# Perham F ITS

Unlock digital at perhamfocus.com/activate

# Bongards construction on target for August finish

By Elizabeth Vierkant Perham Focus

Changes at Perham's Bongards Creameries Plant are becoming more visible to the eye.

In August 2021, Bongards began construction on a new 70,000-square-foot refrigerated warehouse east of the existing plant. Workers laid down the footings last fall, and now steel work for the frame of the building is underway.

According to Bongards Director of Marketing Evan Carlson, construction is about 10–15% complete.

The steel work will continue for the next few weeks, Carlson said, with the roof and walls gradually added.

Once exterior con-

struction is done, the floor will be poured and refrigeration systems will be added. Following that, warehouse racking systems will be installed.

The project is on track for completion by August 2022, Carlson said.

The plant's previous refrigerated warehouse space will be converted into additional dry storage, while the new warehouse will hold finished goods pro-duced by the plant, including cheese blocks and barrels, according to a previous Bongards news release.

Bongards completed a significant expansion of the plant's capacity in 2015 but did not expand warehouse capacity at that time.



**Elizabeth Vierkant / Perham Focus** 

The east side of the Bongards warehouse in Perham is currently undergoing an expansion project. It's

Thursday, April 21, 2022



Contributed photos / Melissa Lindquist A fundraising campaign is underway for the family of Melissa and Ben Lindquist of Perham. Ben, who is 48 and works as a manager at Lakes Area Cooperative, recently suffered a major stroke.

# **'PUSHING FORWARD'**

Perham family hopeful after husband and father has massive stroke

**By Barbie Porter** Perham Focus eemingly mundane moments of life have taken on new meaning for the Lindquist family of Perham.

Ben Lindquist, 48, and his wife Melissa, 45, were spending a lazy Sunday morning at home on Feb. 27, visiting

"We keep pushing forward and are still doing that now. We're trying to find the best rehab he can go to, when he is well enough."

#### **MELISSA LINDQUIST**

their lives suddenly and unexpectedly changed. As Ben was getting ready for his day,



A steak dinner benefit was recently held for the Lindquist family, to help them pay for medical bills incurred after Ben Lindquist suffered a major stroke.

expected to be complete this August.

#### with their 20-year old son Rowdie, when

LINDQUIST: Page 14

## **Esports team** celebrates state win

#### **Middle school** students tops at **Fenworks State Tournament**

#### **By Elizabeth Vierkant** Perham Focus

In the first year of its esports program, the Perham-Dent School District finished on top. Five Prairie Wind Middle School team members dominated at this year's state esports competition, finishing undefeated and becoming

"I saw us winning the moment we were signing up for esports."

#### **TEAM MEMBER** MARCUS CUPKIE

the 2022 state champions. The Fenworks State Tournament was held in Grand Forks, North Dakota on April 1-2.

Perham students Levi Baumgart, Aiden Burke, Marcus Cupkie, Jaxon Pickrain and Jacoby Pokrzwinski competed. "To win felt like some-



**Contributed / Empowering Kids** 

Jacoby Pokrzwinski, Jaxon Pickrain, Levi Baumgart, Marcus Cupkie and Aiden Burke stand together with their medals after becoming state champions at the Fenworks State Tournament in Grand Forks, North Dakota, in early April.

thing off our shoulder," said Baumgart. "We were worrying about it all weekend, and it's just **ESPORTS:** Page 14

like, we're state champions finally! It was a relief."

## New 322-acre tract will be for public use

**OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD** 

#### **By Barbie Porter** Perham Focus

soon see 322 acres contacted this past acquired by Ducks winter by the attorney Unlimited for public of a private landownuse.

During an Otter Tail County Board meeting on Tuesday, April 12, the property was said to have about 75 acres of wetlands, 35 acres of trees, 200 acres that are tillable (but with sandy loam soil on hilly land) and an old farm building on site.

Johnson to perform in Gettysburg

Jon Schneider, a wildlife biologist for Ducks Dora Township will Unlimited, said he was er, Susan Schanus of Dent, who said Schanus wanted to sell her property for conservation purposes and to leave a legacy.

\$2.00

The estimated cost of the property, which includes three tracts of land, was \$561,300.

