CLUES

1. Precarious circumstance
2. "The Unicorn," for one
3. "The Daily Show" network
4. Certain Chicago zone
5. Vacation
6. Deactivation lever
7. Versatile batter

Friday's Answer

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------|
| 1. <u>MEET</u> | → | <u>WITH</u> |
| 2. <u>WITH</u> | → | <u>CARE</u> |
| 3. <u>CARE</u> | → | <u>FOR</u> |
| 4. <u>FOR</u> | → | <u>KEEPS</u> |
| 5. <u>KEEPS</u> | → | <u>GOING</u> |
| 6. <u>GOING</u> | → | <u>AWAY</u> |
| 7. <u>AWAY</u> | → | <u>GAME</u> |

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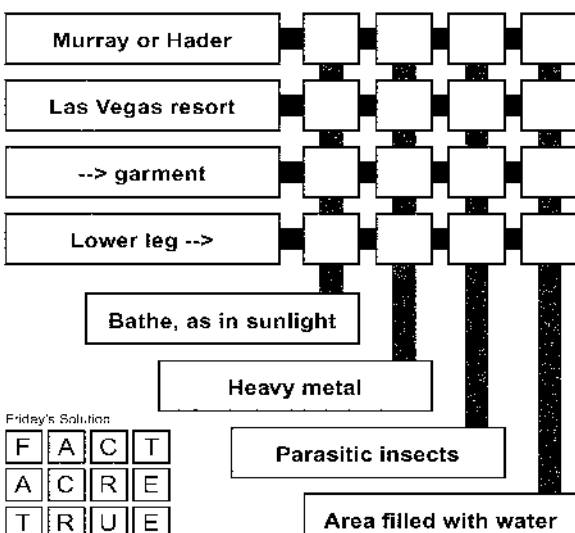
SUDOKU X



3/5 © 2022 Jim Bumgardner/Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication Level: Challenge

PLAY4

By John Wilmes



Friday's Solution

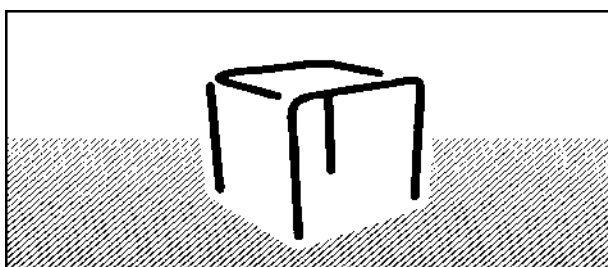
F A C T
A C R E
T R U E
S O D S

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www.whatzit.com

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



ice cube

Follow all of the rules of a classic Sudoku game -- no repeats within the same row, column or 3x3 grid -- but be careful. Each axis of the X of black squares that criss-crosses the puzzle is another no-repeat zone.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION



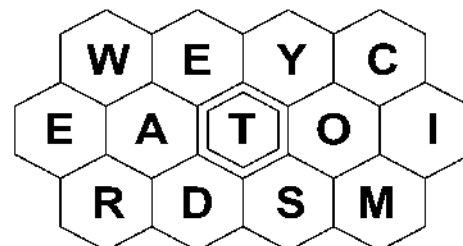
3/4

Find the answers to this week's puzzles online, Monday's Owatonna Peoples Press or Faribault Daily News, at www.SouthernMinn.com/Puzzle

LEXICO

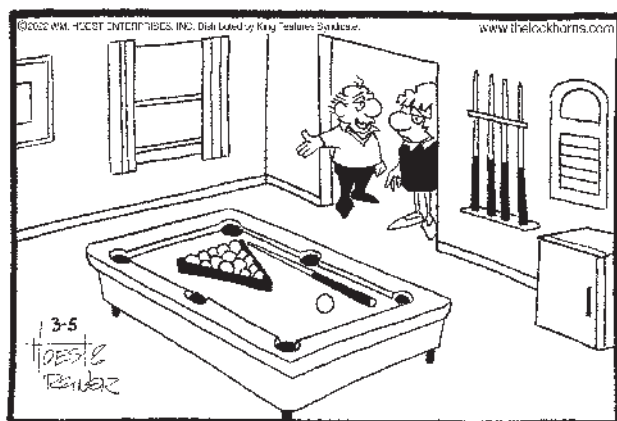
3-5

Start at the double hexagon. Spell solutions to the clues below by winding your way through the grid. You can backtrack to use letters more than once. Each new word starts with the last letter of the previous word.



