

Exchange student finds 'new world'

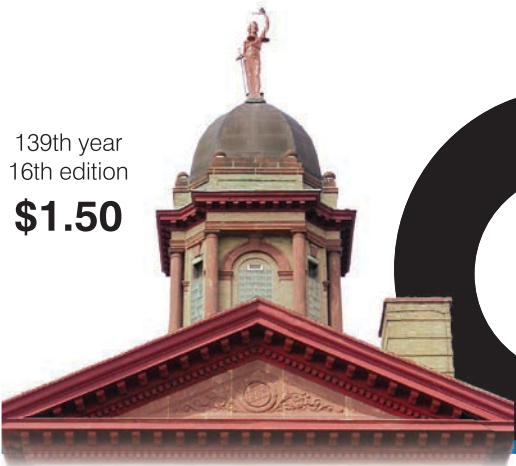
Thai exchange student enjoying Windom school year stay with Nickels

■ Page 4



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CITIZEN

Cottonwood County



Rough start

Cards sweep Eagle girls

■ Page 9

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022

WHAT'S INSIDE

Change ahead for veterans

Dibble to retire from Veterans Service office, Chmielewski takes reins

■ Page 2

ONLINE POLL

Last Week's Results

How do you think the Minnesota Twins will do this season?

- Miss playoffs **59%**
- Wildcard team **28%**
- Division Champs **13%**

Next Week

How should the Minnesota Legislature give a portion of the surplus back to taxpayers?

Vote at www.windomnews.com

DID YOU KNOW

A mild winter — for snow

If you thought it was a mild winter for snow, you aren't mistaken. Following is the total snowfall for each of the past five winters:

- 2021-22 — 32.3 inches
- 2020-21 — 32.4 inches
- 2019-20 — 44.4 inches
- 2018-19 — 71.3 inches
- 2017-18 — 77.0 inches

WEATHER

A look back . . .

	H	L	P
Tues.	57	33	.10
Wed.	44	27	—
Thurs.	39	26	—
Fri.	41	24	—
Sat.	43	24	—
Sun.	39	24	.9"sn.
Mon.	42	20	—

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RAHN LARSON 4/20 ER 10

Hospital unveils new ER

Modern layout, equipment makes ER area more efficient, effective

■ The new emergency room covers 4,200 square feet.

Windom Area Health has never been better prepared to handle emergencies. The hospital's staff was upbeat and confident, last week, as people arrived for a ribbon cutting sponsored by Windom Area Chamber of Commerce. Guests said they were impressed by the layout, modern technology and attention to detail.

The \$1.4 million project, which also includes a new ventilation system, came together quickly. It began in November and saw its first action last Wednesday (April 13).

It was supposed to take eight months, according to Emily Saffert, public relations/marketing

coordinator for Windom Area Health. However, a small amount of asbestos was found in the former ER area, enough to cause the entire project to move forward more quickly. "I think it looks amazing," said Kelsey Andrews, director of nursing. "The functionality has been great so far."

Meeting key needs

The new site covers 4,200 square feet. It takes up the former emergency room area, plus all of marketing and cardiac rehabilitation.

"For many years, we had talked about the need for a new ER," Andrews said. "Once COVID hit, we realized we could use more space and also a negative airflow room to help with airborne viruses (which includes COVID)."

"Over the years, we have seen repeat comments about the privacy issue, not having enclosed rooms, causing possible HIPPA violations. However, we also wanted



4/20 ER 11

AMONG THE NOTABLE changes in four of the rooms are the supply areas and breakaway doors that allow equipment to quickly be rolled inside sideways without having to make turns.

to do it right the first time. We didn't want to just do a facelift and keep everything the same.

"Finally, the time was right." Early on, it was clear that more rooms and overall space was needed.

"There were many days when there were people waiting in the hall and entry area," Andrews said. The decision was made to add three more rooms, bringing the total to eight.

In recent years, the nursing staff has moved to a system where nurses help triage the ER patients, making a quick assessment to see which patients more urgently need care. Patients are placed in different rooms, depending on their situations.

The ER's 72-hour hold area has seen a longer wait time for behavior and mental health holds (as people wait to be transported to a mental health facility). The

new ER now has safety features designed to keep both the patients and staff safe.

Public reaction

Feedback during last week's tour was positive.

Guests saw the modern equipment, including a boom that hangs from the ceiling and can easily be moved around, above the patient stretcher. (The previous system used stationary poles).

"It (the boom) carries medical air and oxygen, vacuum and suction all in one boom," Andrews said. "We are able to move it where it needs to be and you have it all right there."

In addition, guests had a chance to see the ER layout and how individual rooms are used.

"Some of the response during the tours was about how much they like the



4/20 ER 12

THE NURSES STATION IS in a corner of the ER, allowing full view of the area, plus quick, easy access.

County Road 2 project set for this summer

■ Work to upgrade one of the busiest roads in the county is expected for June and July.

By JOEL ALVSTAD

One of the busiest highways in the county will have a needed upgrade this summer.

At Tuesday's meeting, Cottonwood County Commissioners approved a bid from Duinink, Inc., in Prinsburg, to upgrade a 14-mile stretch of County Road 2, running from Highway 60 north to County Road 10.

The bid for the project was approved at a cost of roughly

\$2.925 million. County Highway Engineer Nick Klisch noted that the southern 10 miles of the project will add additional pavement strength, while the northern four miles of the project will have a two-inch mill and two-inch overlay.

"The project will likely take place in June and July," Klisch said. "Duinink is setting up by Red Rock Quarry because they also are contracted for the Highway 14 project from Sanborn Corner to Springfield. Once they are done with that project, they'll move on to County

Road 2." The project also will include the addition of rumble strips and paved shoulders. It also will repair the guard rails on the bridge near County Road 3.

Klisch said the best aspect of the project was the bids came in significantly lower than anticipated.

"It means that we won't need to borrow from our 2023 restate aid in order to complete this project," Klisch said.

The board also approved an agreement with MnDOT that allows federal funds to be used to complete the

County Road 2 project.

Redistricting plan

Commissioners approved a plan to adjust three commissioner districts in the county.

After a public hearing was held, the board adopted the plan, which calls for Great Bend Township to be removed from Commissioner District 3, currently represented by Donna Gravley, and placing it into District 4, currently represented by Norm Holmen.

To equalize the populations of the districts,

Germantown Township was then moved from District 4 to District 1, represented by Larry Anderson.

Because of the district changes, all three of those positions will be on the November ballot. Districts 1 and 3 were already scheduled to be on the ballot for four-year terms. The position for District 4 will be on the ballot for a two-year term to return the county board to its normal election cycle.

SEE COUNTY BACK PAGE

Local staff input

RRC Superintendent Todd Lee mentioned that user groups including teachers,

SEE RRC SCHOOL BACK PAGE

SEE ER BACK PAGE



■ DISTRICT COURT

Speeding: Bryan E. Alvarez, Sioux Falls, \$220; Jose B. Avalos, St. James, \$120; Santiago R. Beaumont, St. Paul, \$130; Casey D. Bolen, Minneapolis, \$140; Nicholas D. Challis, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, \$380; Alexis J. Demorest, Chatfield, \$130; Amir T. Gelan, Sioux Falls, \$140; Kyleah S. Jarvi, Duluth, \$130; Patricia M. Jones, Windom, \$130; Chaisty A. Klavetter, Hull, Iowa, \$120; Meylin Y. Mendoza, Chandler, \$130; Gregory D. Mikkelsen, Lake Crystal, \$130; Jenna A. Neugebauer, Minneapolis, \$120; Devon M. White, St. Paul, \$130; Savannah Nelson, Wakefield, Neb., \$120; Erin A. Thorson, Sioux Falls, \$140.

No or inoperative breakaway brakes: Craig S. Bennett, Bingham Lake, \$180.

Child restraint system not equipped and installed: Dhavalkumar G. Chaudhari, Hoffman Estates, Ill., \$130.

Hands-Free Law-access video content, images, games or software applications: Mason J. Endsley, Sioux Falls, \$130; Nathan M. Walter, Sleepy Eye, \$130.

Seat belt violation: Benjamin C. Johnson, Windom, \$105.

Hands-Free Law-initiate, compose, send, retrieve or read electronic message/no Minnesota driver's license/expired registration: Wally Rosario Recio, Windom, \$260.

Failure to yield: Darris W. Snelling, Windom, \$130.

No insurance owner: Kaitlyn A. Snook, Windom, \$280.

Failure to obey traffic control device: Linda M. Stauble, Burnsville, \$130.

Expired registration: Mark L. Torkelson, Windom, \$110.

Driving without a valid license: Maria Chilel, Mt. Lake, \$180.

Snow parking violation: Allan E. Pagan Agosto, Willmar, \$25.

DWI: Alejandro L. Mora, Marshall, \$305, pay restitution of \$638.48, local confinement 90 days, stay 90 days for one year, supervised probation for one year, pay for and complete chemical use assessment and follow all recommendations of evaluation, no use or possession of alcohol, controlled substance or drugs with the exception of prescribed medications, report to agent as directed, sign all releases of information, pay restitution before fines, fees and surcharges.

Hands-Free Law-initiate, compose, send, retrieve or read electronic message: Adam J. Moret, Sioux Falls, \$130.

Operate motor vehicle after license has been suspended, revoked or cancelled/failure to provide proof of insurance: Luis S. Parga-Viramontes, Windom, \$780, local confinement 90 days, stay 90 days for one year, supervised probation for one year, no traffic-related convictions, remain law-abiding, report to agent as directed.

Driving after cancellation: Diego Serrato Cornejo, Windom, \$280.

Fish and game — untagged traps or snares/failure to tend snare or remove captured animal: Peter M. Maguire, Walnut Grove, \$230.

Big change for vets

Dibble to retire from VSO, Chmielewski takes reins

■ Dibble followed the urge for a quieter life. Chmielewski's road began in Indiana.

By **EMILY CENZANO**

After more than 15 years of service, Cottonwood County Veterans Service Officer Todd Dibble is ready to retire.

The changeover Cottonwood County is about to see at the Veterans Service office is really the tale of two key people — Dibble and his replacement, who is already on the job, Mitchell Chmielewski. The two men have been working together since March 14.

Dibble's last day is April 29.

Dibble's winding road

Facta non verba translates to deeds, not words. Todd Dibble is a man of few words and many deeds. Dibble grew up in Westbrook, graduating in 1975.

He attended Worthington Community College for two years, followed by the University of Minnesota. While at the U of M, he decided to join the United States Army completing his basic training at Fort Benning in Georgia with a military occupational specialty of crewman on an infantry fighting vehicle.

Dibble fulfilled his years of service from 1984 to 1987 at Aschaffenburg, located in the State of Bavaria in Germany. Like many U.S. bases in Germany, Aschaffenburg was closed in 2007.

Upon honorable discharge, Dibble re-enrolled at the University of Minnesota completing degrees in both English and history.

Six years in Germany

Dibble then returned to Germany, spending six years working for a local university as a liaison for the military community.

While in Germany, he took advantage of his time and its central location and traveled to many European countries. Dibble even visited a portion of Northern Africa.

He moved back to the U.S. in 1999 and settled in Minneapolis, working as a manager for a day program serving individuals with disabilities.

A quieter life

The urge to live a quieter life away from the big city and the retirement of the previous VSO allowed Dibble to return to his home area in 2006.

Throughout his tenure with Cottonwood County he



EMILY CENZANO 4/20 Dibble and Chmielewski 002

ON APRIL 29, Todd Dibble (left) will retire as Cottonwood County Veterans Service Officer and Mitchell Chmielewski will take the reins.

stated that, on average, there are 750 veterans who could request assistance from his office.

Over the last 15 years he has seen many changes at both the state and federal levels within Veterans Affairs, the biggest being the transition from a long and tedious paper trail and processing times to digital documents and rapid processing of claims.

Dibble stresses that the VSO position is a county position and every county within the state is mandated to fill the position. They are employees of each county and not the VA.

Retirement plans

In retirement, he looks forward to waking up each morning and deciding what his adventure is going to be while spending quality time with his siblings and father who all still live in the Westbrook area.

Dibble may even become a snowbird and relocate somewhere warm for the winter months. His parting words of advice are: Be patient, listen to the veteran, don't pretend to know all the answers, and always follow up when you find those answers.

Chmielewski's journey

Following that advice from Dibble closely will be Mitchell Chmielewski.

Chmielewski grew up in Winamac, Ind. which is located in the northwest portion of the state. He graduated from high school in 2011.

He took a gap year before deciding that joining the U.S. Air Force would give him the most opportunities for both education and career placement. While

satisfying his four-year contract he attended the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., with a focus on security forces.

He deployed for training in Qatar during his time in the Air Force and was honorably discharged as an E-4 Senior Airman.

Indiana, Michigan stops

Chmielewski returned to Indiana and attained his associate's degree in business administration at Ivy Tech Community College, then enrolled at Valparaiso University working on a bachelor's degree.

At Valparaiso he worked as a veteran's service representative assisting veterans with financial aid and other education benefits. He also worked at HealthLinc Community Health Center, a non-profit health clinic, in the accounting and billing department.

Upon transferring to Penn State World Campus to study communications, Mitchell worked in operations at Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo, Mich. where his position was soon downsized due to the pandemic.

Chmielewski then was hired by Indiana Department of Corrections at Westville Correctional Facility. He was employed as a correctional officer and training administrator. He anticipates completing his degree in the next year.

Chmielewski had been casting his net for the last few years hoping to land a VSO position. He is excited to be a part of the Cottonwood County community and is interested in exploring places to hike.

INSIDE EDGE

Windom EDA gets report on potential housing projects

The Windom Economic Development Authority learned last week that additional housing projects could be coming for the Windom area.

A key construction services official from Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership told the board his group has already looked at a few Windom sites.

"They are interested in doing affordable housing, which is our need," said Jim Hartshorn, Windom's interim economic development director. "We talked a little about what they do and how they provide an affordable single family home and the cost for that."

Watch future editions of the Cottonwood County Citizen and Citizen eEdition for updates on this story as more details become available.

High winds lead to semi rollovers

Heavy winds caused three semi trucks and trailers to roll over between 8 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. last Thursday.

According to the State Patrol, which handled all three incidents, the first occurred at 8:10 a.m. near the intersection of Highway 71 and County Road 22. That rollover involved a 2016 International semi driven by Rashad D. Brown of Port Richey, Fla. Brown received non-life-threatening injuries.

At 9:46 a.m., another semi and semi trailer rollover was reported south of Windom on Highway 71, near the Fish Lake turnoff. No details were available.

The third rollover was reported at 12:16 p.m., north of Windom on Highway 71, near Delft. The incident involved a 2020 Volvo semi driven by Yolanda M. Qualls of Huron, S.D.

Cottonwood County deputies assisted with all three crash scenes.

Hwy. 86 detour runs to November

Starting this week, motorists taking Highway 86 through Lakefield are seeing a detour that will last until late fall, as crews begin reconstruction on 1.3 miles of Hwy 86, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The project will include grading, pavement, utility replacement, lighting, drainage and sidewalk reconstruction.

Hwy 86 through Lakefield will be closed during construction and traffic detoured. Access will be maintained for local residents and businesses. Visit the project website for detour information. Construction is expected to be complete by mid-November.

Construction is expected to be complete by mid-November.

Construction is expected to be complete by mid-November.

Veterans Memorial funds trickle in

Donations continue to trickle in for the proposed Windom Veterans Memorial project.

Justin Schmit, treasurer for the Windom Area Foundation, which is the project host for donations, reports that the Memorial Fund gained a few more donations in recent weeks, bringing the fund to within \$10,000 of its \$75,000 goal.

The project relies 100% on donations.

The memorial is targeted to be built at the curve of Highway 60-71, a highly visible site in the center of Windom.

To donate, go to www.windomareafoundation.com and click on the link marked "donate to veterans memorial," or send a check marked "Veterans Memorial" to: Windom Area Foundation, Box 351, Windom, MN, 56101.

■ SHERIFF'S REPORT

April 11

• 2:48 p.m. Cottonwood County deputies received a report of vandalism in rural Storden. The man said his tractor, which was parked near Lake Augusta over winter, received damage to two windows. It is not clear when it occurred.

April 13

• 5:29 p.m. Deputies assisted Westbrook Police with a report of a stolen vehicle. The case is linked to a theft in Lyon County. Westbrook officers spotted the vehicle, a 2008 Ford F-350 pickup, and gave chase. It turned into a foot chase. A 23-year-old Garvin man, was arrested for vehicle theft.

April 15

• 5:52 a.m. Deputies received a report of possible trespassing at a

rural Windom site. Upon investigation, it was determined that a 45-year-old Westbrook man and a 28-year-old Comfrey man were on private property without permission. Both parties were arrested for trespassing and taken to the Cottonwood County jail. The case remains under investigation.

• 11:07 p.m. A disturbance was reported in the 900 block of 11th Street in Westbrook. Deputies assisted Westbrook officers with the call. Upon investigation, it was determined that an intoxicated person was walking the halls of an apartment building, knocking on doors. The man told police he didn't realize it was 11 p.m., at the time. He returned to his apartment.

■ THE RECORD

April 11

• 7:19 a.m. A resident reported finding a wallet on the street in the 1200 block of Fourth Avenue. The wallet was taken to the Law Enforcement Center and the owner was called to retrieve it.

• 5:35 p.m. A Windom man reported that his wife was being harassed by a former employer. The man was advised of his options.

April 12

• 9:25 p.m. Police received a report of loud music near a home on Windom's east side. Upon investigation, officers could not hear any loud music in the area.

• 9:27 p.m. James Krueger of Windom reported damage to his 2018 Ford Edge. Damage to the passenger side door is believed to have

occurred that day at Hy-Vee or Windom Area Health. Police will follow-up by checking video systems at both businesses.

April 13

• 8:41 a.m. Officers were called to the ALC school to speak with staff about an incident that occurred in the school van as it was entering Windom from Jackson. According to the report, a 7-year-old student was kicked in the head and leg. The investigation is ongoing.

• 10:13 a.m. As a result of a traffic stop that occurred on Highway 60 at 16th Street, a 55-year-old North Mankato woman was arrested on a warrant for a probation violation.

April 14

• 6:52 a.m. Officers took

a report of vandalism to a garage door in the 500 block of 15th Street. The door was reportedly spray painted.

• 1:47 p.m. A dog bite was reported by the staff at Windom Area Health. According to the report, a 22-year-old Windom male was bitten on the right hand by a German shepherd-husky mix in the 400 block of 12th Street.

April 15

• 4:52 p.m. Officers spoke with a Windom bus driver who reported concerns about the conduct of a 14-year-old student on his bus. The man was advised of his options.

• 7:02 p.m. A two-vehicle crash occurred at the intersection of Highway 60-71 and Sixth Street. The mishap involved a 2014 Fiat driven by Jeremy Wolf of

Windom and a 2006 Chevrolet minivan driven by Antonio Lorenzo of Worthington. The Fiat received moderate damage and the Chevrolet received minor damage.

• 8:30 p.m. A Windom man reported that the driver's side window was broken on his 2001 Ford F-150 pickup sometime between 4 and 8:30 p.m., that day. It was parked in the 1000 block of 13th Street at the time. Officers advised the man to provide police with an estimate of damages. The case remains under investigation.

April 17

• 3:24 p.m. A Windom woman reported harassment via social media. An officer reviewed the messages and advised the woman of her options.

USDA offers relief for livestock costs

For livestock producers who have fought drought-related issues, help is on the way.

Due to the persistent drought conditions in the Great Plains and West, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is offering relief through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-raised Fish Program to help farmers cover costs of hauling livestock to grazing areas.

The livestock and feed hauling relief is retroactive for 2021 and assists with losses in 2022 and subsequent years.

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The ER expansion

When all is said and done, is there a more basic and crucial piece to a local hospital than an effective, state-of-the-art emergency room?

Some might debate that question, but we believe an even more debatable question is this:

“Would Windom Area Health have a new ER if not for local ownership?”

At more than \$1.4 million, the hospital’s ventilation and ER improvements were an expensive undertaking, a project that will not generate much revenue and could take decades to pay for itself, if at all.

Over the years, there have been informal discussions about someday selling Windom’s hospital. Given the amount of cash this would generate for the city, the amount of debt Windom could eliminate and the number of projects the proceeds could fund, selling the hospital was a legitimate option.

The city could set the hospital’s price tag as high as it wants, but the central question in all of this has always been: “What is the price in terms of local control?”

This question became more than theoretical last week when local residents toured the new ER and saw what it can do for family, friends and neighbors in a life-or-death situation.

Let’s say Windom leaders had chosen to sell Windom Area Health to the highest bidder. Would a private entity in Sioux Falls or Rochester sign off on a \$1.4 million ER project?

NEWS & NOTES

■ The recent \$1.4 million ventilation and emergency room improvements at Windom Area Health were needed and impressive.

■ The hospital is now better prepared to handle any life-or-death situation right here in our community.

■ It is fair to wonder, would the \$1.4 million investment have occurred under out-of-town private ownership?