LAND: Page 15

WHAT'S INSIDE **Red River Valley** Veterans Concert Band to perform Thursday See page 3

Perham gears up for promising baseball season See page 10

#### **QUOTE FOR THE WEEK** "President Lincoln chose to fight a bloody and unpopular war because

he believed the enemy had to be defeated. He was right." -Pete Hegseth

Serving Perham and the surrounding lakes area

Office: 300 West Main St., Suite C, Perham, MN 56573

**NEWS TIPS** 218-346-5900 editor@perhamfocus.com

> Year 138 Issue 12 Copyright 2022

#### **Get the newspaper** format you love **EVERY DAY.**





Available even on days you print paper is not delivered



**Elizabeth Vierkant / Perham Focus** Chuck Johnson plays the role of Abraham Lincoln in his original one-act play, "The Night Before Gettysburg." He's pictured here during a performance at the ITOW Veterans Museum in Perham on April 4.

#### **One-act show about** Lincoln will be anniversary feature

#### By Elizabeth Vierkant Perham Focus

PERHAM — "Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal ..."

When Chuck Johnson performed his original one-act play, "The Night Before Gettysburg," at a Wadena theater competition in October 2021, the Perham man and

PLAY: Page 15

# Lakes Area Co-op reports record sales of \$97.9M, announces Milk Quality Award winners at annual meeting

**News Staff** 

PERHAM — The Lakes Area Cooperative, also known as LAC, held its 109th Annual Stockholders meeting at the Countryside Barn on March 17. During the meeting, Auditor Mike Misheski of Widmer Roel presented the financials, reporting record sales of \$97.9 million and net savings of almost \$3.9 million.

Operations of Professional Agronomy Services fertilizer and a supply joint venture with Nutrien were also discussed. PAS has completed its 11th successful year of operation, and LAC will be paying a 5.7% dividend on all 2021 agronomy purchases. LAC will also pay dividends of 1.9% on feed sales and 1.215 per cwt. on milk purchased by the co-op. In 2022, LAC will be paying out \$2.4 million in cash and issuing \$2 million in equity to patrons of the company based on 2021 purchases and stock retirements.

"We're extremely proud that once again we can deliver this important benefit of being part of a cooperative business to our member-owners," said Dale Tellinghu-



**Contributed / Lakes Area Cooperative** 

The Milk Quality Award Winners, left to right, are Roger Benson, Les Rotz of Twin Oak Dairy, Bob Dombeck of Sandhill Dairy, Jamin Aho of J & A Dairy LLC, Dave Schwantes, Jen Schwantes and Ken Herbranson of Brookside, Inc.

ager. "One of the most local dairy farmers Roger including Ron Palubicimportant ways we help Benson, Les Rotz of Twin ki, Ken Herbranson and producers succeed is by Oak Dairy, Bob Dombeck Jamin Aho. delivering an econom- of Sandhill Dairy, Jamin ic return on the busi- Aho of J & A Dairy LLC, ness they do with Lakes Dave Schwantes, Jen Area Cooperative and for Schwantes, and Ken Herthem to use LAC and PAS branson of Brookside, as an extension of their Inc. farming operation."

isen, the general man- were then presented to for three-year terms,

Three incumbent Milk Quality Awards directors were elected



## Underwood man attacked sheriff with sword, court docs allege

#### **By April Baumgarten** The Forum

An Otter Tail County man has been accused of assaulting his husband before attacking the sheriff with

a sword.

David

Taylor

Englin-Hill, 35, of

Underwood,

appeared



**Englin-Hill** 

Thursday, April 14, in Otter Tail County District Court on two charges each of second-demisdemeanor domestic

a report of an assault. doubled over but then A criminal complaint went after Fitzgibbons alleged attacked his husband, that he wouldn't let his husband out of the house gun on Englin-Hill and and that he was armed with a sword. The husband said Englin-Hill hit him in the face, the complaint alleged.

Law enforcement tried to negotiate with Englin-Hill before Sheriff Barry Fitzgibbons told him officers would use deadly force if he made any moves toward his husgree felony assault and band, according to court documents. Englin-Hill was standing between his husband and the door holding an unsheathed sword when officers breached the house, the complaint said. One officer hit Englin-Hill in his stomach with a less-than-lethal bean bag round fired from a

**INJURED AT WORK?** 

DISABILITY DENIED? **Contact Us Today For Free Advice** 

Workers' Compensation

Long-Term Disability

Social Security Disability

218-824-0093

www.GetFields.com

-Scrap Iron

-Car Bodies

**Buying Aluminum Cans** 

and Scrap Metal

-Copper & Brass

-Aluminum

-Batteries

TAKE IT TO LAKES

Selling New Steel: Tubing · Channel · Pipe · Angle · Flat Iron · Rebar

**LUGGER & ROLL OFF SERVICE AVAILABLE** 

500 Summit Ave • 218-847-5681 • www.lakesiron.com

home in Underwood for shotgun. The suspect Engling-Hill with the sword, the complaint alleged.