1. Japanese car maker T _ _ _ _
2. Really tiny _ _ _ _ _
3. Prairie predator C _ _ _ _
4. Glasses, for example _ _ _ _ _
5. Credit-card perks R _ _ _ _

Previous Puzzle: NIECE, ECONOMIC, CONDO, ORDERED, DANCING
© 2022 WIGGLES 3D GAMES, DIST. BY ANDREWS McMEEL SYNDICATION



"WE CAN'T AFFORD A SWIMMING POOL, SO I GOT US THE NEXT BEST THING."

CRYPTOQUIP

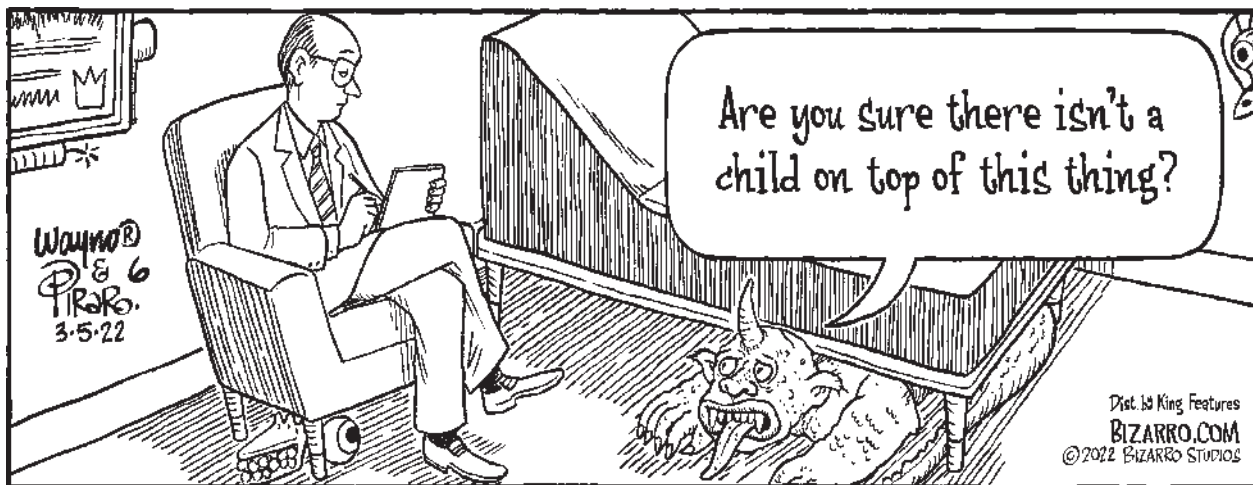
FGBLWGQN COFV QEFAGXLJLQ
ZU LUSEUL IOLY KJGQOALQ
IJGB KLVJGYLOB CLYYN.
EV'F XZFLYEUL SZFGYEUL.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WELL-KNOWN DRAMATIC ACTOR WHO'S JUST WILD ABOUT JAPANESE PINBALL MACHINES: AL PACHINKO.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals E

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

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SPORTS

Girls basketball: Rochester John Marshall 52, Northfield 35

By MICHAEL HUGHES
michael.hughes@apgsomn.com

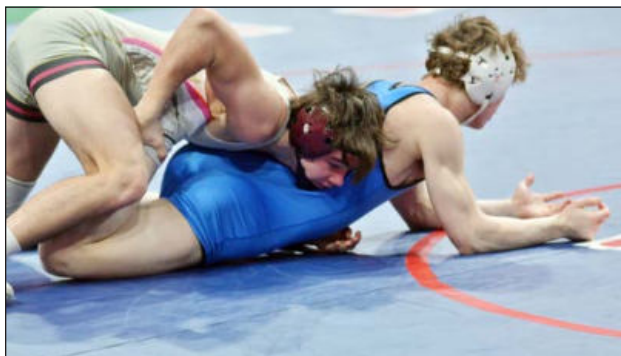
The eighth-seeded Northfield girls basketball team provided top-seeded Rochester John Marshall plenty of problems Wednesday night in the Section 1-4A quarterfinals in Rochester.