We aren’t so sure, nor could we really blame the hospital’s owners if their leadership said, “We’ll spend the money on critical equipment at one of our less fortunate community clinics or hospitals.”

Business is business.

But from a local standpoint, there’s a more personal question that fits into this equation:

“If one of your family members were involved in a major car accident and faced a life-changing emergency would you want that loved one treated in an aging emergency room with aging equipment, or one that is completely up to date?”

The answer is pretty easy, right? Our city and hospital leaders have been wise on two counts — resisting the urge to sell Windom Area Health and investing in its long-term future and effectiveness.

— Rahn Larson

■ OUR READERS RESPOND

This is National Volunteer Week. What do you enjoy about volunteering?

Pam Gahler
■ WINDOM



“I do most of my volunteering at the Cottonwood County Historical Society because I can learn about our county, enjoy the camaraderie and I feel like I’m contributing something.”

Cheryl Hanson
■ WINDOM



“I enjoy volunteering at the BARC because of the people with whom I come in contact. I’ve met people I otherwise would not have known had they not come through our doors.”

Jim Garrison
■ WINDOM



“Volunteering is a great way to give back to the community. The hours are sometimes exhausting but the results, like serving on the Windom Baseball Association and working to keep the baseball complex at Island Park nice for the kids and community, make it worth all the time.”

Ben Petersen
■ WINDOM



“In volunteering with the Chamber and the Lions Club, I enjoy giving back to the community. It always makes you feel good when you’re able to do something that gives back to your community.”

Change in seasons — yuck!

Whatever happened to the elementary school rhyme, “April showers bring May flowers?”

I may have shared this before (I’m of that age where memory fails me all too quickly), but I’m noticing a very unique change in the seasons.

Now, I’ve been accused of being “one of those,” those “global warming” followers.

Sorry, but I read little about what they promote, much less buy into what they sell. I’m only stating what I’ve seen and in the last 15 to 20 years there’s been a definite shift in the seasons.

Raise your hand (love these elementary lessons) if you recall in your grade school days, worksheets, bulletin boards, or art projects that featured March as kite-flying weather, April as a month of showers, which, of course, brings May and its flowers.

Yep, you 50-to-70-somethings recall such classroom work.

Well, take a look at what we’re getting these days — in April. Wind, rain, snow, windchill and high temperatures in the 30s and lows in the 20s.

This is not the April weather I recall in my formative years in the 1970s. That was the weather we had in March — you know, the leftovers from winter. We were experiencing showers in April and trees were budding and flowers were beginning to sprout. There were actually leaves on the tree.

I recall taking a photo of snow covering sprouting tulips with a flip calendar showing April 26, 1986. Today that’s not a newsworthy item because we know, only too well, that it happens. In the mid-’80s that was a rare occurrence.

I was talking with a good friend, who backed me up on my assessment. He even went a step farther and surmised that weather we see today is three weeks behind what we saw in our childhood.

Take, for instance, track season.



DAVE FJELD
REPORTER
davef@windomnews.com

Now, granted, I grew up 70 miles south of here where the weather may be a little warmer, but not much. By this time — every year — we had competed in at least three or four track meets, and under warm skies.

The wind and cold nowadays just doesn’t allow for that.

Look a little farther into the calendar

year. How many times have we seen unseasonably warm weather in September in recent years? In the ’70s, by the time we reached mid-September, we were wearing jackets. These days, the jackets don’t start coming out until late September or early October.

And what about November and December?

I can remember often times going to Thanksgiving at my aunt and uncle’s house and walking to the front door on shoveled sidewalks. More often than not, Thanksgiving these years feels more like a ’70s late October day.

Well, what about snow in October, you say? Yes, we’ve had snow in October. But that has been an exception. I can remember going to a Christmas Eve program as a youth and it was raining. Again, an exception to the rule.

To me, weather is three weeks to a month behind what I’ve always known.

What does it matter, you ask? Spring should start in April, not May. Cooler fall weather should be arriving in September, not October. And I would much rather see winter weather arriving in November than lingering in April.

We’ve all had enough of winter and are ready to go outside and enjoy spring. We want it in April, not May.

This is not spring weather, it’s marginal fall weather.

OK, I’ll close with what I think all of you are thinking/feeling... Ugh!!!!

Big changes for local TV

It feels like Americans are on the brink of some important household budget decisions.

Inflation and the rise in gas prices have forced prices for countless products and services to rise as well. I’m told household heating costs also will eventually increase. And, when have you ever seen taxes decline?

All of this made it that much stranger to hear Dirk Abraham of the Windom telecommunications committee tell the city council that in some cases residents will soon get as many or more TV channels for less cost. It has to do with Windom’s cable TV system’s upcoming change to a streaming system.

The rollout for the new system could be just days away.

Old packages vs. new

Here is Windom’s current three-tier system — which Abraham noted is losing money due to rising programming costs:

- \$48 for basic.
- \$93 for expanded.
- \$108 for digital.

Here is Windom’s new system:

- \$64 for 96 channels (which is similar to the city’s \$93 expanded package).
- \$75 for a 121-channel package, which is similar to the city’s current \$108 digital package.

Of course, this isn’t cheaper for everyone. If you now pay \$48 for basic, your cable TV cost is about to rise by \$16 per month. And, if you have not yet received your

new Windomnet mega-center, your current router/modem needs the capacity to operate at 50 megabits per second or greater.

However, under these new packages you will still get the local channel 3 programming, plus the usual Twin Cities channels. And, there is an option (for an extra fee) to

add eleven out-of-market channels from Sioux Falls.

Two TV systems, for now

Abraham and Windomnet General Manager Jeff Dahna say there definitely will be an eventual shutdown of the old three-tier Windom cable TV system as it exists today.

However, they hinted that the changeover from our traditional cable TV system to a streaming system could take months.

That means Windom will be running two TV systems, side-by-side, for a period. It sounds like the tricky part will be getting everyone up to speed on how to use the streaming service.

Dahna told the city council there will be online tutorials, plus informational pieces available to the public. However, it’s a safe bet that this will not go as smoothly as everyone hopes.

My guess is that city staff members will need to stop at a few homes to assist customers.

This is a good move Windomnet, one that had to happen. The city cannot keep losing money on cable TV forever.



RAHN LARSON
EDITOR
rahnl@windomnews.com

Taking an indepth look at your child car seat

Question: I am a new parent and not sure if I am doing this child car seat thing properly. Is there somewhere I can go to find out if I am doing it right? Thank you.

Trooper Troy says: Congratulations on parenthood!

I know the feeling and there will only be more questions as time goes on. For child passenger safety, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety has a map that you can click on for your area, and it will bring you to a “car seat check.” <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ots/child-passenger-safety/Pages/car-seat-checks.aspx>

If this doesn’t work out, a person can always check with their local police department and county sheriff’s office, local public health department, or any hospital or clinic. If they are unable to help, they should be able to point you in the right direction.

Car seat laws

In Minnesota, all children must be in a child restraint until they are 4 feet, 9 inches tall, or at least age 8, whichever comes first.

• **Rear-facing child seats**—Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible.

Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat’s manufacturer.

• **Forward-facing seats**—Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat’s manufacturer.



TROY CHRISTIANSON
GUEST COLUMNIST

• **Booster seats**—Use after outgrowing a forward-facing harness restraint; safest to remain in a booster until 4 feet, 9 inches tall, or at least age 8, whichever comes first.

• **Seat belts**—Use when children can sit with their back against the vehicle seat and have their knees bent comfortably over the edge with their feet touching the floor.

Keeping children safe

From 2016-2020, 20 children (ages 0-7) were killed in motor vehicles and only 40% of the victims were known to be properly secured.

Of the 86 children (ages 0-7) seriously injured in motor vehicles in the past five years, only 50% of the

victims were known to be properly secured.

Of the 15,672 children (ages 0-7) who were properly restrained in the past five years, 88% were not injured, and another 9% sustained only minor or possible injuries.

For child’s safety

- Be an attentive driver.
- Always buckle up.
- Always secure your children in the proper restraint for their age, height and weight.
- Always have your children sit in the back seat.

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

Sgt. Troy Christianson is an information officer for the Minnesota State Patrol.

QUICK HIT

Joel Alvstad
Sports Editor



Growler law is antiquated

Apparently, it takes beer to get bipartisan support at the Legislature.

A proposal to increase the production limit for craft breweries to sell growlers was passed by a House committee on a 14-1 vote. It could be acted on by the full House and possibly the Senate.

Minnesota law currently prevents breweries that sell more than 20,000 barrels of beer annually to fill growlers, which are usually half-gallon-sized, glass jugs, filled from the tap at a brewery.

That means some of the state’s best-known craft breweries, like Castle Danger and Surly, cannot sell beer by the growler.

The proposal raises the limit to 150,000 barrels, which could open the door for Schell’s to sell growlers.

Minnesota is home to numerous outstanding craft breweries. This bill will be a big help to their bottom line.

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YOUR VOICE COUNTS

We welcome letters to the editor of up to 300 words on any topic. We strongly encourage letters to be typed/emailed and may be edited for clarity and length and must include your name, address and daytime phone number. The deadline for letters is noon on Mondays.

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Thai exchange student finds life in Windom 'a new world for me'

■ Jiratchaya says it will be difficult to leave Windom and the freedom of the culture.

Count Jiratchaya Boonsodakorn as the exception to the foreign exchange student rule during the 2021-22 school year.

While almost all of this year's exchange students at Windom Area High School have not been too surprised with life in the U.S. — "it's just like the movies," most have contended — Jiratchaya has found Windom to be "a whole new world," she says.

The 18-year-old, who is spending the year with the Scott and Dawn Nickel family in rural Windom, hails from Songkhla, Thailand. She says her home city is a little larger than Mankato.

Ask her how Windom is a whole new world, and she almost doesn't know where to begin.

"It's a new world for me, because of the culture, the people; the social is different from my country so much," Jiratchaya explains.

"People here can have a lot of freedom. They can do anything if they want. They can share their opinions. In my country, we can, but not a lot. People respect other people so much and we have a lot of rules to follow."

She explained that if someone older shares their opinions and a younger person offers a differing opinion, the older person believes the younger one is not showing them the respect they deserve. Consequently, younger voices tend to keep their opinions in check.

"But when I came here, I was like, 'Oh my gosh, I can share my opinion,'" she confirms.

And, of course, the landscape in Southwest Minnesota differs greatly from her surroundings in Thailand. She likes the openness of the rolling countryside, which she sees little of in Thailand.

"Here, when you go outside and, oh my, you can see the sky is so blue," she says.

Home and family life also is much different.

"In my family (in Thailand) we are kind of quiet. When I go to my house, my mom is downstairs to do her cooking and my dad is in his office; my sister goes to her room and I go to my room," Jiratchaya explains.

"But here it's kind of happy, mostly because my

host mom and my host dad are talking every time when we eat. I know I never feel lonely because when my host sister stays home we hang out, sometimes in her room and sometimes in my room. I so enjoy it."

She also has enjoyed being able to do a variety of things with her host family, including shopping, watching movies and cooking with her host mom.

She also has enjoyed attending family celebrations, such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, with her host family's parents/grandparents. Christmas quickly became her favorite holiday.

"In my country, we have Christmas, but we don't give the presents. We go to the mall, or something like that," she notes.

Her "whole new world" in Windom also included living on a farm with a variety of animals.

"They have chickens and cows and I've done things with the animals, like washing the cow. If I had not been with this family, I would not get to do stuff like this," she says.

An exchange student

Jiratchaya first heard about exchange student opportunities during a presentation at her school and she was captivated by the idea.

"I want to be an exchange student. I want to come here and maybe change my life," Jiratchaya recalls.

However, she hoped she would wind up in a U.S. climate that was more like that of her native Thailand, where the average year-round high is anywhere from 85 to 92 degrees and the low 76; California or Florida was her hope.

She confesses she wasn't prepared for Minnesota winter cold. She didn't mind the cooler weather, but not the bone-chilling temps Southwest Minnesota experienced this winter.

"I didn't think it was going to be cold so much like this," she says. "My dad and family told me, 'Minnesota is so cold,' but I didn't think it was going to be cold like this."

And the snow? She was shocked to learn that this was not a typical winter for snow. Just 31 inches fell in Windom this winter, compared to 71 and 77 inches in the winters of 2017-18 and 2018-19.



DAVE FJELD 4/20 Boonsodakorn, Jiratchaya 2
THAI EXCHANGE STUDENT Jiratchaya Boonsodakorn says she is going to miss the experiences she's had in Windom during the past school year when she returns to her home in Thailand in June.

AT A GLANCE — Jiratchaya Boonsodakorn

Age: 18

Home: Songkhla, Thailand
Pop.: 61,758

Thai Family:
Father: Tananchai
Mother: Kanitaya
Sister: Tananya, 16

Interests: Hanging out with friends, watching movies, sports (cheerleading and gymnastics), shopping.

Exchange Program: Forte

Host Family: Scott and Dawn Nickel; Wyatt Oddson, 21; Dakotah Oddson, 18.



"I think this was a lot, because in my country we don't have snow," she says with a laugh, noting that she had only seen snow in Japan while on vacation.

School differences

When it comes to school, Jiratchaya says one of the big differences is that students change classrooms in

the U.S., whereas students in her school in Songkhla stay in the same room, except for science labs, and the teachers come to their room to teach the class.

Another big difference is that, because she attends a private school in Thailand, she is required to wear the school uniform.

"I could not wear what I'm wearing right now," she says, referring to her sweat-shirt and leggings. "Oh, I have freedom so much."

"We go to school Monday through Friday and we wear the same stuff, same uniform. And I cannot wear a short sock and I cannot have long fingernails. I cannot have hair color, it must be the natural color and we cannot put on any makeup or earrings."

SEE JIRATCHAYA
• PAGE 5

Munning benefit to be held Saturday at Mt. Lake center

■ Proceeds from the benefit will help cover expenses the Munnings incur that are not covered by insurance.

A benefit meal and silent auction will be held Saturday, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the Mt. Lake Community Center for Michael Munning.

The meal includes hot pork and turkey sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, bars, cookies and a beverage, all for a freewill donation.

The silent auction will run during the meal with winning bids announced at 7 p.m.

Items on the auction include a gas grill, Pampered Chef items, glassware with various Minnesota and other logos, a crocheted baby afghan, other crocheted afghans and scarves, and many more items.

Proceeds from the benefit go to the Munning family, which includes Michael's



Michael Munning

wife, Jolene, and son, Harlan, to defray expenses they are incurring related to Michael's anticipated kidney transplant. Funds will cover such expenses that insurance does not cover, including gas, food, lodging after surgery, anti-rejection drugs and other costs.

The Munnings have been making daily trips to Sioux Falls in preparation for the transplant, which includes pre- and post-transplant care instruction and responsibilities.

Those unable to attend the benefit can send donations to Marlene Wolff at 1407 Third Avenue, Mt. Lake, MN 56159; or go online to: <https://helphope-live.org/campaign/16846>.

Worthington Zone LWML Spring Get-Together is April 30

The Worthington Zone LWML will hold its Spring Get-Together, April 30, at St. Peter Lutheran Church, North Highway 86, in rural Lakefield.

The event begins with registration and coffee at 8:30 a.m., with the meeting to follow at 9 a.m.

Speaker for the day will be Gary Thies of Mission Central.

Following the program there will be a pledge walk for mites.

Gifts from the Heart will go to food shelves in Jackson, Nobles and Cottonwood counties. Items needed include diapers, baby wipes, women's hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, liquid hand soap, and deodorant for men and women.

■ SMAC NEWS

Westbrook artist receives Individual Artist grant

Daryl Hrdlicka of Westbrook was one of seven artists awarded a SMAC Individual Artist grant.

Individual Artist grants provide up to \$2,500 to emerging artists and \$7,000 to established career artists for projects that will advance their skills and artistic careers.

Hrdlicka was awarded an Individual Established Career Artist grant in the amount of \$6,750. His project will include producing and filming a short horror movie. Daryl has already written the screenplay for the movie, titled "Goodnight, Billy."

Upon completion, the film will be screened at local venues, sent to film festivals and be available online.

"Ideally the film will come in at around 1 minute, which is a niche category that's starting to become popular," Hrdlicka said. "The challenge is telling the story in such a short amount of time."

Walnut Grove festival gets Art Project grant

Loose Gravel Music Festival in Walnut Grove is one of nine organizations awarded a SMAC Art Project grant.

Art Project grants provide organizations in the SMAC region with up to \$7,000 to stimulate and encourage the creation, performance and appreciation of the arts.

The Walnut Grove festival was awarded \$7,000 to support the second year of its outdoor music festival. The festival will be held July 29-30 at the Laura Ingalls Wilder Outdoor Amphitheater west of Walnut Grove. It will host six to eight live bands featuring Americana, Roots and Bluegrass music.

Updates from the last festival will include two days instead of one, limited on-site camping and more extensive marketing.



THE NICKEL FAMILY grew by one for the 2021-22 school year. The family includes (from left) Wyatt and Dakotah Oddson, exchange student Jiratchaya Boonsodakorn and Dawn and Scott Nickel.



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Rules worth following

When is the cost of living too high? When does it become too much for us to bear?

A certain teenager felt that the cost of living with his parents was too high. They said he had to wear the clothes they bought him, sleep in the bedroom they provided and clean up after himself. When they said he had to go to school, be polite, tell the truth and go to church with them, he argued with them. But still he stayed with them until he graduated from high school.

Later in life he laughed at how ridiculous he had been. His parents never charged him a cent for living at home, because his only cost was his obedience. Even when he didn't obey them, they still didn't kick him out. They just kept reminding him that


their rules were meant to help and not harm him.

That's the way it is with our Heavenly Father. The rules He gives that seem restrictive and harsh are given to help and protect us. The Ten Commandments are for our good, not to make our life unbearable.

Some people think the Bible has too many rules. Yet God has told us, "Be careful to obey all these regulations I am giving you, so that it may always go well with you and your children after you, because you will be doing what is good and right in the eyes of the Lord your God." (Deuteronomy 12:28)

God's rules are always worth following.

Prayer: O God, help us to see Your rules as worth keeping.



REV. ROBERT L. TASLER
RETIRED PASTOR

REV. ROBERT L. TASLER
Rev. Tasler is a 1963 graduate of Windom High School and was ordained at Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Windom in 1971. This devotional is from his daily devotional book "Every Day With Jesus." His published writings are available on Amazon.com



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The DISH



VICKI RASMUSSEN
FOOD COLUMNIST
vickir@windomnews.com

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter and got to spend time with your family. My mother-in-law hosted Easter and we had quite a crew to celebrate that Christ has risen! She made two huge hams and everyone else brought things.

I'm a huge fan of vegetables, so I made a green bean casserole and then roasted three huge pans of all different kinds of fresh vegetables and put them in a roaster to keep warm — so delicious!

But we did get some leftover ham to take home, so I've been looking for different ways to use that up, other than just making ham sandwiches or wraps. I also threw in a recipe, if you actually have any leftover candy or Peeps left. Is that a thing? Enjoy!

Cottage Cheese and Egg Muffins with Ham and Cheddar Cheese

1 cup cottage cheese
4 eggs, lightly beaten
1 cup flour
1 tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. salt
4 oz. ham, diced
½ cup cheddar cheese, shredded
2 green onions, sliced
Mix the cottage cheese, eggs, flour, baking powder and salt followed by the ham, cheddar cheese and green onions. Pour into a greased, 12 muffin pan and bake in a preheated 400 degree oven until golden brown and a toothpick poked into the center comes out clean, about 25-30 minutes.

Feel free to add whatever toppings you'd like.

BBQ Hawaiian Pizza Quesadillas

1 (10-inch) tortilla
½ cup mozzarella or jack cheese, shredded
¼ cup ham, cooked and cut into small pieces
2 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled
¼ cup pineapple, sliced and optionally grilled
2 Tbsp. BBQ sauce
2 Tbsp. jalapeno (pickled or fresh), sliced
Cilantro to taste

Heat a pan over medium heat, place the tortilla in the pan, sprinkle half of the cheese over half of the tortilla, followed by the ham, bacon, pineapple, barbecue sauce, jalapeno, cilantro and the remaining cheese.

Fold the tortilla in half covering the filling and cook until the quesadilla is golden brown on both sides and the cheese is melted, about 2-4 minutes per side.

Chicken Cordon Bleu Soup

4 strips bacon, cut into 1-inch pieces
1 cup onion, diced
1 cup carrot, diced
1 cup celery, diced
4 cloves garlic, chopped
¼ cup flour
6 cups chicken broth
½ cup heavy cream
2 cups chicken, cooked and diced or shredded
2 cups ham, diced
1 lb. potatoes, cut into bite-sized pieces
2 cups Swiss cheese, shredded
1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
2 Tbsp. white miso paste (opt.)
1 Tbsp. lemon juice (opt.)
2 Tbsp. parsley, chopped (opt.)

Cook the bacon in a large sauce pan and set aside reserving the bacon grease in the pan. Add the onions, carrots and celery and cook over medium-high heat until tender, about 10 minutes. Add the garlic and cook until fragrant, about a minute.