Officers used a stun arrested him, the complaint said.

It didn't appear Fitzgibbons was injured.

An attorney was not listed for Englin-Hill as of late last week.

Readers can reach reporter April Baumgarten at 701-241-5417 or abaumgarten@forumcomm. com. Follow her on Twitter @ aprilbaumsaway.



#### **PERHAM POLICE REPORT**

April 11

▶ 8:33 a.m. Assistance: Assisted Otter Tail County Human Services with one vehicle rollover April 12

#### ▶ 9:48 a.m. Traffic - Warning: Issued verbal warning for speed.

▶ 10:06 a.m. Abandoned Vehicle: Report of abandoned vehicle in private parking lot; provided information.

▶ 1:46 p.m. Theft/Fraud: Perham business reported theft of merchandise.

▶ 3:29 p.m. Parking Complaint: Report of vehicle blocking alleyway; registered owner moved vehicle.

7:32 p.m. Driving Complaint: Report of adult male possibly driving intoxicated; unable to locate

▶ 8:16 p.m. Traffic - Warning: Issued verbal warning for stop sign violation.

▶ 9:25 p.m. Traffic - Warning: Issued verbal warning for driving without valid Minnesota driver's license.

▶ 9:53 p.m. Traffic - Warning: Issued verbal warning for no license plate lights. April 13

▶ 1:11 p.m. Handgun Application: Processed Minnesota Uniform Firearm Application.

▶ 1:16 p.m. Handgun Application: Processed Minnesota Uniform Firearm Application.

▶ 6:27 p.m. Assist - Pub-

lic: Vehicle unlock; local ser-

vices unavailable. April 14

> ▶ 8:07 a.m. Accident -Property Damage: Two-vehicle crash on East Conev Street/ Market Street; no injuries.

> ▶ 2:34 p.m. Welfare Check: Caller requested welfare check on Perham resident. April 15

> ▶ 2:37 a.m. 911 Hang up Calls: Responded to Perham residence for 911 hang up calls: all okav.

> ▶ 4:17 a.m. Assistance: Assisted Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office with suspicious activity.

> ▶ 10:44 a.m. Harassment/ Stalking: Perham resident reported harassment via electronic mail/social media.

> ▶ 10:57 p.m. Suspicious Activity: Caller reported suspicious vehicle in residential neighborhood; all okay. April 16

> ▶ 4:22 p.m. Animal Call: Dog at large transported to Lakeland Vet Hospital.

> ▶ 4:25 p.m. Assist - Public: Assisted Perham resident with possible civil dispute. April 17

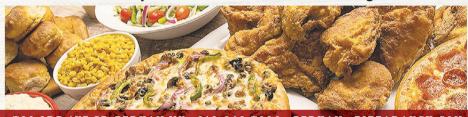
> ▶ 7:03 p.m. Domestic Assault: Responded to Perham residence for domestic disturbance: parties were separated. ▶ 9:20 p.m. Assistance:

> Assisted Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office with disturbance



**GRADUATIONS, GROOMS DINNERS, PARTIES, PICNICS,** SUMMER GET TOGETHERS, FAMILY REUNIONS.

www.pizzaranch.com/menu/catering



720 3RD AVE SE, PERHAM MN · 218-346-7890 · PERHAM@PIZZARANCH.COM

assault. At press time last week, he was being held at the Otter Tail County Jail on a \$50,000 bond.

The county Sheriff's Office responded at around 7 a.m. Tuesday, April 12 to Englin-Hill's

**Steve Fields** 

Minnesota Attorney

FIELDS

er.

Join Our Team *(NOW HIRING!* 

individuals, dedicated-to moving our company, communities and industry forward. Process annually renewable crops into more sustainable, highvalue ingredients.