After trailing by only three points at halftime, however, the Raiders could not keep pace in the second half of a 52-35 loss.

Indiana University commit Lilly Meister scored 30 of the 52 points for the Rockets.

Ryann Eddy led the way for Northfield with 13 points, four rebounds and two assists, while Izzy Balvin and Samantha Ims both tallied five points apiece.

Abbie Thompson added four points, Anni Quaas and Grace Mostad both tallied three points, and Lucy Menssen contributed two points.



Northfield senior Jake Messner wrestles during Friday's Class AAA individual state tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

MESSNER

From Page A24

Messner worked Studer into a headlock and was rotating him onto his back, but time ran out before the referees determined any back points were earned. In the third period, Studer cut the lead to 4-3 with an early escape, before taking a 5-4 lead with 1:21 left with a takedown.

Messner was unable to notch the match-tying escape, but with less than 20 seconds remaining started to force Studer higher and higher up his body. Eventually, with less than 10 seconds left, all that was left for Messner to do was free his head from Studer's leg lock to wrap up a two-point reversal and his first state championship. Time ran out before the referees could determine if that move was completed.

"When you lose by a point, you don't know if there were points that were left out there, he had the headlock on the back, are we sure he didn't get away at the very end, it's heartbreaking," Staab said. "Jake has worked so hard, he's been in our varsity room since eighth grade, he's been in the state tournament four times. We just thought this year was the year. We're so proud of him. He didn't go out there and let the moment get to him. He wrestled great and left it all out there. There's nothing to regret, he's a champ in my mind and he did phenomenal. An inch away

from sealing the deal."

Staab made sure to emphasize that those slim margins Saturday don't define Messner as a wrestler.

Instead, he pointed to his role helping the Raiders to three Section 1AAA titles in four years and a pair of state consolation championships.

"He's been such a leader in the room for the last couple years," Staab said. "As a captain, his leadership, what he's shown and how he's helped our team. He's a key leader in our room to get those guys to believe and get them working hard. He drills hard, he practices hard and everyone watches what he does. He sets us up for the future of Northfield."

That leadership and toughness was on display all weekend. Leading up to the state championship, Messner won three straight hard-fought decisions — 5-3, 7-0 and 5-2 — to reach the championship session Saturday night.

Thursday, he helped the Raiders regroup from a close loss to Shakopee in the team quarterfinals to beat Forest Lake and Hastings to claim fifth in the state.

That larger view of the weekend is what he'll remember rather than a couple inches.

"It was awesome," Messner said. "Placing as a team again, making it to the state finals as an individual. I couldn't have asked for a better year to end it with or a better team."

PAGEL

From Page A24

"It's incredible," Pagel said. "Walking back and forth before the match I was looking up and down and realizing, 'Wow, there's a lot of people here.' I couldn't hear what any of the coaches were saying because there was so much volume in my head gear. It was incredible."

Only a freshman, Pagel still has three more opportunities to wrestle on that grand stage.

"I'd love to and I'd love to keep winning, too," Pagel said. "Get that crowd bigger and bigger and louder and louder."



Northfield senior JJ Gustina scans the floor during Tuesday's 88-63 victory at Faribault. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

Boys basketball: Northfield caps regular season with wins against Faribault, John Marshall

By MICHAEL HUGHES
michael.hughes@apgsomn.com

Northfield 76, Rochester John Marshall 57

A trio of double-digit scoring performances from JJ Gustina, Tate Journell and Austin Koep helped the Northfield boys basketball team pull away from Rochester John Marshall on Friday night for a 76-57 victory on senior night.

Gustina finished with a team-high 17 points to go along with his team-high five assists, team-high eight rebounds and team-high four steals.

Journell added 15 points and Koep scored 12, while the Raiders also received nine points from Trey Schlaak, eight from Soren Richardson, six from Tate Sand, and three apiece from Dom DiMaggio, Jake Balvin and Haden Kelly.