Sprinkle in the flour and cook until lightly golden brown, about 2-3 minutes. Add the broth, cream, chicken, ham and potatoes, bring to a boil, reduce the heat and simmer until the potatoes are tender, about 10 minutes.

Add the cheese, mustard and miso and cook until the cheese has melted, before mixing in the lemon juice and parsley and serving.

Easter Candy Blondies

2¼ cup all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt

1 cup butter, softened
1½ cups packed brown sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 large eggs
1 cup white chocolate chips
Your favorite Easter candy
6-8 Peeps
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a small bowl combine the flour, baking soda and salt.

In a large mixing bowl, combine butter and brown sugar, mixing until smooth. Add vanilla to the butter mixture and then the eggs, one at a time, mixing until fully incorporated. Slowly add the flour to the butter mixture mixing the whole time. Stir in the chocolate chips and miscellaneous Easter candy.

Spread the mixture into a prepared 9-by-13-inch pan. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Minutes before you remove the blondies from the oven, press the Peeps into the surface and continue baking for 5 minutes. Cool in pan on wire rack.

Stuffed Sweet Potatoes

4 medium sweet potatoes
2 tsp. extra virgin olive oil
8 oz. baby spinach, chopped
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. freshly ground black pepper
¼ tsp. garlic powder
½ lb. leftover ham cut into ¼-inch cubes
8 oz. shredded cheese blend (mozzarella, Monterey jack, cheddar), divided

Sweet Potatoes: Begin by preheating the oven to 350 degrees. Clean potatoes and poke each several times with a fork.

Place potatoes on a lined baking sheet and bake on center rack for 45 to 50 minutes until tender (they don't have to be 100% cooked at this point as you will continue baking them later, but tender enough to cut and scoop out most of the insides). NOTE: This step can be done in advance (up to three days).

Stuffing: While potatoes are cooking, cut the leftover ham into ¼-inch cubes and chop baby spinach.

Heat a large skillet over medium heat. Once hot, add olive oil and then chopped spinach. Add salt, pepper and garlic powder and saute spinach 3 to 4 minutes, until wilted. Drain excess liquid and transfer to a mixing bowl. Add chopped ham and 4 oz. of the shredded cheese (save the other 4 oz. for the topping). Set aside until sweet potatoes are cooked and ready to be scooped out.

Remove cooked sweet potatoes from oven (leave oven on) and use a paring knife to cut an oval on the top about three-quarters of the way deep into the potato, essentially making a "potato boat" or shell to be stuffed.

Transfer the cooked potato insides (scooped out of each potato) to the bowl with the ham, cheese and cooked spinach. Mix filling well and stuff one quarter of filling into each potato "shell," packing tightly. Top each stuffed potato with 1 oz. of the leftover shredded cheese mixture and place back into the oven for 20 minutes or until filling is heated through and cheese is melted.

If desired, broil for the last 2 to 3 minutes to brown cheese.

Remove, allow to cool for 3 to 4 minutes, serve and enjoy!

OBITUARIES

Blanche Meyer

Blanche Meyer, 76, of rural Storden died April 9, 2022, at Good Samaritan Society-Westbrook.



A celebration of life service was Saturday at Amo Lutheran Church in rural Storden with Pastor Harvey Pedersen officiating.

LaCanne Family Celebration of Life Center in Windom handled the funeral arrangements.

Blanche Eileen Dunnick was born Jan. 25, 1946, to Donald and Wilma (DeRoos) Dunnick in Boyden, Iowa. She received her education in Boyden-Hull Public Schools.

After joining the carnival for several years, Blanche later attended Clifton College in California and lived in several places in California and Arizona.

In 1996, Blanche married Nick Meyer at Amo Lutheran Church in rural Storden. They lived at Nick's home south of Storden.

For several years before retiring, Blanche was a Medi-Van driver. A longtime member of Amo Lutheran Church in rural Storden, Blanche was a past treasurer and member of WELCA.

She enjoyed her dogs, karaoke, an occasional trip to the casino, creating artwork, crocheting and collecting frogs.

She was preceded in death by three brothers: Clairneil, Bob and Chuck Dunnick.

Survivors include her husband of 25 years, Nick Meyer of rural Storden, three stepchildren: Jen (Scott) Zupker of Mapleton; Josh (Kate Lincoln-Goldfinch) Meyer of Austin, Texas; and Chris (Zach Herbst) Meyer of Minneapolis; six step-grandchildren; one step-great-grandchild; and two siblings, Butch (Pat) Dunnick of Hutchinson and Jackie Conrad of rural Storden.

Ruth Thompson

Ruth Thompson, 79, of Lakefield, formerly of the Windom and Jackson area, died April 10, 2022, at Serenity Living Solutions in Sebeka.

A celebration of Ruth's life will be held May 21. Ruth Ann Thomas was born June 14, 1942, to Harold and Mildred (Navara) Thomas in Jackson. She grew up in Lakefield and graduated from Lakefield High School in 1960.

In her younger years, she worked at the Thomas Cafe.

JIRATCHAYA/ Still has senior year remaining

FROM PAGE 4

The future

Although she turns 19 in August, when she returns to Songkhla in a couple of months, she will prepare for her senior year of high school and the following year she plans to attend the university in Songkhla.

Her desire is to be a fashion designer, however, her parents would like to see her pursue a career in

Terry Nerhus

Terry Nerhus, 70, of St. Louis Park, formerly of Windom, died April 5, 2022, at his home.



A memorial service was Thursday at Cremation Society of Minnesota in Edina.

He will be buried with his parents at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery in Windom.

Terry Lee Nerhus was born Aug. 26, 1951, the first of five children born to Larned and Viola Nerhus in Windom. He grew up in Windom and graduated from Windom High School in 1969. He attended St. Cloud State, then started his early career in Norwegian imports and retail sales by opening a small retail store in St. Cloud.

In 1971, he married Jackie (Schuett) Nerhus. They were blessed with two children, Erik and, in 1984, Molly.

After opening a larger store in St. Cloud, he moved to Mankato and opened stores in Mankato and Minnetonka.

A few years later, the family moved back to Terry's beloved hometown of Windom, where he opened a men's clothing store, his childhood dream.

After a fire destroyed the store, he launched a new career in real estate finance in the Twin Cities, in which he spent the rest of his career.

His greatest joy was watching his children grow up and have their own families. He was a regular in the stands at local hockey arenas watching his grandchildren and was a Wayzata hockey super fan. He enjoyed supporting and watching all four of his grandchildren in their activities.

Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Jackie; son, Erik (Liz) Nerhus; daughter, Molly (Kevin) Rollwagen; four grandchildren; and sisters: Kathy (Danny) Smith, Karen (Bill) Knigge, Andrea Nerhus and Patty (Gale) Symens.

While living in Windom, she worked at KDOM Radio in its location on Wolf Lake Road.

She also lived for several years in Hibbing, where she worked as a bank teller.

In 2015, due to early dementia, she moved to Traditions of Montgomery. She later moved to Sebeka to be near her daughter.

Survivors include her daughters, Brenda Temple and Bethany Hagy; four granddaughters; and a sister, Eileen Pankonin of Windom.

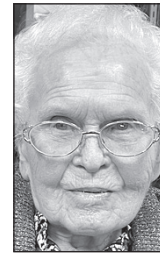
pharmacy, or become a doctor or dentist. Her mom is a housewife and her dad is a helicopter pilot.

Jiratchaya says she is going to miss her time in Windom and the school year spent with her host family. She says she came with few expectations for what her U.S. experience would be like and has not been disappointed.

"When I came here, I didn't expect a lot, but when I came here, oh my gosh, this is a new world for me," she concludes. "I like being here so much. I'm going to come here again some day."

Arlene Burbank

Arlene Burbank, 100, of Windom died April 14, 2022, at Good Samaritan Society-



Sogge Memorial in Windom.

A celebration of life service will be held today (Wednesday) at 10:30 a.m., at American Lutheran Church in Windom with Pastor Adam Roberts officiating.

Interment will be at Lakeview Cemetery in Windom following the service.

Visitation will be held today at the church for one hour prior to the service.

LaCanne Family Celebration of Life Center in Windom is handling the funeral arrangements.

Arlene Ozel Batalden was born Dec. 20, 1921, to Ole and Anna (Quam) Batalden on the family farm in Highwater Township of Cottonwood County. She was baptized and later confirmed at Highwater Lutheran Church.

Arlene received her early education at District 3 Highwater Township country school before graduating from Lamberton High

School in 1939. She attended business college, graduating in 1941.

In 1978, Arlene married Stanley Kenneth Burbank in Windom. They lived in Windom and enjoyed 11 years of marriage until Stanley's death in 1990.

Until retiring in 1984, Arlene worked as the deputy county recorder for Cottonwood County for 28 years.

In 1996, Arlene moved to Remick Ridge Estates in Windom, then to Good Samaritan Society-Sogge Memorial in 2017.

Arlene was a member of Sons of Norway, RSVP, AARP and the Cottonwood County Historical Society.

She was involved in American Lutheran Church in Windom, volunteering as a Sunday School teacher and holding various offices for American Lutheran Church Women.

In addition to her husband Stan Burbank, Arlene was preceded in death by brothers Clement, Norris and Vernon Batalden; and sisters Bernice Erlandson and Cora C. Brand.

Survivors include many nieces and nephews.

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Cottonwood County Veterans Service Office

The Cottonwood County Veterans Service Office is a primary point of contact for veterans and their families who seek assistance with local, state, and federal veteran's benefits. Some of the services available are assistance with federal VA disability/pension claims, VA health care enrollment, and VA burial benefits, as well as Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs benefits.

To find out more about VA benefits call Mitchell Chmielewski at 507-831-5522. Our office is located at 41385 US Hwy. 71 in Windom, MN. You may also go to our Cottonwood County website at www.co.cottonwood.mn.us to find general contact information and current information under the "What's New" section.

This ad was made possible by the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs. For more information you may also call the Veterans Linkage Line at 1-888-LinkVet (546-5838).

— WINDOM AREA SCHOOLS —

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Chosen because— Grace is outgoing and dependable in class. She always has a smile on her face and is willing to help others in need. Grace is one that a sub can go to and she will help out. She is dependable and a good friend to all.

Student's comments— I enjoy seeing my friends, being involved in new activities and learning new things.

Student's interests— Sports, baking, and riding horses

Parents— Matt Buckentin and Jamie Buckentin



Grace Buckentin
Grade 8

HIGH SCHOOL

Chosen because— Owen is a great help in chemistry and is willing to engage in class. When working with other students, he patiently helps and clearly explains his work so others can understand. He will challenge himself everyday in class.

Student's comments— I enjoy being with my classmates, shop classes like Eagle Path Manufacturing, and my Spanish classes.

Student's interests— Hunting, fishing, and spending time with friends

Parents— Ali and Jeff Dahna



Owen Dahna
Grade 11

Congratulations, Grace and Owen!

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BULLETIN BOARD

CLUB ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, April 26
The Dinner Table, a monthly meal open to all, is serving both in-person and drive-thru meals, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For in-person dining, enter First Presbyterian Church through the east doors, or to pick up a drive-thru meal see organizers in the alley by the church at 336 11th St., to receive your meal. Enter the alley from Third Avenue and drive west.

LSS BISTRO
(Formerly Windom Senior Dining, each meal includes milk, bread and dessert.)

Thursday: Roasted turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes with gravy, peas, dinner roll.

Friday: Swedish meatballs, romaine salad with dressing, fresh apple.

Monday: Barbecued pork on

a bun, creamy cucumber salad, pears.

Tuesday: Chicken fajita meat with taco shells, Spanish rice, black bean/corn salsa.

Wednesday: Spaghetti with meat sauce, romaine salad with dressing, tropical fruit, Texas toast.

Thursday (4-28) — Signature Meal: Pork loin with gravy, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli.

Call 831-6161 the day prior to the desired dinner and indicate eat-in, take-out or delivery.

WINDOM AREA SENIOR CENTER

Activities at the Center, located at 1750 Cottonwood Lake Drive include:

Men — Monday-Friday: Pool and cards for men, 8 a.m.-noon.

Area FFA's prepping for 2022 state convention

■ Mt. Lake has nine CDE teams and WWG eight competing at the state convention this year.

Area FFA chapters are preparing for the 2022 Minnesota FFA State Convention Sunday through Tuesday.

The convention will be held on the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities campuses, the Minnesota State Fairgrounds and the St. Paul Pipefitters Training and Certification center, the latter location for ag technology and mechanics state participants only.

Cottonwood County FFA programs represented at the state competition include Windom Area, Mt. Lake, Westbrook-Walnut Grove and Red Rock Central.

Windom Area, led by advisers Betsy Harwood and Jaclynn Engen, will have three teams competing at state. They are the agricultural mechanics team of Cooper Bramstedt, Dodge Byam, Wyatt Haugen and Braden Yonker; the horse evaluation team of Ella Smith, Toria Robillard, Addisyn Powers and Saydie Raverty; and the small animal/vet science team of Rylie Raverty, Kaycee Hunter, Valerie Schutz and Fiona Robillard.

Mt. Lake, meanwhile, will have a host of teams competing at state. They include:

- Farm business management: Alex Karschnik, Kody Wassman, Chase Anacker, Joey Faber and Grant Regier.
- Livestock: Haily Green, Paige Green, Matt Wiebe and Evan Oltmans.
- Floriculture: Ian Penner, Kade Wassman, Izzy Penner and Kathryn Wassman.

SEE FFA • PAGE 7

2022 Class A State Speech Qualifiers



Kaylan Donchez



Makenna McNamara



Virginia Jensen



Eric Cendejas Caballero



Alex Garcia



Lauren Kelly



Andres Rodriguez Cerda



Harriet Lohse



Jaden Scholl



Lexi Weber



Elizabeth Wiggins

Area speakers prep for state

■ Eight speech competitors from Windom and three from WWG/RRC will vie for medals.

After an Easter break, speech contestants across the state are polishing up their pieces in preparation for the 2022 Minnesota State Speech Tournament.

The Class A tournament is Saturday at Eastview High School in Apple Valley. Class AA competes Friday.

Cottonwood County will be represented by 11 contestants in six categories in the Class A tournament, including eight from Windom and a trio from Westbrook-Walnut Grove/Red Rock Central. Speakers advanced by placing in the top three of their section tournaments.

And on what have speakers and coaches been focusing since the section tournament?

"To prepare, we will be combing through scripts and performances with a fine tooth comb to smooth everything out and be ready for a really solid, confident performance at

SEE SPEECH • PAGE 7

CLASS A STATE SPEECH — AT A GLANCE

WHEN: Saturday, April 22

WHERE: Apple Valley High School

SCHEDULE: 9 a.m. — Registration
9:30 a.m. — Draw participants meet
9:45 a.m. — Draws for Round 1
10:15 a.m. — Round 1 for all events
11:15 a.m. — Draws for Round 2
11:45 a.m. — Round 2 for all events
12:45 p.m. — Draws for Round 3
1:15 p.m. — Round 3 for all events
3 p.m. — Draws for Final Round
3:30 p.m. — Championship Round for all events
5:30 p.m. — Awards Ceremony

ADMISSION: No charge

VYING FOR STATE HARDWARE

COUNTY STATE QUALIFIERS (Section place, name, grade, school / Title - author)

Creative Expression
2. Virginia Jensen, Jr., Windom
Head Space

Extemporaneous Reading
2. Lexi Weber, Sr., WWG/RRC
There is No Long Distance Now by Naomi Shihab Nye

Poetry
1. Jaden Scholl, Sr., WWG/RRC
Sink: A Collection of Poems by Desire Dallagiaco

Original Oratory
2. Makenna McNamara, Jr., Windom
The Power of Caring
3. Kaylan Donchez, Sr., Windom
Conquering the Game

Dramatic Interpretation
1. Elizabeth Wiggins, Sr., WWG/RRC
Four Senses by Stephanie Christiansen

2. Harriet Lohse, Fr., Windom
Watch it Burn by Bobby Keniston

Duo Interpretation
2. Eric Cendejas Caballero & Alex Garcia, Srs., Windom
Dear Evan Hansen by Val Emmich, Steven Levenson, Benj Pasek & Justin Paul
3. Andres Rodriguez Cerda & Lauren Kelly, Srs., Windom
Kissing Scene by Carl Martin

RRC names 3rd quarter A, B honor roll students

■ A total of 47 students in grades 5-12 were named to the 'A' honor roll and 64 to the 'B' honor roll.

Red Rock Central School in Lambertton recently released its third quarter "A" and "B" honor rolls.

A total of 47 students in grades 5-12 were named to the "A" honor roll, while 64 students were named to the "B" honor roll.

'A' honor roll

Fifth grade: Kathryn Hubert, Zoey Keck, Hattie Skarupa, Amana Smith.

Sixth grade: Henry Stavnes.

Seventh grade: Jadyn Beranek, Natalee Lenning, Jonah Skarupa, Camryn Therkilsen.

Eighth grade: Abigale Evans, Carter Therkilsen.

Ninth grade: Avery Engen, Mason Huffman, Travis Rogers, Maia Scheffler.

Tenth grade: Alexis Alexander Holmes, Mercedes Myers, Isaac Simonson, Quintyn Vold.

11th grade: Jacob Amsden, Austin Cowan, Emily DeCock, Bode Determan, Madelyn Geske, Rachel Holman, Reilly Hubin, Morgan Huffman, Tucker Juhnke, Toby Osland, Jada Radmaker, Sondra Rindfleisch, Keaton Skarupa, Carmella Whittaker, Delaney Willhite, Lindsey Willhite.

12th grade: Hailey Amsden, Karli Arkell, Ryker Duroe, Madeline Evans, Nora Hemmingsen, Matthew Horning, Sara Johnson,

Shane Rogers, Jackson Shannon, Lillian Stavnes, Joseph Strook, Alexis Weber.

'B' honor roll

Fifth grade: Bella Reiner, Kullen Steen, Brandon Therkilsen, Josie Timm.

Sixth grade: Lillian Batalden, Kyleigh Groebner, Colton Jeckell, Asa Olson, Tori Pankonin, Aiden Prechel, Olivia Reiner, Rylee Swenson.

Seventh grade: Carly Hubert, Morgan Hubert, Timothy Jacob, Madilyn Marsh, Liam Nelson, Kendra Schroeder, Maxwell Thooft, Celia Vogel, Marshal Willhite, Paige Wondercheck.

Eighth grade: Trenton Blomgren, Nathan Cowan, Jake Erickson, Charlie Hagert, Bowen Hesse, Abraham Stavnes.

Ninth grade: Hadlee Hemmingsen, Riley Jones, Shadae Knutson, Thomas Nelson, Khloe Reiner, Keagan Steen, Sydney Vogel, Aryanna Weber.

Tenth grade: Carter Beranek, Alyssa Cowan, Bowen Eberhard, Ella Erickson, Addison Irlbeck, Ava Juhnke, Eva Redman, Avery Schoer, Austin Senst, Dean Simonson, Tyler Therkilsen, Megan Wersal.

11th grade: Emily Cowan, Charles Dammann, Abby Helmer, Josie Horning, Vander Mathiowetz, Chloe Ramthun, Jadyn Steen, Bailey Timm, Travis Worrell.

12th grade: Isabel Bunting, Benjamin Hansen, Brandon Hensch, Haillie Morin, Jenna Paplow, Adriana Ruiz, Carlee Sell.

SCHOOL MENUS April 21-28

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BREAKFAST MENU

(Each meal comes with fresh fruit and milk; cereal alternative is whole grain. Meals are subject to change.)

Thursday: Banana bread, apple juice. Cereal and graham crackers, fruit punch juice. PreK: Blueberry muffin.

Friday: Mini bagel with cream cheese or mini pancakes, apple juice. PreK: Half mini bagel with peanut butter or jelly, or crackers, fruit juice.

Monday: Mini waffles, applesauce, orange juice. PreK: Crackers, applesauce.

Tuesday: Cake and sausage on a stick or mini cake and sausage bites, apple juice. PreK: Cereal.

Wednesday: Cereal and yogurt, fruit smoothie, fruit juice variety. PreK: Blueberry muffin.

Thursday (4-28): Muffin and crackers, orange juice. PreK: Banana bread.

LUNCH MENU

(All meals at all schools include 1% white or skim white, chocolate or strawberry milk.)

Thursday: Pulled pork tacos with tortilla chips, lettuce, tomatoes and toppings, corn, variety fruit. MHS alt.: Mini chef lettuce salad with toppings, bread stick.

Friday: Bosco cheese bread sticks with marinara sauce, steamed broccoli, fruit cup. MHS alt.: Ham sandwich.

Monday: Ham patty or pork rib on a bun, corn, coleslaw, fruit variety. MHS alt.: Turkey and cheese sandwich.

Tuesday: Garlic cheese bread pizza with marinara sauce, romaine lettuce salad, peas and carrots, fruit. MHS alt.: Chicken wrap with vegetable toppings.

Wednesday: Spaghetti with meat sauce and garlic bread stick or toast, green beans or fresh vegetables with dip, fruit variety. MHS alt.: Savory chicken sandwich.

Thursday (4-28): "Build a Better Burger" with hamburger on a bun, cheese and vegetable toppings, potato choice, baked beans, variety fruit. MHS alt.: Turkey supreme on a bun.