We are a team of **passionate** 

Green Plains Inc. Fergus Falls, MN has immediate openings for:

#### **Process Operators**

Learn all aspects of plant operations

#### Licensed Boiler Operator

Must be licensed with a Minnesota 1st or 2nd Class license

#### **GREAT BENEFITS! Start Day 1!**

Health Insurance • Flexible Spending Accounts

Life and Disability Insurance • Wellness Program

Retirement Plan (401 (k) with a generous 6% company match)

Vacation, Holiday & Paid Absences

Miscellaneous Benefits

Elizabeth Vierkant, Reporter,

evierkant@perhamfocus.com

Rebecca Mitchell, Reporter

rmitchell@wadenapj.com



#### Applications accepted online at www.gpreinc.com/careers

Pre-employment background and drug screen required. Green Plains is always improving and now pays more and offers competitive pay and generous benefits package that begins day one.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

**ADVERTISING** Robin Stalley, Marketing Representative rstalley@dlnewspapers.com

Kristy Helmbrecht, Front Desk Customer Service khelmbrecht@perhamfocus.com classifieds@perhamfocus.com

Association

**>>>** Perham formation L

t akes

ron & Metal

Detroit Lakes, MN

USPS 428-000 P.O. Box 288 • 300 West Main St., Suite C Perham, MN 56573

> Melissa Swenson, Publisher mswenson@perhamfocus.com 218-346-5900

CONTACT US Mon.-Wed. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. Closed Phone: 888-598-3186 Email: editor@perhamfocus.com Fax: 218-346-5901

Online: www.perhamfocus.com

#### **SUBSCRIBE**

Thursday Mail Delivery + Digital Access \$139.88 for 52 weeks or \$78.00 for 26 weeks All print subscriptions include unlimited digital access. \$9.99 per month for Digital All Access

Refunds for subscriptions are subject to the following conditions. Refunds for unused liability will be issued if the balance is over \$5.00. The remaining balance of \$5.00 or less will be credited to our Newspapers in Education Program. A subscription may be restarted within 30 days to utilize any balance remaining on the account per the customer's request.

**NEWSROOM** 

Nathan Bowe, News Editor

Jared Rubado, Sports Lead,

jrubado@dlnewspapers.com

Marie Johnson

Managing Editor

**Postmaster:** Please send address changes to the Perham Focus PO Box 288, Perham, MN 56573 Periodicals postage paid at Perham, MN 56573, and at additional mailing offices. Frequency: once wee

#### DEADLINES

PERHAM FOCUS Display Advertising, Inserts & News: Mon., 12 p.m. Classifieds: Tues., 10 a.m.

PERHAM CONTACT Display Advertising: Wed., 12 p.m. Classifieds: Wed., 5 p.m. Inserts: Tues., 4 p.m.



# 'I enjoy the headache, the challenge'

## Custom-made jewelry a budding business for self-taught Perham man

"Oddly enough I enjoy the headache, the challenge...

When I get stuck on something and it takes me

four days to figure it out, it's just the sense of

accomplishment when you finally get it, it's a really

good feeling'

#### **Rebecca Mitchell** Perham Focus

Melting. Rolling. Shaping. These are the moves Perham jeweler RJ Dolan works through

while creating pieces of jewelry.



Ďolan's interest makin ing jewelry and being his own boss fired

about up four years ago, following a lifelong interest in creating things. Working out of his home, he started with tin sheets and a soldering iron.

He now sells jewelry through his business, Creations of RJ, with pieces ranging from rings to bracelets.

"Since I was a kid, I've liked making things," Dolan said. "I like being able to pull something out of my head and make it physical."

**RJ DOLAN** But creating jewelry,

he said, is a "love-hate" relationship. It can be "Then you hit it with very challenging, and a torch about 1,500 very rewarding. Before

the pieces into custom-made options, Dolan starts by ordering the correct amounts of shapes and designs. Plisilver, copper and gold. ers alone come in hun-He then melts the metals down, rolling them said. Figuring out which into flat squares and tools he needs has been cutting them to their exact thickness. He he experiments with compares the process to different jewelry types. blacksmithing, except the metal isn't hot. The he used was a hammer remaining steps require and anvil to flatten the bending the metals into metal, before investing their final shapes.

"Then you have to join

absolutely flat with each other," Dolan described. degrees...and then that forming joins the two pieces."

The process takes many different tools, to handle various jewelry dreds of options, Dolan a learning process, as One of the first tools in a rolling mill.

He said he enjoys the two ends. You have working on challenging me, the more likely I am sales started slow, but visit Creations of RJ on to make sure they're projects and learning to say yes," Dolan said.

new techniques.

"It's a longer process, you know, teaching yourself, but I like it. I've always liked teaching myself," Dolan said. "I've never really done well in a learning environment, school-wise."

"Oddly enough I enjoy the headache, the challenge," he continued. "I don't know why, maybe I'm crazy, but when I get stuck on something and it takes me four days to figure it out, it's just the sense of accomplishment when you finally get it, it's a really good feeling."