Northfield 88, Faribault 63

A balanced offensive night helped the Northfield boys



Northfield sophomore Austin Koep attempts a shot during Tuesday's 88-63 victory at Faribault. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

basketball team race to an 88-63 victory Tuesday, March 1 at Faribault High School.

Soren Richardson led the way with 21 points, but he was supported by 16 points from Austin Koep, 14 points from Tate Journell and 10 points from Tate Sand.

JJ Gustina added six points, eight assists and six rebounds, while Dominic DiMaggio and Nolan Thompson also tallied six points, Sam Scherer notched three points, and all of Haden Kelly, Isaiah Mahal and Ian Stanton finished with two points.



Northfield senior Tate Journell prepares to shoot a 3-pointer during Tuesday's 88-63 victory at Faribault. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

SPORTS

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Kasten breaks 2 school records, Gators finish 9th at state

By MICHAEL HUGHES
michael.hughes@apgsomn.com

What's better with wrapping up the season with a trio of podium finishes at the Class A state swimming and diving championships? Doing so while breaking a pair of school records in the process.

That's what Northfield sophomore Jens Kasten accomplished Saturday afternoon at the University of Minnesota, where he finished third in the 50-yard freestyle, seventh in the 100 breaststroke and fourth in the 200 freestyle relay alongside senior Owen Lehmkuhl, senior Aidan Hales and eighth grader Will Redetzke.

He broke the school records in the 100 breaststroke and 50 freestyle, with previous 50 freestyle record-holder Andrew Becker watching from the stands.

"I love Becker and I was happy to see him here regardless of the record," Kasten said.

Since Becker set that record as a senior in 2019, he's gone on to swim at Gustavus Adolphus College, where he's ranked as one of the top freestyle sprinters in the country.

"As a sophomore he broke the record of a kid that's absolutely lighting up Division III," Northfield coach Doug Davis said. "He made a name for himself. It's kind of funny because he was up in the stands, too. Andrew Becker was up top with (Bryce) Malecha and a few of the other Gusties watching it, so he got to see it go down, which is kind of fun."

In addition to the three podium finishes, Northfield also had five other swims place in the top 16 Saturday to help it finish ninth as a team with 102 points. That accomplished both primary goals for the Gators, which were to place in the top 10 and score in the triple digits.

Breck/Blake continued its reign of terror over Class A with a whopping 495.5 points, ahead of second-place Alexandria (203), third-place St. Thomas Academy (175) and fourth-place Mankato East (157.5)

"(In Friday's prelims) we came in and had an OK day," Davis said. "A few of our swims we would have liked to have been a little faster and we got



Northfield's Jens Kasten receives his medal following a third-place finish in the 50-yard freestyle at Saturday's Class A state swimming finals at the University of Minnesota. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)



Northfield's Jens Kasten takes off at the start of the 50-yard freestyle in the Class A state preliminaries at the University of Minnesota. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)



Northfield's Will Redetzke swims during the Class A state swimming championships at the University of Minnesota. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

eight of our nine swims back to finals. We were happy that all the boys that swam (Friday) got to swim (Saturday). The goal was to come out (Saturday) and race, really enjoy it and see if you can be faster. With the exception of Lehmkuhl in the fly — who had a great swim today, swam a little bit different and smarter than yesterday — all the rest of the swims were faster."

In Saturday's consolation finals, the 200 medley relay of Kasten, Connor Berndt, Lehmkuhl and Hales finished first to claim ninth overall.

Will Redetzke finished 13th overall in the 200 freestyle, Lehmkuhl was 10th overall in the 100 butterfly, Luke Redetzke was 14th overall in the 100 breaststroke, and the 400 freestyle relay team of Lehmkuhl, Will Redetzke, Oliver Momberg and Jebryan Sawyer claimed 11th overall.

"From what we were seeing at the beginning of the season to where we are now, like every



Northfield's Jebryan Sawyer swims during Saturday's Class A state swimming finals at the University of Minnesota. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

year it's just huge gains for everyone," Kasten said. "It's just all the hard work that everyone's put in and I think we all deserve it."

For a number of the younger athletes on Northfield's state roster, this was their first full state experience after two years in Class AA and the COVID-altered state meet in 2021.