Red Rock Central

BREAKFAST MENU

(All breakfast served with fruit, juice and milk.)

Thursday: Mini doughnuts.

Friday: Cereal.

Monday: Cini-minis.

Tuesday: Banana bread.

Wednesday: Chocolate chip breakfast bar.

Thursday (4-28): Uncrustable.

LUNCH MENU

(All meals served with milk, but are subject to change.)

Thursday: Italian dunkers, lettuce salad, fruit.

Friday: Hamburger, fries, fruit.

Monday: Pizza crunchers, corn, pears.

Tuesday: Chicken patty, green bean bake, fruit.

Wednesday: Bosco sticks, peas, pineapple.

Thursday (4-28): Chicken Alfredo, broccoli, fruit, bread stick.

Windom to host Red Cross blood drive May 24

■ Use the Red Cross Rapid Pass to save up to 15 minutes on the donation process.

Windom Women of Today is coordinating a Red Cross blood drive May 24, from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Windom Community Center, 1750 Cottonwood Lake Drive, in Windom.

Donors of all blood types — especially type O and those giving platelets — are urged to make an appointment to give now and help ensure hospital shelves are stocked with blood products during the busy summer months.

Summer is traditionally a time when blood donations decline. The need for blood doesn't take a holiday break — patients still depend on lifesaving transfusions.

Donors are needed now to prevent further delays to patient care. Schedule an appointment to give blood now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-

AREA RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

■ May 2 — Mt. Lake Community Center, 1027 2nd Ave., 1:30-6:30 p.m.

■ May 10 — Immanuel Lutheran Church, 620 Bush St., Lakefield, 1-6 p.m.

■ May 11 — Okabena American Legion, 116 South Minnesota Ave., 1-7 p.m.

■ May 12 — Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 614 Logan Ave., Jackson, noon-6 p.m.

■ May 16 — Westbrook Community Center, 849 5th St., noon-6 p.m.

■ May 24 — Windom Community Center, 1750 Cottonwood Lake Dr., 1:30-6:30 p.m.

2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Antibody testing

COVID-19 antibody testing is presently being conducted. Your donation may help some with COVID-19. For more information go online to: RedCrossBlood.org/AntibodyTesting

Plasma from routine donations that have high levels of COVID-19 antibodies may be used as convalescent plasma to help meet the needs of COVID-19 patients with a weakened immune system.

The Red Cross first tested donations for COVID-19 antibodies earlier in the pandemic to provide convalescent plasma for patients. When infection rates decreased and new treatment options became available, the Red Cross discontinued the program.

With a recent surge of new variants, hospitals began seeking more treatments for their most vulnerable patients. New clinical trial data has shown that convalescent plasma may benefit immunocompromised patients. The Red Cross is continuing this program to ensure doctors

have every tool available to support treatment.

How to give

To donate blood individuals need to bring a blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification that are required at check-in.

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in Minnesota), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Nominations Needed! Windom High School Alumni Hall of Fame

For the fourth year, the Windom High School Alumni Hall of Fame committee will recognize outstanding alumni for their significant achievements and contributions to their career and community.

These individuals provide a source of pride and distinction to the Windom School District. These roles also present an inspiration and incentive for current and future students.

Criteria to be considered:

- Has graduated from Windom High School at least 20 years prior to nomination.
- Has significant accomplishments and/or community service that have been recognized as outstanding through the receipt of awards, honors or other forms of distinction.
- Has made a profound and positive international, national, regional or local impact in their chosen field or community.
- Posthumous nominations will be accepted.
- We will be accepting nominations until Friday, April 29!
- Nominations may be made by alumni, current or former faculty and staff, administrators and community members of Windom High School.

Nomination forms at www.windom.k12.mn.us
(Click the "Community" tab and scroll to "Alumni Hall of Fame")

Or stop in to the High School office at:
1400 17th Street in Windom

Questions? Call: **507-831-6910**

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FFA/ ML FFA'ers participating in other events

FROM PAGE 6

• Forestry: Aiden Penner, Avrom Buller, Devyn Rempel and Caden Swoboda.
 • Small animal/vet science: Brooke Naas, Kaelynn Pietsch, Meesha Hoek and Brody Kleven.
 • Wildlife: Carsen Hopper, Wyatt Bergling, Cayden LaPointe and Paige Wilson.
 • BIG: Jake Evers, Elyza Buller, Elsie Buller, Elena Stade, Bailey Meyer and Landon Strom.
 • Crops: Eli Hall, Landen Rempel, Tanner Schultz

and Dustin Falk.
 • Nursery Landscape: Isabella Vidana, Jadrach Renquist, Lydia Rete, Miriam Rete and Mareena Jepsen.
 Others competing at state for Mt. Lake include Karla Hernandez in creed speaking; Destiney Bolte in dairy handling; Grant Oakland and Brayden Oakland in the talent show; and Johnna Gardiner in the state choir.
 Receiving their State Degrees are Haily Green, Miriam Rete, Kade Wasman, Ian Penner, Aiden Rehnel and Devyn Rempel.
 Red Rock Central has just one individual participating in events at

state convention. Natalee Lenning will be competing in creed speaking and will be joined by her adviser Rachel Moe.
 Westbrook-Walnut Grove has eight teams competing at the convention next week.
 Teams joining advisers Josh Barron, Meghan Beckendorf, Linda Carter and Dave Rentschler at state include:
 • Crops: Zach Barron, Tim Kleeberger, Neil Kuehl and Ben Yang; alternates Adrian Page and Blake Warner.
 • Fish & wildlife: Hudson Jenniges, Izzy Rentschler, Dustin Vang, Kelvin Vang; alternate Louis Lee.

• Meats: Maci Christians, Addison Jenniges, Ella Knakmuhs and Abby Wiggins.
 • Milk quality: Kelsey DeSmith, Kayla Freeburg, Natalie Wahl and Elana Yang.
 • Nursery/landscape: Anisha Xiong, Cassidy Xiong, Shinna Yang and Julia Yang.
 • Poultry: Luke DeSmith, Dan Kleven, Ben Larson and Elijah Merrick.
 • Soils: Leah Carter, Colton Carter, Kole Curry and Hallie Landuyt; alternate Casey Brown.
 • Small animal/vet science: Anna Byers, Orion Knakmuhs, Morgan Ryder and Cole VanDeWiele.

SPEECH/ WWG/ RRC has three at state

FROM PAGE 6

state,” said Windom coach Lisa Letcher, following her team’s runner-up finish in the Section 3A Tournament.
 Windom will be represented by eight students in four categories, including four seniors competing in duo interpretation — Eric Cendejas Cabalero and Alex Garcia, and Lauren Kelly and Andres Rodriguez Cerda. Senior Kaylan Donchez and junior Makenna McNamara will compete in original oratory, while junior Virginia Jensen and freshman Harriet Lohse compete in creative expression and drama,

respectively.
 WWG/RRC, meanwhile, has three individuals in Saturday’s state tournament, led by a pair of section champions in Elizabeth Wiggins in drama and Jaden Scholl in poetry. Scholl won a silver medal in poetry in a virtual state tournament last year. The other state qualifier for WWG/RRC is Lexi Weber in extemporaneous reading.
 Competition on Saturday begins with draws for Round 1 at 9:45 a.m., followed by Round 1 competition at 10:15 a.m. Contestants will compete in three rounds of competition with the top eight in each of the 13 speech categories advancing to the championship round at 3:30 p.m.
 The awards ceremony is set for 5:30 p.m.

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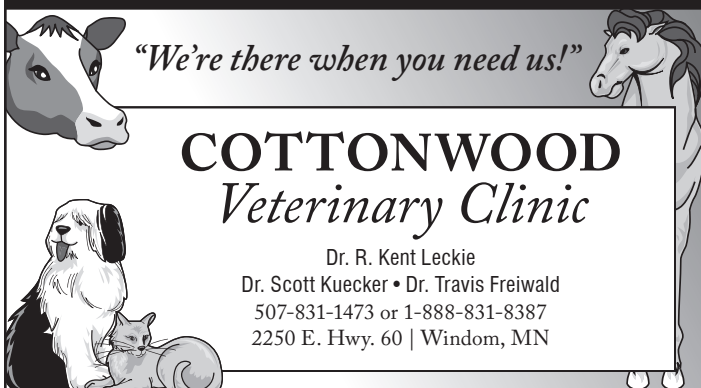
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SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022 **9**

TIME OUT

Joel Alvstad
Sports Editor



Good for Red Rock, bad for MLAC?

The Red Rock Conference has evolved considerably in the past two decades.

Program pairings cut into the number of teams until the late 1990s, when Hills-Beaver Creek, Edgerton and SWC came in. Ellsworth joined later.

At its peak in the past two decades, the Red Rock had 12 teams, with east and west divisions.

More pairings have dropped the number of teams in the league to nine. But, once again, that is about to change.

Russell-Tyler-Ruthton will come into the Red Rock in the 2023-24 school year. That may be good news for the conference, but it could be bad news for the Mt. Lake Area-Comfrey programs.

With RTR joining, there's a possibility that Tracy-Milroy-Balaton could follow. The geographic fit for TMB with the rest of the revised Camden Conference is less than ideal.

But adding one team to the league already means fewer critical non-conference games for MLAC, which needs non-conference games against Section 2A foes for seeding purposes.

Adding two teams to the league would cripple MLAC's ability to schedule non-conference games.

It seems unlikely that MLAC will be placed in Section 3A anytime soon. As a result, its only measuring stick when it comes to section seeding is those few non-conference games.

At this point, it may be unlikely that TMB would leave its longtime Camden Conference home. But I felt the same about RTR.

I also feel it may be unlikely that MLAC would consider leaving the Red Rock Conference, even though, travel-wise, either the Valley or Tomahawk conferences would be very similar to their current situation in the Red Rock.

But playing Section 2A teams during the season would be useful for playoffs. And anything can happen in high school sports.

The one certainty in this? This story is far from over.

A LOOK BACK

TEN YEARS AGO

The Eagle golf teams stayed unbeaten for the season, sweeping WWG. The boys earned a tight 157-167 win, while the girls shot a 189 against an incomplete WWG team. Adam Eisenmenger and WWG's Dana Madson shared boys medalist honors, each with a 36. Windom's Megan Will earned girls medalist honors with a 44.

Hannah Steele was a double-event winner in the shot put and discus, while Victor Ogeka won the long jump at the Pipestone Invitational.

The Eagle softball team couldn't overcome a hard-hitting Luverne squad, as the Cardinals earned a doubleheader sweep by scores of 21-10 and 15-5. Windom held a 4-1 lead in the opening game, but a 10-run third inning propelled Luverne to victory. Meghan Vesey took the pitching losses in each game of the twin bill for the Eagles.

Red Rock Conference to add RTR

■ RTR will join the league in the 2023-24 school year.

The landscape of high school sports in Southwest Minnesota will see a noticeable shift in the 2023-24 school year.

At its recent meeting, the Russell-Tyler-Ruthton school board approved joining the Red Rock Conference for sports, beginning with the 2023-24 school year.

The move will bring the Red Rock Conference to 10 teams for most programs offered by the league.

Red Rock Conference Commissioner Bryce Pack noted that the decision for RTR to leave the Camden Conference in favor of the Red Rock became accelerated in recent months.

"Ortonville had requested to join the Camden Conference because their conference was disbanding and the other schools in their conference had been approved elsewhere," Pack said. "Finally, when word came that the Minnesota State High School League would likely place Ortonville into the Camden, RTR really began to look at other options, because that would mean another longer drive for them."

Pack indicated that the Red Rock had initially invited both RTR and Tracy-Milroy-Balaton three or four years ago, when it became apparent that each would be consistently in Class A and in Section 3A South for most sports.

"We've kind of had a standing invitation with both RTR and TMB," Pack said. "And there had been some consideration, but nothing had been very serious until things became clear regarding Ortonville."

"Much like what the Red Rock has in its by-laws, the Camden Conference by-laws state teams have to give a one-year notice before leaving. We were prepared to

RED ROCK CONFERENCE ENROLLMENT

MURRAY COUNTY CENTRAL.....	193
ADRIAN-ELLSWORTH.....	182
Adrian.....	163
Ellsworth (half added for co-op).....	38
RUSSELL-TYLER-RUTHTON.....	177
MT. LAKE AREA-COMFREY.....	172
Mt. Lake Public.....	141
Comfrey (half added for co-op).....	45
ML Christ. (half added for co-op).....	15
HERON LAKE-OKABENA-FULDA.....	163
Heron Lake-Okabena.....	120
Fulda (half added for co-op).....	85
HILLS-BEAVER CREEK.....	122
SOUTHWEST MN CHRISTIAN.....	121
RED ROCK CENTRAL.....	116
EDGERTON.....	103
WESTBROOK-WALNUT GROVE.....	75

add RTR right away for the 2022-23 school year, but the Camden Conference by-laws won't allow RTR to leave until 2023-24."

Pack said that RTR was a good fit for the Red Rock, enrollment-wise, schedule-wise and geographically.

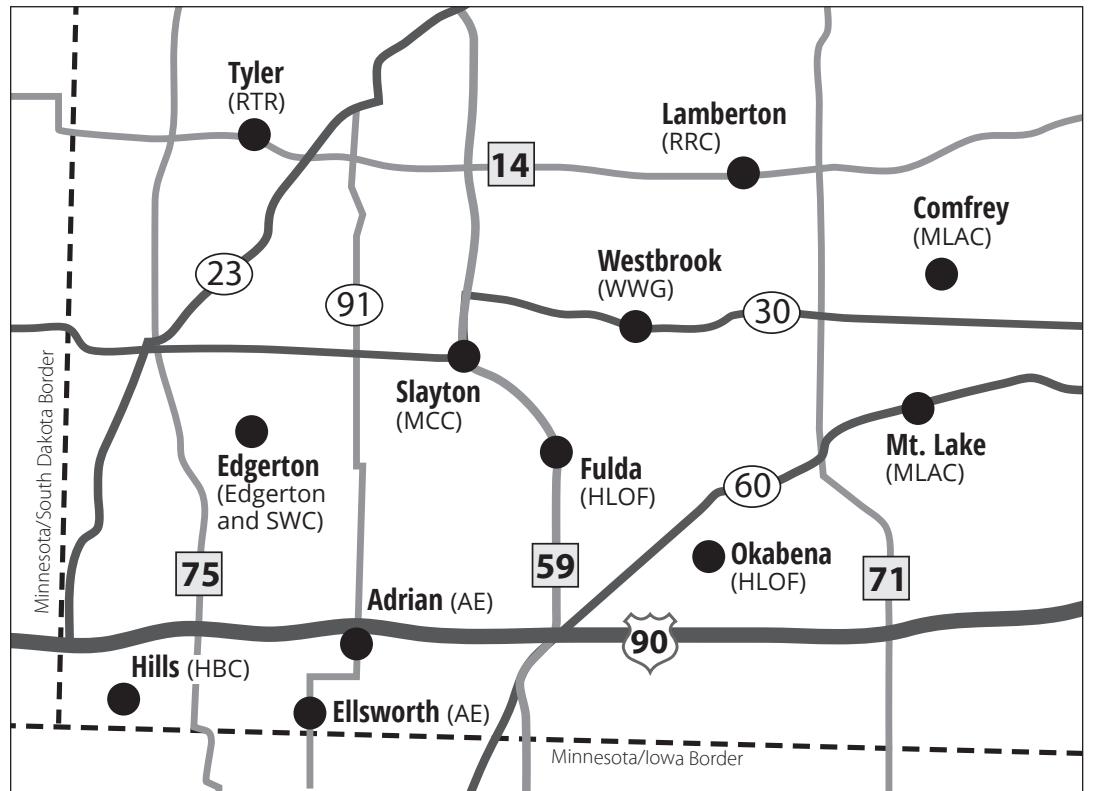
With the current makeup of the conference, RTR's longest roadtrips would be 81 miles to Mt. Lake and 71 miles to Okabena. It's shortest would be 32 miles to both Edgerton and Southwest Minnesota Christian.

"Schedule-wise, we'd have to adjust a few things for basketball," Pack said. "Currently, every team plays everyone else twice. If that continues, teams won't have very many non-conference games. For volleyball, teams currently have a built-in bye week, so plugging RTR in would be very easy."

"But in most sports, just about every team already has RTR on the schedule once. I believe the only ones that don't are Westbrook-Walnut Grove and Mt. Lake."

Pack added that RTR's current enrollment is 177, which would make it the second-largest school in the Red Rock behind Murray County Central, which has an enrollment of 193.

The paired Adrian-Ells-



A MAP OF THE new-look Red Rock Conference shows a league that covers a wide swath of Southwest Minnesota. RTR plans to join the conference in the 2023-24 school year.

worth program also would have a higher listed enrollment, based on the MSHSL's current formula for cooperative sponsorship.

Other scenarios

Pack said that he already has been in contact with TMB Activities Director Bill Tauer, who said that the TMB School Board would be soon discuss whether TMB would want to follow RTR to the Red Rock or remain in the Camden.

"Ideally, we'd like to see that decision be made fairly soon, so we know what direction we'll be looking at in the future," Pack said. "Plus, if TMB were to leave the Camden, they'd need to give a full year's notice to do so. In order to come into the Red Rock by the 2023-24 school year, that decision would have to be made before the 2022-23 school year begins."

Pack added that adding RTR, and potentially adding TMB, could put the conference on uneasy footing with one of its programs—the paired Mt. Lake Area-Comfrey programs.

"We definitely don't want to see Mt. Lake leave, and we're definitely not going to be pushing them out the door," Pack said. "But if TMB were to come into the conference, Mt. Lake may end up looking at other options."

Incoming Mt. Lake Activities Director Shawn Naas said that, years ago, there had been talk of a full-scale merger between the Red Rock and Camden conferences.

"At that time, Mt. Lake was against that because of the distance to travel for games," Naas said. "But the fact that we are in Section 2 for nearly every sport,

rather than Section 3, like the rest of the Red Rock, made that even more of an option.

"Right now, for basketball, baseball and softball, we play everybody else in the conference twice. For volleyball, we play everybody else once. I doubt that by adding RTR, we'd continue to play everybody else in the conference twice because that just leaves too few non-conference games, and we need to see teams in our section."

But if TMB opts to come into the Red Rock, it could potentially spark discussion for Mt. Lake to leave and join other teams in Section 2 in either the Tomahawk or Valley conferences.

"As far as I know, we haven't asked either conference about joining," Naas said. "But it might be a conversation that we need to have fairly soon."



JOEL ALVSTAD 4/20 fastpitch 19
JENNA VEENKER kicks and delivers a pitch during last Tuesday's season-opening doubleheader against Luverne. The Eagles dropped both games to the Cardinals, falling 14-4 and 6-5.

Cardinals sweep Eagles in opener

The Windom Eagle fastpitch softball team opened its season in rough fashion Tuesday, dropping both ends of a doubleheader against Luverne at the Windom Recreation Area.

The Cardinals erupted late in the first game, scoring 12 runs in its final two at-bats to claim a 14-4 victory. Then, in the nightcap, Luverne rallied to force extra innings and scored in the bottom of the ninth to claim a 6-5 victory.

In the opener, the Eagles got on the board first, as K.J. Huska scored on a wild pitch in the second inning for a 1-0 lead.

Luverne took the lead in the third on a two-run home

run, then tacked on five runs in the fifth and seven in the sixth.

The Eagles scored their final runs in the bottom of the sixth on an error and a two-run Paikea Ngriraked single.

In the nightcap, the Eagles jumped to an early lead as Huska blasted a two-run home run in the top of the first.

In the second, Hailey Veenker walked, moved to third on an error and scored on the back end of a double steal, giving the Eagles a 3-0 lead.

Luverne battled back before the Eagles pushed their lead to 5-2 in the sixth. Huska scored on a double

steal and Leah Hauge ripped an RBI single.

But Luverne scored once in the sixth and twice in the seventh, tying the game at 5-5. The Cardinals then ended the game in the ninth inning with an RBI single.

Score by Innings—Game 1				
Luverne.....	002	057	—14	10 2
Windom.....	010	003	—4	5 2
Windom hitters: Elness 0-3; Spielman 2-3, 1 R, 1 2B; Jveenker 0-3, 1 R; Huska 2-3, 2 R, 1 2B; Skarphol 0-3; Hveenker 0-2; Ngriraked 1-1, 2 RBI; Hauge 0-2; O'Donnell 0-2; Paulson 0-2.				
Windom pitchers: Jveenker (L, 0-1) 5 IP 12 R, 4 ER, 8 H, 3 BB, 10 K; O'Donnell 1 IP, 1 R, 1 ER, 2 H, 0 BB, 1 K.				

Score by Innings—Game 2					
Luverne.....	210	002	000	—5	5 5
Windom.....	010	012	101	—6	12 2
Windom hitters: Elness 2-4, 1 R; Spielman 1-5; Jveenker 0-5; Huska 1-2, 2 R, 2 RBI, 1 HR; Skarphol 0-3, 1 R; Hveenker 0-3, 1 R; Hauge 1-4, 1 RBI; O'Donnell 0-4; Paulson 0-4.					
Windom pitchers: O'Donnell (L, 0-1) 5 IP 12 R, 4 ER, 8 H, 3 BB, 1 K; Jveenker 1.2 IP, 2 R, 2 ER, 4 H, 1 BB, 3 K.					