While gold work is some of his favorite, and customers love the fancy appearance, the cost can be a deterrent to some. Dolan mostly creates gold jewelry for his wife, Brianna.

One of his most involved custom orders was a custom rose gold wedding ring, for which he created his own combination of gold, copper and silver to get just the



**Rebecca Mitchell / Perham Focus** RJ Dolan, owner of Creations of RJ, shows one of the rings he made in 2022.

He's recently ventured into stone setting, which requires cutting holes into the ring to place diamonds and other gems. His most popular items are spinning rings and plain rings that people add a colorful inlet or pattern cally as far as you to later.

In his first few years limit," Dolan said. "The more it scares of business, Dolan said the past two years have Facebook.

brought him closer to a livable wage. He also works at Otter Berry Farm in the summer.

He hopes to join a jewelry company one day, and later open his own store.

"The limits are basican think, that's your

For more information,

# Veterans band to perform two shows in Perham

#### **News Staff**

A concert band of over 40 players will be performing in Perham this week. The Red River Valley Veterans Band, which is based out of Fargo, honors all veterans at their concerts with patriotic music, music recognizable to veterans, and songs for all branches of the military.

Performers in the band span multiple generations, with musicians ranging in age from 18 to 80 years old. Many of the performers are veterans themselves. Their mission is to promote patri-

"A lot of (veterans) came back and were not recognized or thanked." "So this really promotes that (gratitude)."

#### **CYNTHIA ARNHOLD WITH** THE RED RIVER VALLEY **VETERANS BAND**

otism through music, and honoring veterans is their passion.

"A lot of (veterans) came back and were not recognized or thanked," said Cynthia Arnhold with the Red River Valley Veterans Band. "So this really promotes that (gratitude).'



Contributed / Red River Valley Veterans Concert Band The Red River Valley Veterans Concert Band will perform two shows in Perham on Thursday, April 21.

together every Thursday night, and they perform ham concerts on the Perham Center for the lev Veterans Band, visit concerts from Septem- evening of Thursday, Arts at 8:15 p.m.

The band rehearses ber through early June.

April 21: At Perham Liv-There will be two Per- ing at 7 p.m. and at the about the Red River Val-

For more information rrvvcb.org.

**OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD** 

#### Grotte to serve 2 more years as county engineer

#### **By Barbie Porter**

**Detroit Lakes Tribune** 

Tail County Otter Engineer Chuck Grotte received gratitude from county commissioners during a meeting on appreciation followed a Tuesday, April 12.

Commissioner Leland on Grotte. Rogness said Grotte has a "tremendous amount" of knowledge on the county and suggested he consider writing a book.

The comments of performance evaluation

#### CORRECTION

Spring Home magazine, inserted in the Thursday, April 14 edition of the Perham Focus, incorrectly credited Michael Achterling as the photographer behind the magazine's cover photo of

the historic Sprafka house in Detroit Lakes. In fact, that photo was contributed by the Sprafkas and was taken by Lynn Reading. The contributed photos on pages 11 and 12 were also by Reading.



Deputy Administrator Nicholas Leonard noted there was a closed session regarding Grotte's evaluation at the last meeting;

commissioners approved Leonard noted, but an new engineer is hired. a two-year contract with exception was made Grotte that begins on May 10

Normally the contract is made for four years,

since Grotte is preparing to retire.

Grotte will assist with the transition when a

He has worked for Otter Tail County as an engineer for 21 years, according to his LinkedIn profile.



# We love our volunteers.

## It's National Volunteer Week!

This week and all year long we thank our volunteers for their generous gift of dedicating time and energy to volunteering.

> Interested in volunteering with us? We have a variety of volunteer positions available.

#### perhamhealth.org/volunteer

PerhamHealth

SANF PRD

1000 Coney Street West, Perham, MN 56573 | 218-347-4500 perhamhealth.org | 🗗 🎯 庙 🕑

The Perham Focus accepts community calendar items for publication online and in our Thursday print edition, space permitting. Submissions must be made at least a week in advance of the event date, in writing, to either editor@perhamfocus.com or vgerdes@dlnewspapers. com.

Each submission must include the date, time and location of event. whether it is recurring or a one-time happening, and where to go for more information (phone, email and/or website). Also include whether the event is free or paid admission, and how much it costs when applicable.