That bodes well for future seasons in the pool.

"We've got Will Redetzke as

an eighth grader, Luke Redetzke coming up, Oliver Momberg a ninth grader coming back," Davis said. "A number of those boys got a chance to see this meet up here and splash around. Very encouraged that while we're graduating a lot of talent with a pretty deep senior class, we have a lot of athletes that are going to be able to swim and perform at this level, compete and make a name for themselves."



Northfield's Connor Berndt swims the 100-yard butterfly during Friday's Class A state preliminaries at the University of Minnesota. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)



Northfield's Luke Redetzke swims the 100-yard butterfly during the Class A state preliminaries at the University of Minnesota. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)



Northfield's Owen Lehmkuhl swims the 100-yard butterfly during Friday's Class A state preliminaries at the University of Minnesota. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

SPORTS

Murphy caps career with 3 wins, helps Northfield wrestling to 5th place

By MICHAEL HUGHES
michael.hughes@apgsomn.com

For his final time wearing a Northfield High School singlet, senior Beau Murphy elected to make the most of it.

After Murphy was forced to withdraw from the Section 1AAA individual tournament due to injury — and thus miss out on qualifying for the individual state tournament — Thursday's Class AAA team state tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul marked the end of Murphy's high school wrestling career.

Murphy wrestled three times Thursday and won all three, twice against a ranked opponent in the 126-pound weight class, to help Northfield claim a consolation championship and finish in fifth place.

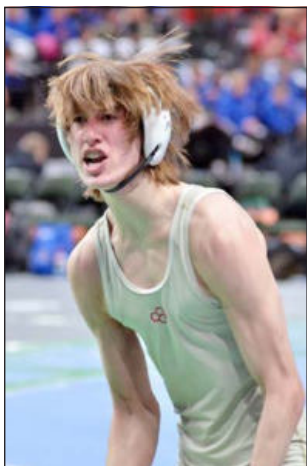
"He's done wrestling and he got to finish with a great, great showing at the state tournament," Northfield coach Geoff Staab said. "Three wins. Huge. We don't win these duals without him."

In Thursday morning's quarterfinal against Class AAA No. 3 Shakopee, Murphy helped flip the dual on its head. The Raiders were trailing 14-0 after the first three matches when Murphy turned No. 9-ranked AJ Smith to win by fall in the second period after Smith was leading by five points and on his way to at least a three-point decision, if not more.

That nine-point team score swing helped Northfield remain in contention to win until the heavyweight match, where senior Mason Pagel lost a hard-fought 3-2 decision against No. 5 Jade Trelstad for a 36-33 final.

In the consolation semifinal against Willmar, Northfield trailed 20-0 entering the 132-pound weight class, where Murphy pinned his opponent in the first period. That sparked a run of seven wins in the final 10 matches for the Raiders, capped by Pagel winning by fall at heavyweight to provide the Raiders a 35-34 victory.

In the consolation championship against No. 5 Hastings, Northfield trailed 6-3 entering the 126-pound weight class. Against No. 7-ranked Jack Bainbridge, Murphy notched a 6-4



Northfield senior Beau Murphy celebrates after winning by fall in a Class AAA quarterfinal match Thursday morning against No. 3 Shakopee. Murphy won all three of his matches Thursday to help the Raiders to fifth place in Class AAA. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

victory to help the Raiders win 36-33 to wrap up fifth place in the state for the second time in the last four years.

"He knew what he wanted to do for the team," Staab said. "He got hurt, so he couldn't compete individually, but for him to come out and just give it to them. He beat AJ Smith, pinned him when he's down by five. Then that Jack Bainbridge is a tough kid. For him to come back and get that one is absolutely huge. He wrestled with a lot of heart and soul, and heart and grit."

Jackson Barron (132/138), Jake Messner (138/145) and Darrin Kuyper (170/182) all finished 3-0 as well, with Kuyper notching three falls and Messner picking up two falls and a major decision. Jayce Barron (152) and Pagel (220/285) both finished 2-1.

That collective strength in the middle and upper weights helped the Raiders leave the Xcel Energy Center with a trophy.