Eagles open with marathon victory

Pitchers for both teams were sharp throughout, but a rally in the top of the 13th inning gave the Windom Eagle baseball team a 7-2 season-opening victory at Luverne Tuesday night.

The game ran nearly four hours long, with at least one 30-minute delay for lightning.

The Eagles got on the board first, scoring in the top of the second. Josh Garrison walked, stole second, advanced on a groundout and beat a throw home on a Wyatt Haugen fielder's choice grounder.

Luverne answered with a single run in the third, then Windom regained the

lead in the fourth when Brayden Kreofsky walked, stole second, moved up on a groundout and scored on a wild pitch.

Luverne tied the game at 2-2 in the bottom of the fourth before the game went into a delay for lightning.

After the delay, pitchers for both teams were solid, hanging zeroes on the scoreboard until the top of the 13th inning.

In the 13th, Zach Espenson hit an RBI single. Henry Erickson and Drew Rothenberger followed with back-to-back two-run

SEE **BB** • PAGE 10

Outdoor opener cut short for Eagles

Windom and Westbrook-Walnut Grove/Red Rock Central took part in a condensed version of the Cardinal Relays Tuesday in Luverne.

The meet was halted at different times due to lightning and was eventually cut short by rain.

Windom's boys placed fifth as a team with 41 ½ points while WWG/RRC was 11th with six points. Southwest Christian-Edgerton won the meet with 71 ½ points.

The Eagle girls were sixth with 40 points. WWG/RRC was 10th with eight points. Luverne won the team title with 116 points.

Individually, Windom's boys were led by Dylan Serreyn, who placed second in the triple jump (43-

9½) and fourth in the high jump (5-8). Alex Altman added third-place finishes in both the shot put (46-7¾) and discus (132-10). Charlie Smith was fifth in the pole vault (8-6).

WWG/RRC's top boys finish came in the 4x100 relay, where the team of Zak Zimmerman, Andre Vue, Luke DeSmith and Kole Curry placed sixth (49.93).

For the girls, Windom was paced by a runner-up finish from the team of Haidyn Sammons, Hadley Sammons, Hannah Dauer and Kendyl Sammons in the 4x800 relay (11:23.65).

Elliot Espenson added a third-place finish in the shot put (27-1) with Brooklyn Roll fifth (24.4).

SEE **TRACK** • PAGE 10

Wolverines top Falcons for first win

Mt. Lake Area-Comfrey erupted on offense Tuesday, rolling to a 13-3 victory over Red Rock Central/Westbrook-Walnut Grove in Mt. Lake.

The Wolverines hammered out a season-high 13 hits.

In the bottom of the first, MLAC got an RBI double from Brooke Naas and two runs scored on an error. Naas added a two-run double in the second, giving the Wolverines a 5-0 lead.

RRC/WWG answered in the third, as Amelia Sickel drew a bases-loaded walk and Izzy Rentschler had a run-scoring sacrifice fly, making the score 5-2.

Rentschler added an RBI single in the fifth, cutting the deficit to 5-3 before the Wolverines slammed the door.

In the bottom of the fifth, Jaci Tollefson plated a run with a groundout and Kenedie Simon hit a two-run single, stretching the Wolverine lead to 8-3.

Then, in the sixth, Presley Dockter hit an RBI single, Thaila Sengchan had a two-run single, Tollefson hit an RBI single and Simon ended the game with a run-scoring sacrifice fly.

Tollefson and Sengchan each had three hits for the Wolverines. Naas added a pair of hits.

Simon earned the complete-game pitching win for the Wolverines, scattering four hits. She walked two and struck out seven.

Natalie Wahl took the loss for the Falcons, allowing five runs on five hits in 3-1/3 innings. She walked three and



THAILA SENGCHAN slides safely into second with a stolen base during last Tuesday's MLAC softball game against RRC/WWG. Sengchan had three hits in the Wolverines' 13-3 victory.

Area Softball Schedule

Thursday—JCC at Windom, DH, 4 p.m.; MLAC at MCC (Slayton), 4:30 p.m.; RRC/WWG at AE (Ellsworth), 4:30 p.m.

Friday—Windom at Springfield, 5 p.m.

Tuesday—Windom at St. James, 5:30 p.m.; Sleepy Eye at MLAC (Mt. Lake), 5 p.m.; RRC/WWG at TMB (Tracy), 4:30 p.m.

struck out five.

Score by innings	R	H	E
RRC/WWG	002	010	3 4 3
MLAC	320	035	13 13 2

RRC/WWG hitters: Amsden 0-2, 1 R; Sikel 0-1, 1 RBI; Rentschler 1-2, 2 RBI; Rindfleisch 0-3; Myers 1-2; Wahl 0-2; Jenniges 0-1; Hemmingsen 1-2, 1 R; Schoer 1-2, 1 R; Ramthun 0-3.

MLAC hitters: Tollefson 3-5, 2 R, 2 RBI; Simon 1-2, 1 R, 3 RBI; Naas 2-4, 1 R, 3 RBI, 2 2B; Morey 1-4, 1 R; Dockter 1-4, 1 R, 2 RBI; Brinkman 1-3, 2 R; Schumann 0-2; Blom 0-0, 1 R; Hoek 0-1; PDockter 1-3, 1 RBI; Romsdahl 0-1; Vidana 0-0, 1 R; Sengchan 3-3, 3 R, 2 RBI; Radtke 0-0.

RRC/WWG pitchers: Wahl (L, 0-2) 3.1 IP 5 R, 3 ER, 5 H, 3 BB, 5 K; Jenniges 2.1 IP 0 R, 6 ER, 8 H, 2 BB, 1 K.

MLAC pitchers: Simon (W, 1-2) 6 IP, 3 R, 1 ER, 4 H, 2 BB, 7 K.



IZZY RENTSCHLER smacks a base hit for an RBI during last Tuesday's game against MLAC in Mt. Lake.

Falcons open season with shutout over MLAC

Red Rock Central/Westbrook-Walnut Grove opened its season Tuesday by taking advantage of extra opportunities in a 12-0 five-inning victory over Mt. Lake Area-Comfrey in Lambert.

The Falcons had just five hits and drew four walks, but took advantage of eight Wolverine errors to score nine unearned runs.

The Falcons scored in the bottom of the first on a passed ball. Then, in the second, an error, a wild pitch and a Keaton Skarupa RBI single gave the Falcons a 4-0 lead.

RRC/WWG put the game away in the third, as Cole VanDeWiele hit a two-run single, Dan Kleven added an RBI single and Jake Jackson ripped an RBI double, giving the Falcons a 12-0 lead.

Ashton Juhnke was sharp on the mound for the Falcons, scattering two hits in four innings of work. He walked two and struck out three.

Kolby Kremmin took the loss for the Wolverines, allowing three earned runs on five hits in 2-2/3 innings. He walked three and struck out two.



MLAC FIRST BASEMAN Ian Penner shovels an underhand flip toward a teammate to record an out during the Wolverines' recent game against St. Clair.

RRC/WWG was scheduled to face Murray County Central yesterday (Tuesday) in Slayton while MLAC was slated to play Heron Lake-Okabena-Fulda.

MLAC hitters: Pidde 1-3; Koetzle 0-2; Kremmin 0-1; Vasquez 0-2; Karschnik 0-1; Veerkamp 1-1; Penner

0-1; Toll 0-1; Evers 0-2; Moody 0-2; Stade 0-1; Fentanez 0-0.

RRC/WWG hitters: VanDeWiele 1-3, 3 R, 2 RBI; Kleven 1-1, 1 R, 1 RBI; Skarupa 1-2, 1 R, 1 RBI; Strook 0-0; Simonsen 0-3, 1 R; Juhnke 0-2, 1 R; Hensch 0-0; Jackson 1-3, 1 R, 1 RBI, 1 2B; Shannon 0-0; Hesse 1-3, 1 R; Jenniges 0-2, 2 R; Knaknuhs 0-1, 1 R; Hansen 0-1.

MLAC pitchers: Kremmin (L, 0-1) 2.2 IP 12 R, 3 ER, 5 H, 3 BB, 2 K; Vasquez 1.1 IP 0 R, 0 ER, 0 H, 0 BB, 2 K.

RRC/WWG pitchers: Juhnke (W, 1-0) 4 IP 0 R, 0 ER, 2 H, 2 BB, 3 K; Kleven 1 IP 0 R, 0 ER, 0 H, 1 BB, 0 K.

MLAC hitters: Pidde 1-3; Koetzle 0-2; Kremmin 0-1; Vasquez 0-2; Karschnik 0-1; Veerkamp 1-1; Penner

BB/ Eagles score five in 13th inning

FROM PAGE 9

doubles.

Erickson had two of the Eagles' seven hits in the victory.

Noah Armstrong worked three strong innings of

relief to pick up the pitching victory. He allowed two hits, walked two and struck out four.

The Eagles had scheduled games Thursday and Monday postponed due to weather.

Windom (1-0) travels to Jackson Thursday to face Jackson County Central, then plays at Springfield

Friday. The Eagles host Luverne for their home opener Monday, then host St. James Tuesday.

Score by innings	R	H	E
Windom	010	100	000 000 5-7 7 3
Luverne	001	100	000 000 0-2 7 4

Windom	ab	r	h	bi	Luverne	ab	r	h	bi
Erickson, 3B	7	1	2	2	Ripka, c	4	0	1	1
Rothenberger, lf	6	0	1	2	Sheller, rf	6	0	0	0
Kreofsky, p	5	1	0	0	Sehr, ss	6	0	0	0
Garrison, ss	4	1	0	0	Connell, cf	5	1	0	0
BEspenson, c	5	0	1	0	Overgaard, 1b	5	0	1	0
Haugen, dh	4	1	1	1	Anderson, p	6	0	1	1
Hockel, cf	0	0	0	0	Serie, dh	3	0	1	0

TRACK/ Weather cuts meet short

FROM PAGE 9

Lucy Stevens took fourth in the 400 (1:07.78) and Kaylee

Walklin was fourth in the 1,600 (5:35.16). Victoria Robillard placed fifth in the pole vault (6-6).

WWG/RRC's points came courtesy of a first-place finish from Kelsey DeSmith in the high jump (4-6).

Cardinal Relays Girls Results: 1. Luverne 116. 2.

SWCE 115.43, 3. Canby-Minnetota 58. 4. HBC 44.53, 5. Redwood Valley 42.86, 6. Windom 40. 7. Pipestone 29. 8. Lakeview 27.29, 9. TMB 20. 10. WWG/RRC 8. 11. Adrian-Ellsworth 5.

Windom Results: 400 dash: 4. LStevens 1:07.78, 1,600 run: 4. KWalklin 5:35.16; 7. HaiSammons 5:58.59, 4x200 relay: 6. HaiSammons, HDauer, ELopez, LStevens 2:02.13, 4x800 relay: 2. HaiSammons, HadSammons, HDauer, KSammons 11:23.65, Pole vault: 5. VRobillard 6-6, Long jump: 7. EEspenson 14-3/4, Shot put: 3. EEspenson 27-1; 5. BRoll 24-4.

WWG/RRC Results: 4x800 relay: 8. TNWaiga, KAlbrecht, MMischeke, CVogel 12:49.08, High jump: 1. KDeSmith 4-6.

Cardinal Relays Boys Results: 1. SWCE 71%. 2.

Struck, 1b.....4 1 0 0 Cole, lf.....0 0 0 0 ZEspenson, rf.....6 1 1 0 Domagala, ph.....2 0 0 0 Armstrong, 2b.....6 1 1 1 DeBoer, 3b.....5 0 2 0 Stroth, 2b.....4 1 1 0

2B—Erickson, Rothenberger, Ripa, DeBoer, Stroth, HBP—Kreofsky (by Stroth), Sac—Haugen, SB—Armstrong, Erickson, ZEspenson, BEspenson, Garrison 2, Haugen 3, Kreofsky 2, Sehr, Connell, Stroth.

Windom	IP	R	ER	H	BB	SO
Kreofsky	5	2	1	3	2	2
Garrison	2	0	0	1	0	1
Rothenberger	3	0	0	1	0	1
Armstrong (W, 1-0)	3	0	0	2	2	4

Luverne	IP	R	ER	H	BB	SO
Anderson	6	2	1	0	3	9
Sehr	5	0	0	2	3	6
Stroth (L)	2	5	5	5	2	2

5-8. Pole vault: 5. CSmith 8-6, Triple jump: 2. DSerrey 43-9/4, 6. TWormstadt 37-7/4, Shot put: 3. AAltman 46-7/4, Discus: 3. AAltman 132-10.

WWG/RRC Results: 100 dash: 8. KCurry 12.01, 4x100 relay: 6. ZZimmerman, AVue, LDeSmith, KCurry 49.93, 4x200 relay: 7. ZZimmerman, CKiong, LDeSmith, KCurry 1:46.36.

Wolverine boys win inaugural Weir Invite

Weather took a toll on the inaugural John Weir Invitational, held Tuesday in Mt. Lake, as three teams scheduled to take part opted to not make the trip.

MLAC's boys ended up winning the team competition in the three-team meet with 86 points. The Wolverine girls took third with 52 1/2 points. Heron Lake-Okabena-Fulda won the team competition with 65 1/2 points.

The Wolverine boys were led by double-event winners Cole Kleven and Kody Wassman. Kleven won the 100 (11.72) and 400 (57.00). Wassman took first in the 1,600 (4:57.67) and 3,200 (10:48.56).

Zach Klassen added a win in the 800 (2:14.80). Cayden LaPointe was first in the 110 hurdles (17.20). Tido Xayachak won the triple jump (35-7). MLAC's team of Cadren Swoboda, Ethan Schroeder, Micah Holmberg and Zach Klassen won the 4x400 relay (3:55.99) and the 4x800 relay (9:34.00).

For the girls, Kearney Wall was a double-event winner, taking first in the shot put (27-10) and discus (77-11). Tiegan Meyer added a win in the high jump (4-6). The team

Area Track Schedule

Thursday—Windom Home Meet, 4 p.m.

Friday—MLAC, WWG/RRC at MLAC Home Meet (Mt. Lake), 4:15 p.m.

Tuesday—Windom at Redwood Valley, 4 p.m.; MLAC at St. James, 4:30 p.m.; WWG/RRC at Pipestone, 4 p.m.

of Haily Green, Aleeza Schultz, Kate Janzen and Lana Kestner won the 4x400 relay (4:53.44) and the team of Janzen, Kestner, Schultz and Aleena Vetsouvanh won the 4x800 relay (12:17.37).

John Weir Invite Girls Results: 1. HLOF 65 1/2, 2. MCC 63, 3. MLAC 52 1/2.

MLAC Results: 100 dash: 4. ZEvans 14.26; 6. RSchroeder 14.40, 200 dash: 2. ZEvans 29.98, 400 dash: 4. LKestner 1:11.31, 800 run: 2. Klassen 2:42.80, 100 HH: 2. HGreen 18.11, 4x100 relay: 2. HGreen, ZEvans, RSchroeder, MMorin 1:00.30, 4x400 relay: 1. HGreen, ASchultz, KJanzen, LKestner 4:53.44, 4x800 relay: 1. KJanzen, LKestner, ASchultz, AVetsouvanh 12:17.37, High jump: 1. TMeyer 4-6, 2. MMorin 4-6; 6. ZEvans 5-0, Pole vault: 2. KJanzen 7-0, 2. RSchroeder 7-0, Long jump: 3. MMorin 12-3/4, Triple jump: 6. MMorin 27-1, Shot put: 1. KWall 27-10; 3. JPeterson 25-3; 5. MJepsen 23-2, Discus: 1. KWall 77-11; 3. JPeterson 65-10, 5. BAnacker 59-2.

John Weir Invite Boys Results: 1. MLAC 86, 2. HLOF 53, 3. MCC 42.

MLAC Results: 100 dash: 1. CKleven 11.72; 2. JLinnscheid 12.10; 3. TXayachak 12.15, 200 dash: 3. JLinnscheid 25.13; 6. DFalk 26.40, 400 dash: 1. CKleven 57.00; 5. LWall 1:04.58; 6. PXayachak 1:04.64, 800 run: 1. ZKlassen 2:14.80; 2. CSwoboda 2:16.70; 3. ESchroeder 2:21.90, 1,600 run: 1. KOWassman 4:57.67; 5. JKestner 5:54.79; 6. JTorres 5:57.79, 3,200 run: 1. KOWassman 10:48.56; 3. RSpeikers 13:45.67, 110 HH: 1. CLaPointe 17.20, 300 HH: 2. CLaPointe 46.31, 4x100 relay: 2. TXayachak, KOWassman, TVongkaenchan, CKleven 4:57.67, 4x200 relay: 2. PXayachak, CRadtke, CLaPointe, JLinnscheid 1:46.08, 4x400 relay: 1. CSwoboda, ESchroeder, MHolmberg, ZKlassen 3:55.99, 4x800 relay: 1. CSwoboda, MHolmberg, ESchroeder, ZKlassen 9:34.00, Pole vault: 2. TXayachak 9-0, 3. CSwoboda 8-6; 4. CLaPointe 8-0, Long jump: 3. LWall 15-9/4; 4. CKleven 15-9/4; 6. PXayachak 15-5/4, Triple jump: 1. TXayachak 35-7; 2. JLinnscheid 31-1, Shot put: 3. KOWassman 33-7; 5. MHolmberg 32-7; 6. EDollmans 32-0, Discus: 2. MHolmberg 92-2; 4. KOWassman 84-9/4.

Coyotes sweep Wolverines, Patriots

The Heron Lake-Okabena-Fulda/Westbrook-Walnut Grove golfers earned a triangular sweep Tuesday over Mt. Lake Area-Comfrey and Hills-Beaver Creek in a meet played at Fulda.

The HLOF/WWG girls shot a 210 team score. MLAC and HBC both played with incomplete teams.

For the boys, HLOF/WWG finished with a 173. HBC shot a 205 while MLAC had a 208.

HLOF/WWG's girls were led by Kelli Renneke with a 50. Elly Bang added a 52.

Olivia Christians was MLAC's lone girl, finishing with a 62.

For the boys, HLOF/WWG's Carter Drent earned medalist honors with an even-par 36. Sawyer Drent added a 39 and Neil Kuehl shot a 46.

Devyn Rempel led MLAC with a 50. Brandon Hopper shot a 51.

Girls Team Scores: HLOF/WWG 210, MLAC incomplete, HBC incomplete.

Individual Medalist: Tess Van Maanen (HBC) 48.

HLOF/WWG results: Kelli Renneke 50; Elly Bang 52; Madelyn Koep 54; Marena Naas 54; Marissa Becker 73.

MLAC results: Olivia Christians 62.

Boys Team Scores: HLOF/WWG 173, HBC 205, MLAC 208.

Individual Medalist: Carter Drent (HLOF/WWG) 36.

Other HLOF/WWG results: Sawyer Drent 39; Neil Kuehl 46; Brady Ross 52.

Area Golf Schedule

Thursday—Windom at Redwood Valley, 4:15 p.m.; RRC at HLOF/WWG (Fulda), 4 p.m.

Friday—HLOF/WWG, MCC at MLAC (Mt. Lake), 4:15 p.m.

Saturday—Windom, HLOF/WWG boys at Worthington Invite, 9 a.m.

Monday—Windom at BSC Division Event (boys at Redwood, girls at Luverne), 4 p.m.

Tuesday—Windom at JCC (Jackson), 4 p.m.; MLAC at Madelia, 4:15 p.m.; RRC at Springfield, 4:30 p.m.; AE at HLOF/WWG (Fulda), 4:30 p.m.

MLAC results: Devyn Rempel 50; Brandon Hopper 51; Grant Oakland 52; Landon Rempel 55; Joey Faber 57; Aiden Rehmet 58.

MLAC boys win

Mt. Lake Area-Comfrey's boys golf team picked up a season-opening victory last Monday, defeating Madelia 213-215 at Madelia.

Madelia's girls scored a 281 against an incomplete MLAC team.

For the boys, Grant Oakland and Joey Faber each shot a 50 to lead MLAC.

Devyn Rempel added a 54. Olivia Christians, MLAC's lone girl, earned meet medalist honors with a 54.

Girls Team Scores: Madelia 281, MLAC incomplete, HBC incomplete.

Individual Medalist: Olivia Christians (MLAC) 54.

Boys Team Scores: MLAC 213, Madelia 215.

Individual Medalist: Noah Tierney (Madelia) 47.

MLAC results: Grant Oakland 50; Joey Faber 50; Devyn Rempel 54; Aiden Rehmet 58; Landon Rempel 64; Harlan Munning 67.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Noah Armstrong

Sport: Windom Eagles Baseball

Year: Senior

Parents: Todd and Kim Armstrong

Noah pitched three innings of shutout relief, striking out four in the Eagles' 13-inning 7-2 victory at Luverne last Tuesday.