#### Thursday, April 21

#### **Empty Bowls Fundraiser:** The Empty Bowls

fundraiser for the Salvation Army returns to M State's Fergus Falls campus for a 16th year. For a suggested donation of \$20, attendees will receive their choice of soup in a handmade pottery bowl, which can be brought home. Serving is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds will go to support the Salvation Army's efforts to fight hunger locally.

Red River Valley Veterans Concert Band: The Red **River Valley Veterans** Concert Band will be performing live at Perham Living at 7 p.m. and at the Perham Center for the Arts at 8:15 p.m. The Perham Living concert is for residents and families; the concert at the arts center is open to the public. Both concerts are free.

#### Friday, April 22

Muscle Ball Fundraiser for Ukraine: The Student Council of Perham High School is hosting a Muscle Ball at The Hive (PHS gymnasium), starting at 6 p.m. All proceeds from the event will go toward Ukrainian war relief. Donations (cash preferred) can also be dropped off at the high school office anytime. Open to the public; wear blue and yellow to show support for Ukraine.

#### Saturday, April 23

Ruby's Pantry: St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Perham is hosting a popup distribution for Ruby's Pantry from 8-10 a.m. For a \$22-per-bundle donation, quests will receive an abundance of groceries. There is no income or residency requirement. Guests will need to bring 2-3 totes or baskets to receive their bundle.

and cash bar available. This is a ticketed event; go to kulcher.org or call 218-385-3339 for more information.

#### Sunday, April 24

JAIL, Inc., Community Service: JAIL, Inc., a nonprofit ministry working to make a difference in the lives of inmates at the Otter Tail County Jail during and after confinement, will present a community service hosted by New Creation Lutheran Church, 295 Coney St. W., Perham. Coffee and cookie fellowship at 6:30 p.m. and service at 7 p.m., featuring testimonies, guest speakers and music. For more information about the event or JAIL. Inc., visit jailinc.org or contact chaplain Pete Kondrad at prkonradredeemed@gmail. com or 218-517-0437.

#### Monday, April 25

#### **High School Band Concert:** Perham High School's 9th-12th grade band students will present their annual spring concert at 7 p.m. inside The Hive (PHS gymnasium). Concert will include the PHS Band, Jazz Band, percussion ensemble and senior recognition. Open to the public.

#### Thursday, April 28

Viking Library Bookmobile: The Viking Library System Bookmobile will be at the Vergas Municipal Building from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. Call 218-739-5286 or visit viking.lib. mn.us/bookmobile for more information.

#### Saturday, April 30

Live Music: Blackstrap performs live at 1894 in Perham, starting at 7 p.m. Open to the public.

#### **Multi-Day and Recurring Events**

The Gathering: The Gathering is a sporting collectibles, art, duck decoy and fish decoy show; in fact, it is the world's largest fish decoy show, with an average of 110 vendor tables for buying, selling and trading. Set for Saturday, April 23, from 9 am. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, April 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Perham Area Community Center. Adult admission is \$8 per day; all kids 17 and under are admitted free of charge Visit perhamshow.com for more information.

#### Lenzie Lee Hennagir

Lenzie Lee Hennagir was born on April 17, 1935, in Deer Creek, Minnesota, to parents Leon and Tamson (Chase) Hennagir. He passed away on April 6, 2022. He married Marlys Jane Bellmore of Henning, Minnesota, on Nov. 7, 1959. They moved to Richfield, Minnesota, where they raised their three children, Terri, Tim, and Jeni. Lenzie and Marlys realized their lifetime goal and dream of building a lake home in 1992 and they retired there in 1997. Lenzie was a man of deep faith, but few words so you knew when he spoke up you should listen. He was always one to compliment the help he received from others. He is survived by his three children and their families: Daughter, Therese J. Leckas, grandson Vasilios (wife Jackie, great granddaughters Evangeline and Naomi, grandson Fotios (Jillian), grandson Gianni (great grandsons Gianni, Vas. and Nicolas, granddaughter-in-law Alicia Leckas; Son Timothy (Michele Violet) Hennagir, grandson Seth (fiancé Naomi), granddaughter Hollie; Daughter Jenifer Thornton, grandson Cameron (wife Kaitlynn, great grandsons Carson and Odin), and granddaughter, Jordyn. Arrangements by Schoeneberger Funeral Cremation Service in Perham, Minnesota.

#### **George Wallgren**

Feb. 24, 1932 -April 17, 2022 WADENA, Minn.