"We wanted hardware," Staab said. "We really wanted to win that first one. We were close, we battled and we really gave Shakopee everything we can, but then to come back and wrestle with resilience like we did against Willmar and against Hastings and put it all together with two victories was something else. I'm very proud of our wrestlers."

By MICHAEL HUGHES
michael.hughes@apgsomn.com

In addition to Ella Pagel's state championship and Jake Messner's second-place finish, the Northfield wrestling team had a total of 11 boys and girls compete Friday and Saturday at the state wrestling tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

Mason Pagel (285-pound weight class) and Owen Murphy (160) both qualified individually for state, but both were forced to medically forfeit Friday due to injuries sustained during Thursday's team tournament.

Still, the Raiders sent Caden Staab (106), Keith Harner (113), Logan Williams (120), Jackson Barron (132), Messner (138), Jayce Barron (152), Darrin Kuyper (170), Ryan Kuyper (182), Nick Mikula (195), Lainey Houts (145 girls) and Ella Pagel (165 girls) onto the state tournament mats.

Harner, Jackson Barron, Ryan Kuyper and Mikula all lost their first-round matchups and were not awarded with a wrestleback opportunity when their first-round opponent lost in the championship quarterfinals.

Staab and Williams both lost in the first round before falling in the wrestleback round Friday.

Jayce Barron lost his first-round matchup before winning his wrestleback to advance to Saturday's consolation quarterfinals, where he dropped an 8-5 decision.

Darrin Kuyper won his first-round match, but then lost by fall in the championship quarterfinals and the wrestlebacks Friday night to end his state tournament.

Houts stepped onto the mat for the first time Saturday in the girls semifinals, where she lost by fall. Houts then rebounded and won by fall in the third-place match to secure third place in the 145-pound weight class.

Full results for the nine Northfield wrestlers that competed Friday and Saturday, other than Messner and Ella Pagel, are listed below:

106AAA

Champ. Round 1 — Blake Beissel (Hastings) 49-2 won by



Northfield eighth grader Jackson Barron wrestles during Friday's Class AAA individual state tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

fall over Caden Staab (Northfield) 26-26 (Fall 0:46)

Cons. Round 1 — Chase Mills (St. Michael-Albertville) 41-10 won by major decision over Caden Staab (Northfield) 26-26 (MD 9-1)

113AAA

Champ. Round 1 — Easton Dircks (Brainerd) 48-3 won by major decision over Keith Harner (Northfield) 35-15 (MD 12-3)

120AAA

Champ. Round 1 — Sam Bethke (Stillwater Area) 47-11 won by tech fall over Logan Williams (Northfield) 26-18 (TF-1.5 4:51 (16-0))

WRESTLING

Total of 11 Raiders compete at state wrestling tournament

kopee) 48-8 (Dec 5-3)

Cons. Round 2 — John Lundstrom (Osseo) 17-6 won by decision over Jayce Barron (Northfield) 21-15 (Dec 8-5)

170AAA

Champ. Round 1 — Darrin Kuyper (Northfield) 43-7 won by decision over Ian Pepple (Hastings) 37-11 (Dec 5-2)

Quarterfinal — Hunter Lyden (Stillwater Area) 53-0 won by fall over Darrin Kuyper (Northfield) 43-7 (Fall 2:22)

Cons. Round 1 — Ezra Formanek (Eastview) 31-9 won by fall over Darrin Kuyper (Northfield) 43-7 (Fall 0:55)

182AAA

Champ. Round 1 — Jericho Cooper (Hastings) 40-10 won by fall over Ryan Kuyper (Northfield) 26-18 (Fall 3:11)

195AAA

Champ. Round 1 — Aidan Wayne (Osseo) 39-7 won by fall over Nickolas Mikula (Northfield) 28-9 (Fall 3:46)

145 Girls

Semifinal — Abby Ervasti (Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie) 3-8 won by fall over Lainey Houts (Northfield) 6-14 (Fall 2:21)

3rd Place Match — Elizabeth Oster (Bemidji) 4-4 won by fall over Lainey Houts (Northfield) 6-14 (Fall 2:27)



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**SWIMMING
AND DIVING**
**KASTEN BREAKS 2
SCHOOL RECORDS AT
STATE**
A22

Messner falls just short of state championship, but still happy with how high school career ended

By MICHAEL HUGHES
michael.hughes@apgsomn.com

An inch to one side or an extra second might have changed the final result Saturday night at the Xcel Energy Center, but it didn't alter the bigger picture for Northfield senior Jake Messner and his coach Geoff Staab.