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official proceedings of
BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Minutes
Special Meeting
March 1, 2022**
The Windom Board of Education met in special session on Tuesday March 1, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Windom Elementary Conference Room. Members present: Brugman, Bordewyk, Jones, Klassen, Mews, Stevens and LaCanne. Absent: none. Chair Stevens called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. MSP LaCanne/Jones to approve the agenda as presented.

Jeff Olson from MSBA reviewed stakeholder survey results, 161 responses were received. The vacancy brochure and timelines were also reviewed. The confidentiality of all candidates is of utmost importance until the candidates that are to be interviewed are announced. Jeff Olson reviewed the training materials to make sure the board is aware of what questions can and can't be asked during the interview process as well as the school district policies that govern these areas. Common interview mistakes were also reviewed.

Round 1 interview questions were reviewed and finalized. The March 16 and 17 draft schedule was also reviewed. The board will have stakeholder input from the following areas at all interviews, they will need to commit to attend all the interview meetings:

- Principal—2 members
- Ed MN-Windom—2 members (suggested one from each building)
- MSEA—4 members (one from each department: Paraprofessionals, Food Service, Secretarial, Custodial)
- Non-union—2 members
- Community Members—2 members (decided by the board)

Round 2 interview questions will be finalized later and tours for candidates will be given at the 2nd round interview. The stakeholder survey input will be put on the district website for the public to view.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.
Bruce Mews, Clerk
Dustin Stevens, Chair
Attest: Bruce Mews, Clerk
A complete copy of the minutes can be viewed on the school website

**Minutes
Special Meeting
March 14th, 2022**
The Windom Board of Education met in special session on Monday March 14th, 2022,

at 5:15 p.m. in the Windom City Council Chambers. Members present: Brugman, Bordewyk, Jones, Klassen, Mews, Stevens and LaCanne. Absent: none. Chair Stevens called the meeting to order. MSP Klassen/Mews to approve the agenda as presented.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Jeff Olson from MSBA reviewed the timeline for the interview process, reference checks and contract negotiations process. Round 1 and 2 interview questions and processes were reviewed. Jeff Olson reviewed the three candidates that MSBA is recommending be interviewed with a summary of their experience and reference check question responses. MSP Bordewyk/Brugman to approve candidates A, B and F.

Candidate A – Katie Clarke
Candidate B – Jamie Frank
Candidate F – Darrin Strosahl

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.
Bruce Mews, Clerk
Dustin Stevens, Chair
Attest: Bruce Mews, Clerk
A complete copy of the minutes can be viewed on the school website.

**Minutes
Regular Meeting
March 14th, 2022**

The Windom Board of Education met in regular session on Monday March 14th, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the Windom City Council Chambers. Members present: Brugman, Bordewyk, Jones, Klassen, Mews, Stevens and LaCanne. Absent: None. Chair Stevens called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MSP Brugman/Klassen to approve the agenda as presented.

Member Bordewyk introduced Resolution 031422A moved its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education to accept the donations totaling \$2257.30 on behalf of Independent School District 177 to be used for the benefit of the students at the Windom School District. Member Brugman seconded the motion. Upon vote Resolution 031422A passed unanimously.

There was no one for open forum.

MSP Bordewyk/Mews to approve the consent agenda; approval of previous minutes (February 14, 2022 and February 28, 2022); approve bills and wire transfers; approve Financial Report; approve

termination of Richard Sidebottom, Custodian effective February 28th, 2022; approve resignation of Heidi Klein, Elementary Special Education teacher effective the end of the 2021-2022 school year; approve resignation of Pedro Carbo, paraprofessional, effective March 16, 2022; approve resignation of Brittany Hernandez, paraprofessional, effective March 21, 2022; approve resignation of Bill Fredin, girls hockey coach, effective March 09, 2022; approve resignation of Laura Alvstad, MS play director effective the end of the 21-2022 school year; approve hiring Ritensy Rokichy, substitute Chuukese language translator effective February 15, 2022; approve hiring Jessica Matt, school nurse effective March 21, 2022; approve hiring Irene Swanson, Elementary Music Teacher beginning 2022-2023 school year; approve hiring Ryan Barry, MS/HS band and music teacher beginning the 2022-2023 school year; approve hiring Tara Kalash, paraprofessional 6.5 hours per day effective March 16, 2022; approve FMLA #22-9 for approximately 8 weeks beginning March 9, 2022 and continuing through May 4, 2022.

Dane Nielsen, PreK-5 Assistant Principal reported Elementary students filled the Eagle Pride bucket. A paper airplane flying contest was held to celebrate. Elementary conferences were held Thursday March 10th. At the March Family Engagement Night families learned how to build robots out of household items. Bridges Preschool Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is open for 3 and 4-year-olds. Kindergarten Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is March 18. Students that will be 5 years old by September 1, 2022, are eligible to attend.

Bryan Joyce, 6-12 Principal we are in the final two weeks of quarter 3. Report given on the March 11th staff top 20 and closing the achievement gap training. Juniors took the ACT on March 8th. Open positions are slowly being filled. Bryan and Dane will be attending the SMSU job fair on March 23rd. Update provided on IAspire curriculum. Discussed WE belong mural.

Board of education provided an update on the superintendent search. There were three candidates selected for interview. First round of interviews on March 16th. The final three candidates are

Katie Clark, Jamie Frank and Darrin Strosahl.

MSP Klassen/LaCanne to approve graduation dress guidelines

MSP Mews/Klassen to approve honor society approval guidelines.

MSP Jones/Brugman to approve updated coaching assignments.

MSP Bordewyk/Brugman to approve Resolution Calling for Public Hearing on Tax Abatement for 1965 Norway Avenue Windom 031422B Roll Call vote taken, Klassen, Mews, Bordewyk, Brugman, Jones, LaCanne and Steven.

MSP Bordewyk/Mews to approve Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Abatement for new residential project 1965 Norway avenue, Windom.

MSP LaCanne/Klassen to deny any tax abatement extension as neither the city nor county assessor's office created this issue.

MSP Bordewyk/Klassen to approve SW/WC Agreement MSP Mews/Bordewyk to approve Retention Policy 429 Cash flow was reviewed as of March 1, 2022.

Review of 2022-2023 Calendar Discussed Solar panel project.

Brugman/Bordewyk There being no other items for discussion meeting was closed at 7:19 p.m. to discuss negotiations strategies per M.S. 13D.03.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Bruce Mews, Clerk
Dustin Stevens, Chair
Attest: Bruce Mews, Clerk
A complete copy of the minutes can be viewed on the school website.

**Minutes
Special Meeting
March 16th, 2022**

The Windom Board of Education met in special session on Tuesday March 16th, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Windom Area High School Media Center. Members present: Brugman, Bordewyk, Jones, Klassen, Mews, Stevens and LaCanne. Absent: None Chair Stevens called the meeting to order with the of Pledge of Allegiance.

MSP Klassen/Jones to approve the agenda as presented.

Superintendent candidates Darrin Strosahl, Dr. Katie Clark and Jamie Frank were interviewed.

Discussion from the interviews was held. MSP Klassen/Bordewyk to extend an offer for second round interviews for the Windom School District #177 superintendent

to the following candidates: Darrin Strosahl and Jamie Frank Roll call vote taken voting in favor: Bordewyk, Brugman, Jones, Klassen, Mews and Stevens. Voting Against LaCanne.

Jeff Olson, MSBA finalized the second-round interview questions, schedules, procedures, and reference check questions

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Bruce Mews, Clerk
Dustin Stevens, Chair
Attest: Bruce Mews, Clerk
A complete copy of the minutes can be viewed on the school website.

**Minutes
Special Meeting
March 21st, 2022**

The Windom Board of Education met in special session on Monday March 21st, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in the Windom Area High School Media Center. Members present: Brugman, Bordewyk, Jones, Klassen, Mews, Stevens and LaCanne. Absent: none. Chair Stevens called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MSP Klassen/Mews to approve the agenda as presented.

Superintendent candidates Darrin Strosahl and Jamie Frank were interviewed.

Discussion from the interviews was held.

MSP Klassen/Brugman to extend an offer of an employment contract for the position of Windom ISD #177 Superintendent to Jamie Frank contingent upon the following: that a mutually agreeable employment contract is negotiated, and a criminal background check is completed with results acceptable to the School Board. Roll call vote taken voting in favor Brugman, Bordewyk, Jones, Klassen, Mews, Stevens. Voting against LaCanne.

Jeff Olson from MSBA discussed the process of contract negotiations and thanked the board for using MSBA for their superintendent search process.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Bruce Mews, Clerk
Dustin Stevens, Chair
Attest: Bruce Mews, Clerk
A complete copy of the minutes can be viewed on the school website.

**Minutes
Work Session Meeting
March 28th, 2022**

The Windom Board of Education met in work session on Monday March 28th, 2022, at

6:30 p.m. in the Windom City Council Chambers. Members present: Brugman, Bordewyk, Jones, Klassen, Mews, Stevens and LaCanne. Absent: None. Chair Stevens called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MSP Jones/Klassen to approve the agenda with the following change item 11 date changed from March 28th to April 11th.

MSP Bordewyk/Klassen to approve the Superintendents contract as presented with Jamie Frank for FY 23, FY 24, FY 25.

MSP Jones/Mews to approve the Resignation of Jamie Frank, Prek-5 Principal effective June 30, 2022.

Discussed Prek-5 Principal replacement process.

Discussed hiring and interview process for positions.

MSP Bordewyk/Mews project application and certification for payment in the amount of \$1,080 for CTE/Elementary.

MSP Brugman/Mews to approve health insurance renewal bid recommendation from the Insurance committee with Medica effective July 1, 2022.

MSP Bordewyk/Brugman Approve Resolution calling for public hearing on Proposed tax abatement for new residential property 1965 Norway Avenue, Windom. Role call vote taken voting in favor : Klassen, Mews, Bordewyk, Brugman, Jones, LaCanne, Stevens Voting against None.

MSP Bordewyk/Mews Approve Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Abatement for 1965 Norway Avenue, Windom MN for Monday April 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

MSP Klassen/Jones Approve paid assistant for boys' baseball.

MSP Mews/Brugman Approve paid assistant for girls' softball.

MSP Klassen/Bordewyk to approve soccer pairing tentative agreement.

MSP Jones/Klassen Approve Riverfest Fireworks on school grounds pending receipt of Certificate of Insurance.

There were updates on the solar panel projects, legislative information and busing. Discussion was also held about Boulevard trees along 17th street.

There being no further business to discuss meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Bruce Mews, Clerk
Dustin Stevens, Chair
Attest: Bruce Mews, Clerk
A complete copy of the minutes can be viewed on the school website.

Malone Family Trust Sealed Bid Auction

Legal Description: Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section 21-104-34 (Kimball Twp) Jackson County, MN.

Farm Information: Excellent opportunity to purchase a high-quality farm containing 160 ± total acres with 146.94 tillable acres. Farm has highly productive soils with Crop Productivity Index (CPI) rating of 92.2. Clarion loam, Glencoe clay loam, and Clarion-Storden complex are the most common soil types on the property. Farm contains a considerable amount of private tile drainage with tile maps available. Farm has no designated wetlands on the property.

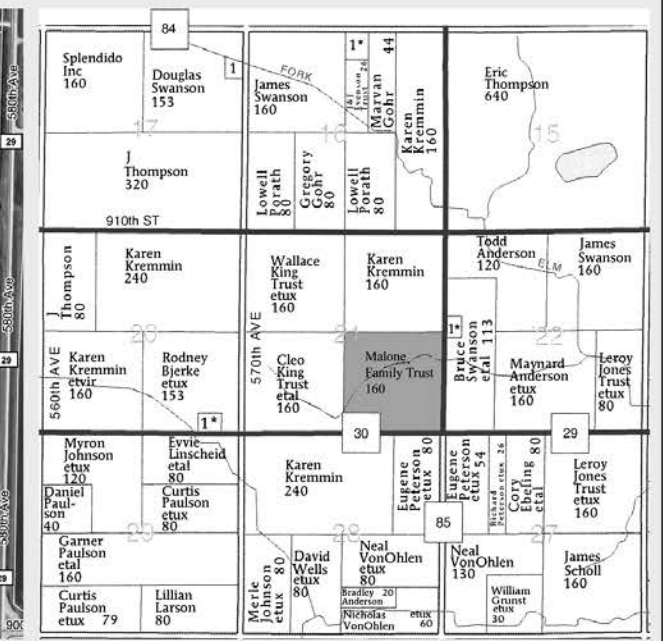
Property Taxes: AG Non-Homestead 2022: \$4,938

Farm Location: 3.5 miles east of Bergen, MN with very good road access along County Road 30 and County Road 29.

Date & Time: Sealed bids due at the office of Northwestern Farm Management by noon on Tuesday, May 31, 2022. Live bidding on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at 10:00 AM.

Auction Location: Windom Community Center 1750 Cottonwood Lake Dr, Windom, MN 56101

Terms: Bidders must be registered to attend and participate in live auction. Bidding Sheet, Instructions, and Farm Information are available online at www.nfmco.com or by calling Tyler Erickson, salesperson, at 507-532-5120.



This information provided herein is received from other sources and is believed to be correct NORTHWESTERN FARM MANAGEMENT COMPANY, Broker does not warrant its accuracy. We strongly suggest you contact the appropriate sources to confirm this information.

Over 60 years in business serving all of Minnesota, Iowa, North and South Dakota.



Contact Tyler Erickson

Cell: (507) 227-8402
Office: (507) 532-5120
Fax: (507) 532-0293
tyler@nfmco.com

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 4, 2003

MORTGAGOR: Joshua R Struck, a single person.

MORTGAGEE: United Prairie Bank, Windom Office.

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded April 18, 2003 Cottonwood County Recorder, Document No. 239498.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. Dated April 4, 2003 Recorded April 18, 2003, as Document No. 239499.

TRANSACTION AGENT: NONE

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: NONE

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: United Prairie Bank, Windom Office

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: U.S. Bank National Association

MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1260 Lakeview Ave, Windom, MN 56101

TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 254910080

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

Lot 9 of Leffler's Subdivision to the City of Windom, Cottonwood County, Minnesota.

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Cottonwood

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$51,500.00

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$50,809.60

That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; That no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM

PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Office, Cottonwood County Law Enforcement Center, South Front Step, 902 5th Avenue, Windom, MN to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on November 10, 2022, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

"THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABAN-

DONED." Dated: March 3, 2022 Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P. Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee 4500 Park Glen Road #300 Minneapolis, MN 55416 (952) 925-6888 135 - 22-001230 FC

IN THE EVENT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW: THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

(711— Mar. 16, 23, 30; Apr. 6, 13, 20, 2022)

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: **DATE OF MORTGAGE:** April 19, 2010 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$60,541.00 **MORTGAGOR(S):** Tom Gosen a/k/a Thomas Gosen and Margaret L Gosen, Husband and Wife Joint Tenants **MORTGAGEE:** Wells Fargo Bank N.A. **SERVICER:** Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC **DATE AND PLACE OF FILING:** Cottonwood County Minnesota, Recorder, on April 30, 2010, as Document No. 261650. **ASSIGNED TO:** Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as trustee of Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust I by an Assignment of Mortgage dated 01/27/2021 and recorded on 01/27/2021 as Document No. 290413. **LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:** Lot 1, Block 1, Klein's Subdivision No. 2 of the West 1/2 NE 1/4 of Section 4, Township 105 North, Range 34 West, Cottonwood County, Minnesota, except those parts thereof described as follows: 1. Commencing at the Northwest Corner of said lot; thence South along the West Boundary Line thereof 100 feet; thence East parallel with the North Boundary Line thereof 100 feet; thence North parallel with the West Boundary Line thereof 100 feet to the North Boundary Line of Lot 1; thence West along the North Boundary Line thereof 100 feet to the place of commencement. 2. Commencing at the Northeast Corner of said Lot 1; thence West along the North Boundary Line thereof 60 feet; thence South parallel with the East Boundary Line thereof 150 feet, thence East parallel with the North Boundary Line thereof 60 feet to the East Boundary Line of said Lot 1; thence North along said East Boundary Line 150 feet to the point of beginning. 3. Commencing in the North Boundary Line of said Lot 1 at a point 60 feet West from the Northeast Corner thereof, thence South parallel with the East Boundary Line thereof 150 feet; thence West parallel with the North Boundary Line thereof 28 feet; thence North parallel with the East Boundary Line thereof 150 feet to the North Boundary Line of said Lot 1; thence East along said North Boundary Line 28 feet to the point of commencement. 4. Commencing at the Northwest Corner of said Lot 1; thence South along the West Boundary Line thereof 100 feet, this being the place of beginning; thence continuing South along said West Boundary Line to the Southwest Corner of Lot 1; thence East along the South Boundary Line thereof 100 feet; thence North parallel with the West Boundary Line thereof to a point 100 feet South of the North Boundary Line of said Lot 1; thence West parallel with the North Boundary Line thereof 100 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning. **PROPERTY ADDRESS:** 1102 MOUNTAIN LAKE ROAD, MOUNTAIN LAKE, MN 56159 **PROPERTY I.D.:** 22-442-0040 **COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED:** Cottonwood

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: **Fifty-Eight Thousand Thirty-Six and 61/100 (\$58,036.61)** THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there

has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes; PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: **DATE AND TIME OF SALE:** 10:00AM on May 27, 2022 **PLACE OF SALE:** Sheriff's Main Office, 902 5th Ave., Windom MN 56101 to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorney fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is 6.00 months from the date of sale. If Mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. Section 580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on November 27, 2022, or the next business day if November 27, 2022 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. "THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED." Dated: **March 23, 2022** Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as trustee of Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust I Randall S. Miller and Associates, PLLC Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgage/Mortgagee Edinburgh Executive Office Center, 8525 Edinbrook Crossing North Suite #210 Brooklyn Park, MN 55443 Phone: 952-232-0052 Our File No. 22MN00072-1 A-4744260 (714— Mar. 23, 30; Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: **DATE OF MORTGAGE:** March 27, 2018 **ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE:** \$88,200.00 **MORTGAGOR(S):** Cody J Henderson, a single person **MORTGAGEE:** Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Stearns Lending, LLC, its successors and assigns

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded: March 28, 2018 Cottonwood County Recorder Document Number: 282591 **ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:** And assigned to: U.S. Bank National Association Dated: January 12, 2021 Recorded: January 19, 2021 Cottonwood County Recorder Document Number: 290306 **Transaction Agent:** Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: 100183358020767512 **Lender/Broker/Mortgage Originator:** Stearns Lending, LLC

Residential Mortgage Servicer: U.S. Bank National Association

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Cottonwood

Property Address: 125 9th Street, Windom, MN 56101 **Tax Parcel ID Number:** 25-821-0790

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North 89 feet of Lot 3 in Block 33 in the East Addition to the Village (now City) of Windom, Cottonwood County, Minnesota

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE: \$87,189.04

THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that this is registered property;

PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above-described

property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: **DATE AND TIME OF SALE:** June 17, 2022 at 10:00 AM **PLACE OF SALE:** County Sheriff's office, in the front lobby of the Cottonwood County Law Enforcement Center, 902 Fifth Avenue, Windom, Minnesota to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorney fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns. If the Mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on December 19, 2022, or the next business day if December 19, 2022 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. Mortgagor(s) released from financial obligation: NONE **THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED." Dated: **March 19, 2022** Mortgagee: U.S. Bank National Association Wilford, Geske & Cook, P.A. Attorneys for Mortgagee 7616 Currell Boulevard, Suite 200 Woodbury, MN 55125 (651) 209-3300 File Number: 050679-F1 (716— Mar. 23, 30; Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022)

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: **DATE OF MORTGAGE:** January 5, 2018 **ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE:** \$113,407.00 **MORTGAGOR(S):** Daniel Lee Ysker, an unmarried man **MORTGAGEE:** Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., acting solely as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation **TRANSACTION AGENT:** Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. **MIN#:** 100392411202548635 **SERVICER:** Flagstar Bank FSB **LENDER:** Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation. **DATE AND PLACE OF FILING:** Cottonwood County Minnesota, Recorder, on January 10, 2018, as Document No. 282046. **ASSIGNED TO:** Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated 01/17/2020 and recorded on 01/17/2020 as Document No. 287675. **LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:** Lot Eleven (11) in Block Forty-Seven (47) in the Second Addition to the City of Windom, in Cottonwood County, Minnesota. **PROPERTY ADDRESS:** 1237 3RD AVE, WINDOM, MN 56101 **PROPERTY I.D.:** 25-822-0790 **COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED:** Cottonwood

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: **One Hundred Eleven Thousand Nine Hundred Two and 76/100 (\$111,902.76)** THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to re-

cover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage and acceleration notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes; PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: **DATE AND TIME OF SALE:** 10:00 AM on June 3, 2022 **PLACE OF SALE:** Sheriff's Main Office, 902 5th Ave., Windom MN 56101 to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorney fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns. If the Mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. Section 580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on December 3, 2022, or the next business day if December 3, 2022 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. "THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED." Dated: **March 30, 2022** Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC Randall S. Miller and Associates, PLLC Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgage/Mortgagee Edinburgh Executive Office Center 8525 Edinbrook Crossing North Suite #210 Brooklyn Park, MN 55443 Phone: 952-232-0052 Our File No. 22MN00049-1 A-4744501 03/30/2022, 04/06/2022, 04/13/2022, 04/20/2022, 04/27/2022, 05/04/2022 (718— Mar. 30; Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4, 2022)

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF COTTONWOOD FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No.: 17-PR-22-135

Estate of: Bruce G. Olson, Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on May 11, 2022, at 8:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 900 3rd Avenue, Windom, Minnesota, 56101, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Shannon K. Wylie whose address is 2250 6th Street, Apt. #334, White Bear Lake, MN 55110 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. 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.