George Wallgren, 90, Bluffton, Minn., died Sunday, April 17, in Fair Oaks Lodge.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m., with a prayer at 6 service p.m., Thursday, April 21, at Karvonen Funeral Home in Wadena. Visitation will continue from 10-11 a.m., followed by a memorial Mass at 11 a.m. Friday. April 22, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Bluffton. Father Aaron Kuhn will celebrate the Mass. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Arrangements by Karvonen Funeral Home.

#### **Elaine Paavola**

Jan. 28, 1936 -April 12, 2022 PERHAM, Minn. 86, Elaine Paavola, Perham, Minn., formerly New York Mills, Minn., died Tuesday, April 12, in Perham Living. Services were previously held. by Arrangements Karvonen Funeral Home.

at 8:15 a.m. Personal introductions, sharing of upcoming events and projects, and a focus presentation. Coffee will be provided by the focus topic presenter.

#### **Dennis Swenson**

Jan. 26, 1951 -April 15, 2022 ST. CLOUD, Minn.

71. Dennis Swenson, New York Mills, Minn., died Friday, April 15, in St. Cloud Hospital.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m., with a praver service at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 21, at Trinity Lutheran Church in New York Mills. Visitation will continue from 10-11 a.m., followed by а funeral at 11 a.m., Friday, April 22, at the church.

by Arrangements Karvonen Funeral Home.

#### **Florence Demo**

March 17, 1931 -April 13, 2022 HENNING, Minn. Demo, 91. Florence Henning, Minn., died Wednesday, April 13, in

her home. A funeral will be 1 p.m. Saturday, April 23, at Belmont-Karvonen Funeral Home in Henning. Interment will be in Hillside Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minn. Arrangements bv Karvonen Funeral Home.

#### **THANK YOU**

#### Thank You We are so happy with

Geraldine "Gerry" Jezewski

Geraldine "Gerry" LaVerne Jezewski, age

#### Joseph W. Hendrickson

**OBITUARIES** 

W Joseph Hendrickson "Dad", age passed 68. away comfortably in his home on April 5th. 2022.

He was born January 21st,1954 to Paul and Estelle in Minneapolis, MN. He graduated high school in Moorhead, MN. He later went to

Alexandria Technical College where he graduated from their Police Academy Program. He was married several times throughout the years and well, we won't get into all that.

Dad was a wonderful man. It was in his nature to always think of others first. In later years, even his ex-wife's enjoyed being around him. He would inevitably have anyone: be it strangers, friends, or family laughing in minutes.

Dad grew up and often visited Bismarck, ND. He later became a police officer in that very same town; eventually transferring to Moorhead, MN, where he would remain for the longer part of his police career. The most highlighted part of his professional life was spent with his K-9 "Bear" who helped him develop Moorhead Minnesota's first K-9 program. Dad and Bear became an inseparable team and were very successful at both work related events and K-9 competitions. They would go on to place high in both Local, State, and Regional dog trials. He eventually placed 10th in the national dog trials. Dad later did some other work to include being a Chief of Police. He would eventually retire from law enforcement, sort of. He ended up being a school bus driver off and on over the years but had a second career as a code enforcement officer in Manitou Springs, Colorado.

Prior to moving to Colorado, he sold his Victorian home in Ulen, Minnesota. He really loved the house but wanted to be closer to his sons. 10 years later, he bought the house back, where he lived the remainder of his life and the last six months spent with some of his family.

Dad is survived by his four sons: Shawn Hendrickson and Candace Johnson, Christopher Hendrickson, Michael Hendrickson, and his favorite son, Orian, and wife Amanda, Hendrickson. (Ha! Made it longer than all three of your try's combined). He also left five grandchildren: Emily Hendrickson, Orian Hendrickson Jr., Tatum Hendrickson, Kahleel Hendrickson, and Cassius (Cash) Hendrickson.

Dad, you have created a Hendrickson legacy; giving your sons a lot to live up to. You were a great father and an even better best friend. You will live on forever in our hearts. We love you dear ol' Dad.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2022, at Schoeneberger Funeral and Cremation Service of Perham. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service.

Schoeneberger Funeral & Cremation Service, Perham, MN (218) 346-5175 www.schoenebergerfh.com

**Children's Author David** LaRochelle: The New York Mills Public Library will host a 10 a.m. presentation by award-winning Minnesota children's book author David LaRochelle. In an interactive presentation, David LaRochelle gives insight on storytelling and shares the process of creating his great children's books. Call 218-385-2436 for more information.