Messner lost 5-4 in the Class AAA state championship of the 138-pound weight class after nearly adding two back points at the end of the second period and nearly earning a two-point reversal at the end of the third period.

Regardless of the referee's ruling, or Blaine's Luke Studer standing one spot higher on the podium than Messner, Northfield's senior captain finishes his high school career on a high note.

"I'm disappointed in myself, but I also know I need to keep my head held high for next year," Messner said. "This aint the end of my wrestling journey, so it's just another step and it adds more fuel to the fire for next year."

Messner, who will wrestle next season for Southwest Minnesota State, entered the state tournament as the No. 2 seed. Studer was the No. 1 seed, and the two delivered a title match worthy of their respective rankings.

After a scoreless first period, Messner elected to start the second period on bottom and notched an escape. After a Studer takedown, Messner escaped again with 14 seconds remaining to tie the match 2-2 before recording a takedown near the edge of the mat with time ticking down.

See MESSNER on A21



Jake Messner closed his high school wrestling career Saturday with a second-place finish at the Class AAA individual state tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

WRESTLING



TRAILBLAZER

Northfield freshman Ella Pagel attempts to work Cambridge-Isanti's Kami Senlycki onto her back during Saturday's championship match in state tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. Pagel won by fall in the second period to claim Northfield's first girls state championship. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

Pagel's quick adjustments lead to historic state championship

By MICHAEL HUGHES
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The realization arrived at slightly different points for Northfield freshman Ella Pagel and her coach Geoff Staab on Saturday night at the Xcel Energy Center.

Even after a scoreless first period in the 165-pound girls state championship match, Staab said he suspected Pagel was on the precipice of a state championship when her opponent — Cambridge-Isanti's Kami Senlycki — elected to start the second period in the bottom position.

"I was like, 'Well, Ella's pretty good on top. I don't know if you're going to want that,'" Staab said.

Pagel needed about 30 more seconds before her state championship Saturday night set in, as she started the process of pinning Senlycki to win by fall 48 seconds into the second period.

"I knew I had to get her flat first," Pagel said. "Then I got that bar in, started running it and she blocked it. Then I got that half in and I was like, 'Oh, you're done.' It was so tight in there. I was a little mad at myself the first period after not scoring, but the second period made up for it. It was a great finish."

Pagel — not only one of the top-ranked pound-for-pound wrestlers in Minnesota but in the United States — entered the state tournament as the clear favorite in the 165-pound



Northfield freshman Ella Pagel stands atop the podium Saturday night following her championship in the 165-pound weight class at the state tournament. (Michael Hughes/southernminn.com)

weight class.

She showed off that strength in Saturday's semifinals, where she picked up her opponent, slammed her to the ground and pinned her within the first 30 seconds in the match. It didn't take long to realize that type of win would not be possible in the finals, however.

Pagel attempted shot after shot in the championship's first period, but each was repelled by Senlycki, who was proving to be a tougher — and stronger — opponent.

"When I shot in on my feet, I got a good taste of it, like, 'Holy cow, her hips are strong,'" Pagel said. "I could not get through her, but it was good in the end. Even if I couldn't outmuscle her, I did my job."

Staab added, "She didn't get flustered. We were watching her out there and telling her, 'Keep calm, it'll come, it'll come.' The girl was obviously stronger than what we anticipated."

Pagel let her technical ability take over in the second period, quickly adjusting her plan of attack.

"She's a professional when it comes to wrestling big stakes matches," Staab said. "She's been doing it ever since she was 5 years old. She just keeps cool, is focused and does what it takes to be a state champ."

Even with all that big-time experience, Pagel said she was taken aback by the stage the first-ever MSHSL-sanctioned girls state tournament was awarded.

While pacing back and forth prior to the start of her match Saturday night, she couldn't help but marvel at the amount of fans with eyes trained on her.

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