Objections to the petition for appointment of the personal representative must be filed prior to the hearing with the Cottonwood County Court Administration office by: e-filing (electronic filing); email: 5thCottonwoodCourtAdmin@courts.state.mn.us or mail at P.O. Box 97, Windom, MN 56101. Any interested person planning on attending the hearing should contact Court Administration at 507-831-4551.

BY THE COURT Christina M. Wietzema

cover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes; PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: **DATE AND TIME OF SALE:** June 17, 2022 at 10:00 AM **PLACE OF SALE:** County Sheriff's office, in the front lobby of the Cottonwood County Law Enforcement Center, 902 Fifth Avenue, Windom, Minnesota to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorney fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns. If the Mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on December 19, 2022, or the next business day if December 19, 2022 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. Mortgagor(s) released from financial obligation: NONE **THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**

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STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF COTTONWOOD FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No.: 17-PR-22-135

Estate of: Bruce G. Olson, Decedent

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It is Ordered and Notice is given that on May 11, 2022, at 8:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 900 3rd Avenue, Windom, Minnesota, 56101, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Shannon K. Wylie whose address is 2250 6th Street, Apt. #334, White Bear Lake, MN 55110 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. 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.

Objections to the petition for appointment of the personal representative must be filed prior to the hearing with the Cottonwood County Court Administration office by: e-filing (electronic filing); email: 5thCottonwoodCourtAdmin@courts.state.mn.us or mail at P.O. Box 97, Windom, MN 56101. Any interested person planning on attending the hearing should contact Court Administration at 507-831-4551.

BY THE COURT Christina M. Wietzema

Judge of District Court April 4, 2022 Sheila Pierson Court Administrator April 4, 2022 Attorney for Petitioner Ronald J. Schramel Schramel Law Office 910 Fourth Avenue PO Box 505 Windom, MN, 56101 Attorney License No: 254757 Telephone: (507) 831-1301 FAX: (507) 831-4200 Email: schramellaw@windomnet.com (725— Apr. 13, 20, 2022)

COTTONWOOD COUNTY MINNESOTA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

A Public Hearing will be held by the Cottonwood County Commissioners on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 9:02 A.M. in the County Commissioners' Room in the Cottonwood County Courthouse, 900 Third Avenue, Windom, Minnesota, to consider granting a residential property tax abatement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §469.1813.

Request submitted by Preferred Choice Homes, LLC. Abatement period—5 years commencing on first year of taxes payable for full assessed value related to new home. Based on 2022 tax rates, **estimated** total abatement could be approximately \$4,190.

Property Address: 1903 Bud Road, Windom, MN 56101

Legal Description of Property: Lot 1, Block 2 of Gove Acres Subdivision to the City of Windom, Cottonwood County, Minnesota.

Parcel #: 25-320-1100

All parties interested in commenting on this proposed abatement may either contact the County Coordinator's Office by e-mail: Kelly.Thongvong@co.cottonwood.mn.us or by phone at 507-831-5669 OR may submit written comments to the address below prior to the hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE COTTONWOOD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Donna Torkelson, County Auditor/Treasurer 900 Third Avenue Windom, MN 56101 Phone: 507-831-1905 (731— April 20, 2022)

COTTONWOOD COUNTY MINNESOTA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

A Public Hearing will be held by the Cottonwood County Commissioners on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 9:05 A.M. in the County Commissioners' Room in the Cottonwood County Courthouse, 900 Third Avenue, Windom, Minnesota, to consider granting a residential property tax abatement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §469.1813.

Request submitted by Preferred Choice Homes, LLC. Abatement period—5 years commencing on first year of taxes payable for full assessed value related to new home. Based on 2022 tax rates, **estimated** total abatement could be approximately \$4,190.

Property Address: 1903 Bud Road, Windom, MN 56101

Legal Description of Property: Lot 2, Block 2 of Gove Acres Subdivision to the City of Windom, Cottonwood County, Minnesota.

Parcel #: 25-320-1200

All parties interested in commenting on this proposed abatement may either contact the County Coordinator's Office by e-mail: Kelly.Thongvong@co.cottonwood.mn.us or by phone at 507-831-5669 OR may submit written comments to the address below prior to the hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE COTTONWOOD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Donna Torkelson, County Auditor/Treasurer 900 Third Avenue Windom, MN 56101 Phone: 507-831-1905 (732— April 20, 2022)

COTTONWOOD COUNTY MINNESOTA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

A Public Hearing will be held by the Cottonwood County Commissioners on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 9:02 A.M. in the County Commissioners' Room in the Cottonwood County Courthouse, 900 Third Avenue, Windom, Minnesota, to consider granting a residential property tax abatement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §469.1813.

Request submitted by Preferred Choice Homes, LLC. Abatement period—5 years commencing on first year of taxes payable for full assessed value related to new home. Based on 2022 tax rates, **estimated** total abatement could be approximately \$4,190.

Property Address: 1903 Bud Road, Windom, MN 56101

Legal Description of Property: Lot 1, Block 2 of Gove Acres Subdivision to the City of Windom, Cottonwood County, Minnesota.

Parcel #: 25-320-1100

All parties interested in commenting on this proposed abatement may either contact the County Coordinator's Office by e-mail: Kelly.Thongvong@co.cottonwood.mn.us or by phone at 507-831-5669 OR may submit written comments to the address below prior to the hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE COTTONWOOD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Donna Torkelson, County Auditor/Treasurer 900 Third Avenue Windom, MN 56101 Phone: 507-831-1905 (731— April 20, 2022)

COTTONWOOD COUNTY MINNESOTA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

A Public

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Windom City Council will hold a public hearing in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 444 Ninth Street, Windom, Minnesota during the regularly-scheduled Council meeting, which begins at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, to provide an opportunity for the public comment on the Community Facilities Grant Application, submitted to USDA and approved for funding, to be used by the Fire Department for Turn-Out Gear.

A copy of the project application is available for inspection in the City Administrator's Office, City Hall, 444 Ninth Street.

Such persons as desire to be heard with reference to the Community Facilities Grant Application for funding of Turn-Out Gear are encouraged to attend this hearing or may submit written comments to the City of Windom, PO Box 38, Windom, MN 56101.

By order of the Windom City Council:
Steven Nasby
City Administrator
(733— April 20, 27, 2022)

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF WINDOM MINNESOTA RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

A Public Hearing will be held by the Windom City Council on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at the City Council Meeting which begins at 6:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers at the City Hall, 444 Ninth Street, Windom, Minnesota, to consider granting a residential property tax abatement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §469.1813.

Request submitted by Preferred Choice Homes, LLC. Abatement period—5 years commencing on first year of taxes payable for the full assessed value related to the new home. Based on 2022 tax rates, estimated total abatement could be approximately \$7,536.85.

Property Address: 1901 Bud Road, Windom, MN 56101
Legal Description of Property: Lot 1, Block 2 of Gove

Acres Subdivision to the City of Windom, Cottonwood County, Minnesota;
Parcel No.: 25-320-1100

All parties interested in commenting on this proposed abatement may attend the public hearing or submit written comments to the address below prior to the hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE WINDOM CITY COUNCIL
Steven Nasby,
City Administrator
444 Ninth Street
P. O. Box 38
Windom, MN 56101
Phone: 507-831-6129
(734— April 20, 2022)

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF WINDOM MINNESOTA RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

A Public Hearing will be held by the Windom City Council on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at the City Council Meeting which begins at 6:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers at the City Hall, 444 Ninth Street, Windom, Minnesota, to consider granting a residential property tax abatement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §469.1813.

Request submitted by Preferred Choice Homes, LLC. Abatement period – 5 years commencing on first year of taxes payable for the full assessed value related to the new home. Based on 2022 tax rates, estimated total abatement could be approximately \$7,536.85.

Property Address: 1903 Bud Road, Windom, MN 56101
Legal Description of Property: Lot 2, Block 2 of Gove Acres Subdivision to the City of Windom, Cottonwood County, Minnesota;

Parcel No.: 25-320-1200
All parties interested in commenting on this proposed abatement may attend the public hearing or submit written comments to the address below prior to the hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE WINDOM CITY COUNCIL
Steven Nasby,
City Administrator
444 Ninth Street
P. O. Box 38
Windom, MN 56101
Phone: 507-831-6129
(735— April 20, 2022)

Report shows no paid leave for moms caring for newborns

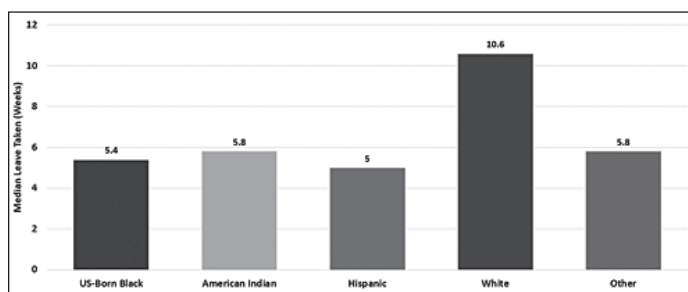
■ Data was collected through monthly surveys with new mothers from 2016-2020.

Nearly two-thirds of Minnesota mothers take unpaid maternity leave after giving birth, according to a new Minnesota Department of Health data brief analyzing maternal trends and behaviors from 2016-2020.

The data shows 34% of mothers took only paid leave, compared to 42% who took only unpaid leave, 21% who took a combination of paid and unpaid leave, and 3% who took no leave.

Evidence shows that access to paid parental leave is linked to fewer infant deaths, increased breastfeeding duration and improved birth and developmental outcomes. It also has been linked to improved maternal mental health, including a decreased likelihood of depression or psychological distress following childbirth.

“The time following childbirth is a key opportunity to bond with and care for your baby, recover from delivery and adjust to life with a new child,” Minnesota Commis-



sioner of Health Jan Malcolm said. “Unfortunately, many mothers do not have enough leave to take the time they need and many get no paid time off at all.”

The lack of adequate paid leave can create multiple challenges, like struggling to find or afford child care (many child care providers do not take children younger than 6 weeks), or facing economic hardship by staying home without pay.

The report also highlights disparities in parental leave by race and income:

- More low-income mothers used only unpaid leave compared to mothers with higher incomes (60% vs. 34%).
- Eighteen percent of poor and low-income mothers did not plan to return

to work compared to 8% of mothers who reported higher incomes.

White mothers had median length of leave that was nearly two times longer when compared with all other racial/ethnic groups.

People of color and American Indians are more likely than white Minnesotans to be in low-paying, less secure jobs with fewer benefits including access to paid parental leave. These inequities can result in poor health outcomes across generations and impact pregnancy and birth complications, as well as other social factors that impact health, like food insecurity or unsafe housing.

Paid leave is an important part of supporting workers and businesses. The

Governor and Lieutenant Governor's supplemental budget recommendation for the current legislative session includes a Paid Family and Medical Leave program to ensure more equitable economic opportunities for Minnesota children and families.

The full report, “Maternity Leave after Childbirth: Access and Barriers to Paid and Unpaid Maternity Leave, Minnesota Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System 2016-2020, in PDF form can be found at: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/women/infants/prams/maternityleave.pdf>

Data was collected through monthly surveys with new mothers from 2016-2020, through the Minnesota Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System. This ongoing research project between the MDH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention collects data on maternal behaviors and experiences before, during and after childbirth.

State's hemp grower applications due by April 30 for 2022 season

■ Industrial hemp and marijuana differ by the concentration level of THC within the plant.

Those wanting to grow and process hemp in Minnesota in 2022 must apply for a license with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture by April 30.

To date, over 200 people have applied for an MDA license.

The online application for growers and processors can be found on the MDA website at www.mda.state.mn.us/industrialhemp. Along with the online form, first-time applicants need to submit fingerprints and pass a criminal background check.

This is the seventh year of the state's Industrial Hemp Program. Last year, 425 people held licenses to grow or process hemp. Over 2,800 acres and 318,713

Minnesota Hemp Program Licensing/Acreage Statistics

Licensing/Acreage	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Approved applicants	7	47	65	505	542	425
Licensed Growers	6	33	43	350	461	348
Licensed Processors (processing only)	0	5	8	49	77	77
Outdoor Acres Planted	38	1,202	709	7,353	5,808	2,830
Indoor Square Feet Planted	0	0	54,618	40,304	1,460 million	318,713 million

indoor square feet were planted in Minnesota.

There are several changes to the 2022 program. They include:

- The tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) testing fee per grower sample has been reduced from \$125 to \$100 each.
- Previously, growers were not invoiced for the cost of the first sample; however, fees now will be charged for each sample collected.
- The MDA will begin inspecting processor locations. This was not done in the past.

approved hemp production plan.

Questions about the MDA's Hemp Program should be sent to hemp.mda@state.mn.us or 651-201-6600.

Background

Industrial hemp and marijuana are both types of the same plant, Cannabis sativa. They differ by the concentration level of the psychoactive compound tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) within the plant. Hemp has less than 0.3% THC, and levels above that are considered marijuana.

Minnesota operated under a hemp pilot program from 2016-2020. In 2021, the program began operating under a new, federally approved state plan that governs production and regulation.

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

57th Annual Darfur Sportsman Club

Smelt & Fish Supper

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Darfur Hall • Darfur, MN

Carry-outs available • Handicapped Accessible



Adults \$15

Age 6-12 \$8

5 and under FREE

All you can eat!

— OPEN TO THE PUBLIC —

Sons of Norway
Stavanger Lodge #1-538

COMMUNITY & MEMBERSHIP EVENT

Thursday, April 21

6:00 p.m.

American Lutheran Church

906 Prospect Avenue, Windom

Social Hour with Refreshments

Special Dramatization about Hans Nielsen Hauge



Hauge lived in Norway from 1771 to 1824. He had a profound influence on the secular and religious history of his homeland.

Hauge's life story will be told by professional storyteller Pati Kachel.

For more information contact Karl & Bonnie Frederickson — blissfred1@gmail.com, 507-831-5091 or 507-370-2850 or Harvey Pedersen — 507-822-2767

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Windom State Theater

Fantastic Beasts:
The Secrets of Dumbledore



HELD OVER

Fri., April 22..... 7 p.m.
Sat., April 23..... 4 & 7 p.m.
Sun., April 24..... 4 & 7 p.m.

Movie Hotline 507-831-1641

BENEFIT FOR . . .



Michael Munning

Husband of Jolene Gohr Munning and father of Harlan

Saturday, April 23

Serving from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

— FREEWILL DONATION —

— SILENT AUCTION AT 7:00 P.M. —

Mountain Lake Community Center
1027 2nd Avenue, Mountain Lake

Donations will be used to raise funds to pay for medical expenses related to kidney transplant that insurance does not cover; gas, food, lodging after surgery, anti-rejection drugs, etc.

Send donations to:

Marlene Wolff

1407 3rd Ave., Mountain Lake, MN 56159

Or online to:

<https://helpholive.org/campaign/16846>

Questions?

Marlene: 507-920-6387 Lisa: 507-236-9636



Heroes

Let's get fired up —
One night coming together to unite us!

— ANNUAL FIREMAN'S DANCE —
Saturday, May 7

Windom Arena

6:00 p.m. Doors Open & Burger Meals

6:00 to 11:00 p.m. Beer Garden

7:30 p.m. Fireman's Raffle Drawing

8:00-11:00 p.m. IV Play takes the stage

(\$10 COVER CHARGE FOR IV PLAY)

— FUNDRAISER RAFFLE ITEMS —

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- Toro Walk-Behind Blower — GDF Bobcat, Windom
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- (2) HD Flat Screen TVs — Lucan Community TV, Windom
- (5) \$100 Gift Certificates — Higley Ford, Windom
- (2) Laptop Computers — Citizen Publishing, Windom
- (5) \$100 Windom Chamber Bucks — KDOM Radio, Windom
- (2) \$500 Gift Certificates — ExpressWay, Windom
- \$500 Gift Certificate — Windom Farm Service, Windom
- \$100 Gift Certificate — Johnson's Meat Market, Windom
- \$500 Gift Certificate — Schwalbach Ace Hardware, Windom
- (4) \$100 Gift Certificates — to Area Restaurants
- \$500 Gift Certificate — Town 'N Country Appliance, Windom
- \$100 Gift Certificate — Windom County Club, Windom

TICKETS ARE \$20 EACH. TO PURCHASE CONTACT A FIRE FIGHTER OR CALL —
Chief Ben Derickson, 507-920-9003 or Assistant Chief Jordan Bussa, 507-822-2807

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or email:

citizen@windomnews.com

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CLASSIFIEDS

507-831-3455 or 800-658-2510
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Card of Thanks

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Shelby Woizeschke want to thank all who sent cards, memorials, food, flowers, phone calls or came to the visitation or the funeral, each touched our hearts. Thanks to the American Lutheran Church and Pastors Sarah and Adam, and to the ladies serving the lunch, to LaCanne Family Celebration of Life Center for their services. Thanks to Grape Tree Medical Staffing for all they have done. Thanks to the Lions Club for the benefit, especially Carol Wagner and Steph Evers for their help, to all who worked and donated to the silent auction and all the food for the bake sale. For all the clothes, toys and money given to the two boys, William and Charles. For all the prayers at this difficult time, your kindness and memories shown our families during this time will always remain with us. The Windom community is a caring place to live. God bless you!

The family of Shelby Woizeschke

Citywide Garage Sales

PLAN NOW FOR WINDOM SPRING CITYWIDE GARAGE SALE

Sat., June 4, 8 a.m. unless otherwise specified. Your ad will be published in the Shopper, Citizen and on the Citizen website the week prior to your sale. The ad deadline will be Wed., May 25 at 12:00 noon. The total cost is \$24.00 up to 50 words. All ads must be prepaid. Two FREE garage sale signs. Call Tammy at 507-831-3455 or email to tammyh@windomnews.com.

Auctions

SUN., APRIL 24, 11:00 a.m. Coins, antiques and collectibles auction located at Croatt Auction Center, 4003 United States Avenue, Storden. John Croatt, auctioneer.

SAT., APRIL 30, 9:00 a.m. Estate coin auction located in the Barc library, 1012 5th Avenue, Windom. Gravley Auction, auctioneers.

Auctions

SUN., MAY 22, 11:00 a.m. Guns, Red Wing pottery, coins, antiques and collectibles auction located at Croatt Auction Center, 4003 United States Avenue, Storden. John Croatt, auctioneers.

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Motorcycles

1982 HARLEY DAVIDSON TOUR GLIDE CLASSIC, custom paint, 42,000 miles, like new, have \$13,000 in it asking \$5,900. Call 507-832-9141.

2001 YAMAHA V STAR CLASSIC 1100. Under 10,000 miles, very good shape, good tires, \$2,500 OBO. 507-822-2336.

Vans

MOBILE POWER WASHER, 1995 Ford E-250 van, 88,350 miles, good tires, runs and drives great. Power washer unit 16-HP gas engine, 3200 PSI, 5.4 GPM UDOR pump. \$6425 or OBO. Call 507-227-4190.

Check the classified ads at www.windomnews.com.

Farm Equip.

COMPLETE SET OF DAKOTA aeration tubes, with fan for grain bin. Call 507-227-6074.

CASE IH 7-BOTTOM PLOW, semi-mount, two-point hitch, in good shape. Call 507-227-3961 or 507-240-3561.

Farm Equip.

CASE IH 4900 TAND-DEM DISK with three-bar spring tooth mulcher, 24' in good shape. Call 507-427-3561.

1973 TIMPTE 38' grain trailer. Call or text 507-227-3961 or 507-240-1806.

Farm Equip.

Wil-Rich field cultivator with fold up wings. Call 507-822-8930.

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The Shopper
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HSi Habilitative Services, Inc.

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Qualifications: High School diploma or higher, management experience preferred, minimum of one year related experience, valid driver's license with clean driving record, and ability to pass a criminal background check. Benefits include medical/dental/vision insurance, 401k w/company match, PTO/Holiday pay, and now offering On-Demand Pay, access to your money anytime, no need to wait until pay day!

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Questions? Call Amy — 978-488-5473

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SCAN ME

Tegels Park Shelter House FOR SALE

The City of Windom is offering for sale the shelter house at Tegels Park to be moved or salvaged. The building is 50'x29', stick built with 8-foot side walls, and a new steel roof. The building must be removed after June 15 and before July 1, 2022. The building is sold as is. For additional information, contact Jon Ketzenberg, Street/Park Superintendent, 507-822-0783.

For pictures and more information, see our ad on the City's website at www.windom-mn.com

Bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2022. Bids must be clearly marked and sent to:

City of Windom
Attn: Shelter House Bid
444 9th Street
PO Box 38
Windom, MN 56101

CITY OF WINDOM

The City of Windom reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. SEEKING FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE

The City of Kerkhoven, MN, Public Works Department, is seeking a full-time Public Works Supervisor starting immediately. A complete job description and benefits package is available upon request.

Minimum requirements: Possess a MN Class D Water Operator's and Class C Sewer Operator's License and able to obtain a Class B Driver's License within 6 months of employment. Have a valid MN Class D Driver's License and a satisfactory driving record. All applicants will be required to have a physical and are subject to a drug test. **Starting wages \$53,830-\$71,780 per year/DOQ**, plus excellent benefits. This is a non-union position.

TO APPLY: All applicants must complete and submit an application for employment packet. Application forms can be obtained at City Hall Monday-Thursday from 8am-5pm and Fridays 8am-noon or by calling 320-264-2581 or by email: kerkhovenclerk@gmail.com.

Submit completed applications in drop box or by mail to: City of Kerkhoven, 208 N 10th St, PO Box 116, Kerkhoven, MN 56252. The City of Kerkhoven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CITY OF KERKHOVEN
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St. John's Circle of Care is looking for a Campus Administrator

The Campus Administrator is responsible for managing the overall operations of St. John's Circle of Care campus. The campus consists of long-term care/skilled nursing facility, assisted living facility, senior HUD housing and a daycare center. This position will ensure high quality care to all who reside on the campus or come to the campus while achieving long and short-term business goals.

Responsibilities include but not limited to:

- Maintains an environment that achieves high quality care in all services that the campus provides, including physical, emotional, social and spiritual.
- Create and maintain a work environment for employees that is conducive to employee morale.
- Maintain effective communication system with employees.
- Lead an effective management team that achieves desired outcomes at all levels of operation.
- Actively participate and make administrative decisions in the campus' overall planning, decision-making and implementation processes for strategies, policies and procedures.
- Cooperation and positive communication with our local community and all regulatory organizations.
- Knowledge of reimbursement and operational regulations, and guidelines pertaining to long term care/assisted living. Ensure regulatory compliance in all aspects of operation.
- Assist financial operations/budgeting with all departments on the campus.

Qualifications:

- A Bachelor's degree in business, healthcare administration, or a related field strongly preferred.
- Experience in long term care/assisted living operational management preferred.
- Licensed as a Nursing Home Administrator (LNHA) in Minnesota or be eligible to obtain one within 6 months of employment required per State of Minnesota guidelines required.
- Licensed as an Assisted Living Director (LALD) a plus, not required.
- Strong competencies in health care management and operations, quality management, and community relations.
- Excellent interpersonal, communication and organizational skills.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office and other common computer programs.

St. John's Circle of Care is not only a caring community, but an energetic, diverse workplace that promotes work life balance. If you are a dynamic, successful, driven professional, our organization will further your experience and growth. We offer competitive salary and comprehensive benefits including: full medical, dental and vision, 403B, PTO, sick time, etc.

To apply, email your cover letter, resume and salary requirements to:
pbarnes@sjlhome.com or call
Paula Barnes, Human Resource Director at 507-723-3244

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For Sale

INTERNATIONAL 5 16" PLOW. Good condition. Works good. \$900. Call 507-380-5286. Lewisville, if no answer please leave message.

GUARANTEED AD! Sell your car for \$40. Call Tammy for details at 507-831-3455 or toll free at 800-658-2510.

Teeter Free Step exercise machine, only used twice, selling for half price, \$400. Call 507-662-6277. No texts.

FOUR-WHEEL HANDICAP WHEELCHAIR with joystick, battery operated. Original cost \$18,000, asking only \$10,000. 507-276-8677.

TWELVE-PLACE SETTING OF FRANCISCAN DINNERWARE. Desert Rose pattern, all serving pieces, lots of extras. Made in California. Asking \$500 OBO. Call 507-327-6254.

INVACARE POWER WHEELCHAIR. Joystick operated, special seat for comfort, with battery and charger. Very good condition. Asking \$3,700. 507-425-2740.

One-ton manual chain hoist, works good, asking \$50. Call 507-832-8045.

EZ DOCK, floating dock system, like new! Easy installation. Call 507-370-2551.

EdenPURE quartz barbed head, asking \$40. Call 507-832-8045.

One-horse doctor's buggy, good rubber. Call or text 507-227-3961 or 507-240-1806.

Like new NuWave 3-qt. digital air fryer. Only used a handful of times. Asking \$30. Call 507-831-0113 after 6 p.m.

TAYLOR SOFT SERVE ICE CREAM MACHINE, 220V. Asking \$3,500. Call 507-920-8771.

ANTIQUUE ROLLTOP DESK, from the Derby Desk Co., Boston, MA. 33 x 58 inches. Call 507-276-8677.



HELP WANTED FULL-TIME DELIVERY/YARD HELP

Gramstad Lumber, Inc. is currently seeking applicants to fill their full-time delivery/yard help position. Duties will include, but are not limited to: receiving/delivering building materials and assisting customers with inside and outside sales. Applicant must be dependable, a hard worker, self motivated, be 18 years of age or older and have a valid drivers license. Job includes competitive salary with benefits package. 40-45 hours per week.

Applications available at:
Gramstad Lumber Inc.
311 North Main Street, Sanborn, MN 56083
507-648-3571



Gravel Road Dust Treatment

We are once again offering dust treatment for gravel roads, driveways and parking lots in this area. We will be applying product around the first of June and it will help take care of gravel dust for the entire summer.

Application deadline is 5/1/2022
For information or application call or email us at info@swdusttreatment.com


SW Dust Treatment
507-220-8699 or 507-220-4494
Springfield

Permanent Part-Time Office Assistant

The City of Windom is accepting applications for a permanent part-time Office Assistant. This position requires exceptional office organizational skills. Work involves assisting with customer service, receptionist duties and clerical support including A/P and A/R. A successful candidate must have computer knowledge and experience using word processing and spreadsheet software.

The hours of employment are Monday-Friday, approximately 25 hours per week, Noon - 5:00 p.m. Salary range for the position is \$15.62 - \$20.04, starting wage dependent upon experience.

Application materials and the job description are available at Windom City Hall, 444 9th Street, or on the City's website (www.windom-mn.com). Submit applications to: City of Windom, Attn: Denise Nichols, PO Box 38, Windom, MN 56101. Accepting applications until the position is filled.



Windom City Hall
444 9th Street
Windom
The City of Windom is an equal opportunity employer.

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Pickups	Auto	Farm Equip.	Farm Equip.	Farm Equip.
2014 Ford F150, 2015 Ford F150, 2016 Ford F150, 2017 Ford F150, 2018 Ford F150, 2019 Ford F150, 2020 Ford F150, 2021 Ford F150, 2022 Ford F150	2014 Honda Civic, 2015 Honda Civic, 2016 Honda Civic, 2017 Honda Civic, 2018 Honda Civic, 2019 Honda Civic, 2020 Honda Civic, 2021 Honda Civic, 2022 Honda Civic	2014 John Deere S780, 2015 John Deere S780, 2016 John Deere S780, 2017 John Deere S780, 2018 John Deere S780, 2019 John Deere S780, 2020 John Deere S780, 2021 John Deere S780, 2022 John Deere S780	2014 John Deere S780, 2015 John Deere S780, 2016 John Deere S780, 2017 John Deere S780, 2018 John Deere S780, 2019 John Deere S780, 2020 John Deere S780, 2021 John Deere S780, 2022 John Deere S780	2014 John Deere S780, 2015 John Deere S780, 2016 John Deere S780, 2017 John Deere S780, 2018 John Deere S780, 2019 John Deere S780, 2020 John Deere S780, 2021 John Deere S780, 2022 John Deere S780
Employment	Sport Utility	Boats/Motors	Boats/Motors	Boats/Motors
2014 Honda Civic, 2015 Honda Civic, 2016 Honda Civic, 2017 Honda Civic, 2018 Honda Civic, 2019 Honda Civic, 2020 Honda Civic, 2021 Honda Civic, 2022 Honda Civic	2014 Honda Civic, 2015 Honda Civic, 2016 Honda Civic, 2017 Honda Civic, 2018 Honda Civic, 2019 Honda Civic, 2020 Honda Civic, 2021 Honda Civic, 2022 Honda Civic	2014 John Deere S780, 2015 John Deere S780, 2016 John Deere S780, 2017 John Deere S780, 2018 John Deere S780, 2019 John Deere S780, 2020 John Deere S780, 2021 John Deere S780, 2022 John Deere S780	2014 John Deere S780, 2015 John Deere S780, 2016 John Deere S780, 2017 John Deere S780, 2018 John Deere S780, 2019 John Deere S780, 2020 John Deere S780, 2021 John Deere S780, 2022 John Deere S780	2014 John Deere S780, 2015 John Deere S780, 2016 John Deere S780, 2017 John Deere S780, 2018 John Deere S780, 2019 John Deere S780, 2020 John Deere S780, 2021 John Deere S780, 2022 John Deere S780

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Help Wanted

FULL-TIME DRIVER NEEDED—preferred for hauling hogs but would consider a feed truck driver position. Driver is home every night. We will assist in obtaining CDL licensing in the right situation if necessary. Position also requires some light maintenance work.



To inquire, call Chandra Schultz at:
507-427-2821

Windom Area Schools Special Education Secretary 2022-23

Position Summary

- Provide assistance to the special education staff through the performance of daily tasks to comply with special education laws and requirements
- Seek reimbursement to the district through third-party billing

Education and Experience

- High school diploma or GED required
- Two-year degree preferred
- One to three years of experience preferred
- Equivalent combination of education, training, and experience in a job-related field

Apply online at:
www.windom.k12.mn.us
under District/Employment
Application Deadline: Open Until Filled
Questions? Contact Mandy Miller at: amiller@isd177.com


EOE

SUMMER INTERNSHIP

The City of Windom is offering an opportunity for a Summer Internship Program. Minimum qualifications include a high school diploma and college course work related to finance, business or political science and a valid MN driver's license. The internship program will be up to 40 hours per week for approximately 8-10 weeks during the months of May through August. Time frame is flexible. Salary for this position is \$11.00 per hour.

Applications available at:
www.windom-mn.com

or at:
Windom City Hall
444 9th Street
Windom



The City of Windom is an equal opportunity employer.

Windom Area Schools is hiring for the following position—

ABE/GED Teacher
Beginning the 2022-2023 School Year

This position will be responsible for developing cognitive lesson plans, conducting classroom instruction, and evaluation of student performance. Develop lesson plans, implement activities, and assess the activities of students.

Classes presently being held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday classes may be offered, 11 months per year.

Starting salary (based on years of experience) \$32.47 - \$37.82/hour

JOB REQUIREMENTS—

- Bachelor's (BA/BS) degree required
- Minnesota teaching license preferred
- One to three years of teaching experience or equivalent combination of education, training and experience in a job-related field is preferred

Apply online at—
www.windom.k12.mn.us
under Employment
Application deadline: Open until filled

EOE

—Now Hiring—

BILLING SPECIALIST

This individual will be responsible for managing the daily billing and invoicing of sales and services. They will be responsible for weekly auditing to verify accuracy of entered data, coding and keying of vendor invoices, yearly collection of tax forms, entry of pricing data and assistance in ensuring accurate inventory levels. They will work with other company personnel to establish relationships with suppliers that better enable Staples Oil Co., Inc. to meet its financial and operational goals and objectives.

DESIRABLE APPLICANT SKILLS INCLUDE:

- Two year degree in Accounting or previous experience preferred.
- Good computer skills
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Good problem solving abilities

COMPENSATION PACKAGE TO INCLUDE:

- Excellent salary based on qualifications
- Excellent benefit package
- 401K plan including employer match
- Insurance plans offered
- Family-friendly work environment



www.StaplesOil.com

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Email resume to:
jobs@staplesoil.com

Apply online at:
www.staplesoil.com

Or inquire with Amy Joyce, HR Manager:
507-407-8964

—Now Hiring—

ACCOUNTING SERVICES POSITION

Best Oil Company has an Accounting Services position open in Windom. This position will be responsible for billing, data entry, application of cash, coding and keying of accounts payable invoices in support of accurate and timely reporting of Best Oil Company's finances.

COMPENSATION PACKAGE TO INCLUDE:

- Excellent salary based on qualifications
- Excellent benefit package
- 401K plan including employer match
- Insurance plans offered
- Family-friendly work environment




Interested candidates contact Emily Boelke by emailing:
eboelke@bestoilcompany.com

Apply online at: **www.BestOilCompany.com**

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EDA Development Director

The City of Windom is accepting applications for the position of EDA Development Director. This position is responsible for administrative and professional work promoting, facilitating, and coordinating development activities for the City. Windom's current major projects include marketing/development of a new residential subdivision, retention and expansion of retail and administration of TIF districts.


Minimum qualifications — Bachelor's degree with major coursework in finance, real estate, marketing, economics, local and urban planning, or a related field. Three years experience in community/economic development is desired.

Salary range is \$73,486 to \$91,873 and is negotiable depending on experience and qualifications.

Applications and position description available at—
Windom City Hall, 444 9th Street, Windom
or on city's website—
www.windom-mn.com

Submit applications and resume on website or mail to—
City of Windom, PO Box 38, Windom, MN 56101

To be considered for this position, please submit an application and a resume. Position open until filled.



The City of Windom is an equal opportunity employer.

Full-Time

Sheriff/Emergency Management Administrative Assistant

Cottonwood County is currently accepting applications for a full-time Sheriff/Emergency Management Administrative Assistant.

Minimum requirements for this position include a high school diploma or equivalent and four years of support staff experience or any equivalent combination of qualifying education and experience. First Aid and CPR Certification. Possession of a valid State of Minnesota driver's license.

Starting salary is \$19.62/hour or dependent upon qualifications.

For a complete job description or application of employment, contact the County Coordinator/Human Resources Office (Room 13 of the Cottonwood County Courthouse), call 507-831-5669 or visit the county website at www.co.cottonwood.mn.us. Resumes will not be accepted without the completed job application.

Application deadline is Monday, May 2, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

Mail completed application and resume to:
Kelly Thongvivong
Coordinator/Human Resources
900 Third Avenue
Windom, MN 56101



Cottonwood County is an equal opportunity employer.

Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services

PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services (DVHHS) currently has a full-time opening for a Public Health Director. DVHHS serves Cottonwood and Jackson Counties. The Public Health Director is responsible for the overall management and administration of Public Health programs which include and are not limited to: Women Infant and Children (WIC), Family Home Visiting, the Statewide Health Improvement Plan (SHIP), Public Health Emergency Management, Disease Prevention and Control, etc. that are to protect and improve the health of county residents. This position accomplishes this by assessing the community, setting priorities, allocating resources, developing/evaluating policies, supervising and training staff, assigning work, establishing budgets, and monitoring expenses. The Public Health Director acts as the Community Health Services (CHS) administrator following statutory requirements.

Minimum qualifications of education and experience for this position: Applicants must have a baccalaureate or higher degree. Preferred areas of study include administration, public health, community health, environmental health or nursing. Documented public health and administrative or supervisory experience also preferred.

Certain positions may be required to meet the following minimum training and experience standards for Community Health Services Administrators, per Minn. Rules part 4736.0100, subpart 3.

A full position description can be found by visiting the DVHHS website at www.dvhhs.org

This is a full-time, exempt position with a full benefit package. The anticipated hiring salary range for this position is \$78,686 - \$102,294 and is dependent on candidate qualifications and experience.

In order to ensure the safety of citizens, employees and property, DVHHS has adopted a drug and alcohol testing policy which applies to all candidates being considered for employment with DVHHS. A Drug and Alcohol test must be completed within 24 hours of all contingent verbal offers of employment, unless alternate scheduling arrangements are approved by Human Resources office.

To apply for this position e-mail a letter of interest, resume and professional references to DVHHS Human Resources at—
applicants@dvhhs.org

Deadline: 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 2, 2022.

DVHHS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



“AUTUMN LANE,” taken by Stacy Anderson, received the most votes in the Cottonwood County Historical Society’s 2022 “Give It Your Best Shot: Focus on Cottonwood County” photo contest.

STACY ANDERSON

Winners of ‘Best Shot’ photo contest announced

The top three photographs in the 2022 “Give It Your Best Shot: Focus on Cottonwood County” photo contest at the Remick Gallery have been announced.

The exhibit was on display earlier this year in the gallery at the Cottonwood County Historical Society.

The top photo, voted on by the public, was Stacy Anderson’s “Autumn Lane,” while Ashley Soleta’s photo, “Dempsey Bridge” took

second. Third-place honors went to Juane Elston with her photograph titled “Well Traveled Road to Grandma & Grandpa’s.”

The photos from the show will be featured in a book coming out this summer.

Just a few more days remain for area residents to take in the Cottonwood County Student Art Show, presently on display in the Remick Gallery. The show ends Saturday.



“DEMPSEY BRIDGE,” taken by Ashley Soleta, received second place in the “Give It Your Best Shot: Focus on Cottonwood County” photo contest.

ASHLEY SOLETA



“WELL TRAVELED ROAD to Grandma & Grandpa’s,” taken by Juane Elston, was the third-place photo in this year’s “Give It Your Best Shot” contest.

JUANE ELSTON

COUNTY/ Commissioners accept petition for ditch repair

FROM PAGE 1

Ditch repair petition

A petition to repair a ditch in Ann Township raised several questions.

Acting as the ditch authority, the board heard a request to repair Ditch 35 in Ann Township, at an estimated cost of \$58,550.

County Attorney Nick Anderson stated that state statute requires that if a ditch repair petition is received, an engineer has to be hired to inspect and file a report on the petition.

Anderson added that the county does not have a designated ditch inspector, stating that all ditches in the county are supposed to be inspected every five years, and that repair petitions typically are a result of an uninspected ditch.

The board accepted the petition for the repair, authorizing Commissioner Larry Anderson to consult with an engineer.

Other business

In other business, the board:

- Denied a request from Brad Hutchison to have tax proceeds from Big Bend Wind and Red Rock Solar energy projects go to landowners whose property values may be impacted by the projects. County Attorney Nick Anderson noted the county has no legal authority to give those proceeds to private citizens.
- Heard information from

Scott Weimer and Troy Rasmussen from Federated Rural Electric regarding possible expansion of fiber to the home broadband in rural parts of the county. Weimer noted that Federated is applying for several grants to do similar projects in Martin and Jackson counties. The board will look into a feasibility study to potentially accelerate the process of expanding fiber broadband capability.

- Approved a resolution in support of the Highway 60 corridor study implementation plan.

ER/ Privacy upgrade was a project priority

FROM PAGE 1

privacy,” Andrews said. “A white noise machine was added in the patient rooms and at the nurses station. It helps with calming and drowning out sounds.”

Among the smaller improvements are the addition of a nearby ice and water machine for patients and emergency staff, a large blanket warmer

(replacing the previous smaller one) and a shower which is available for longer mental health holds (some are there as long as 72 hours).

Meeting expectations

Overall, the new ER clearly meets the staff’s expectations.

“In the end, it is a beautiful area,” Saffert said.

Andrews added: “For a small city hospital, it is amazing that we have such a great facility and now our ER matches the rest of the hospital.”

RRC SCHOOL/ Local staff had input on design

FROM PAGE 1

lunch staff, office staff and other school employees, were able to meet with architects and provide insight and ideas.

Lee credited the architects, adding, “Our staff all had the opportunity to meet with MLA . . . and they truly brought our ideas to life.”

The school also has a project oversight committee which includes two board members and an alternate. They meet monthly to go over the fine details and communicate on changes or additions. The project oversight committee then meets with the board to discuss further details.

Fall bids, dirt work

Lee said this project will go out for bids in August with bids due Sept. 13. In the fall, soil corrections and dirt work begins.

Construction of the building starts in the spring. Red Rock Central officials hope it is a 16-month start-to-finish

build, in a best-case scenario. If everything runs smoothly with the construction process, the first classes will be held in August of 2024.

However, delays are common for building projects. Lee mentioned that Jackson County Central leaders had hoped to be in their building within 16 months, but it ended up being closer to 20 months. Lee also mentioned with the shortage of building materials, it is very common for construction to take significantly longer.

Notable features

Mark Lenz, project principal for MLA Architects, said a few special features stood out to him while creating the design for RRC’s new school.

One of those is an identifiable front entry for the school with an emphasis on secure access. He also noted that parking for school activities is currently on the street. This project allows all parking to be on site, a vital safety benefit for students and adults.

One thing is certain, a lot of time, thought and passion has been put into this project from the contributions of many people.

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CITY OF WINDOM

Did you Know?

Last year, 247,793,000 gallons of water was pumped from wells.

243,254,000.....Total gallons distributed
91.6% Used in Windom (including water loss)
4.8% Sold to Bingham Lake\POET
3.6% Sold to Red Rock Rural Water

- Residential water use in 2021 was approximately 53.4 gallons per person/per day.

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