#### **Ben Ranson Concert:**

All are invited to the New York Mills Regional Cultural Center for the final show in the center's Spring 2022 Concert Series, featuring local musician Ben Ranson. Doors open at 7 p.m., with the concert to begin at 7:30. Light refreshments

The Gathering the world's largest sporting collectibles, art. duck decov and fish decoy show - is set for Saturdav from 9 am. to 4 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Perham Area Community Center. Adult admission is \$8 per day; kids 17 and under are admitted free of charge. Perham Focus file photo

#### Pam Robinson Art

Exhibit: The meeting room walls of the Perham Area Public Library will showcase the creations of local artist Pam Robinson through the end of April. Inspired by her travels, she has created a small collection of colorful highland cow paintings, Scottish Highland landscape and seascape assemblages, as well as a small sampling of travel journals and sketches. The Perham Area Public Library is located at 225 2nd Ave. NE, Perham. For more information, call 218-346-4892.

#### **Perham Networking**

**Opportunity:** The Nest in Perham will host a one-hour free business networking opportunity on the first Wednesday of every month, starting

#### Library Storytimes:

The Perham Area Public Library hosts preschool storytime every Tuesday at 10:15 a.m. Toddler Storytime with Becky is held periodically on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. Visit perhamlibrary. org or call 218-346-4892 for more information.

#### Old Time

Photographs: Stop by the History Museum of East Otter Tail County, at 230 First Ave. North in Perham, and take a trip down memory lane. The museum would like the public's help identifying old photos. Hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and 9 a.m.-12 p.m. on Saturdays. Call 218-346-7676 for more information.

> **Compiled by Vicki Gerdes** for the Perham Focus.

the turnout at the benefit. Words do not express all the Thank You's we owe you for your generosity.

Your support (spiritually, emotionally, and financially) is so appreciated, but more than anything, your love is lifting us up.

This rocky road we are traveling is easier to walk with the support of our family and friends.

A special Thank You to those from our NCACC coordinated who the benefit, the workers and all who contributed to the raffles and silent auction.

Please remember that if there is anything we can do for you, just ask as we'd like to help you also if we can.

May God Bless You all, Deacon Mark and Joan Stenger and family



Perham, MN - 01 passed away on Friday, January 7, 2022, at Elk Ridge Assisted Living.

Gerry was born January 1, 1925, to Augusta Paul and (Girdwood) Preuss in Perham. She was born



in the family home on the corner of Main and 3rd Ave SE, where Service Foods now stands. Growing up, Gerry helped her father at his store, which stood near the Perham Post Office and was later Paul's Tavern.

After graduating from Perham High School, Gerry moved to Seattle, WA and worked as a "Rosie the Riveter" along with many other women during World War II. Once the war was over, Gerry returned to Perham, and married her war hero, Eugene Jezewski, on February 19, 1946.

Gerry was member of the United Church of Christ until its closing as well as the VFW Auxiliary. She enjoyed taking trips to Seattle to visit her sisters, visits from her kids and grandkids as well as playing bingo and going to the casino.

Surviving Gerry are her children, Sherryl (Joseph) Holzer and Gary (Deb) Jezewski; grandchildren, Steve (Michelle) Holzer, Val Holzer, Brian Logan, Kristi (Aaron) Becker, Matthew (Tori) Jezewski; great-grandchildren, Jeremy (Jessica) Holzer, Taylor Ann (Kirk) Spilde, Darien Holzer, Eliana Logan, and Max and Sam Jezewski; and great-great-grandchildren, Knox and Dakota Holzer.

Gerry was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene; her parents; grandson, David Holzer; granddaughter, Diana Jezewski; sisters, Evelvn Weickert, Lauretta Atkinson, Ethel Morris, Florence Howell, Dorthea MacMillan, and Gertrude Harvey; and brother, Paul Preuss Jr.

Visitation will be 10:00-11:00 a.m. followed by the funeral service at 11:00 on Saturday, April 30, 2022, at Schoeneberger Funeral & Cremation Service. Burial will be in the Perham City Cemetery.

Schoeneberger Funeral & Cremation Service Perham, MN (218) 346-5175 www.schoenebergerfh.com

#### Publish life moments with Modulist.news

Listings for you or your business

Create your listings for a birthday, new arrival, engagement and wedding announcement, obituary, job posting, and more. Pet milestone options are also available

1) Choose your listing type 2) Choose the publications

3) Choose the Listing Dates 4) Design your listing

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Must even the Governor's Fishing Opener be politicized?

To the Editor:

Last week, Rep. Matt Bliss wrote a guest commentary and criticized Gov. Tim Walz for "abandoning" the Governor's Fishing Opener and not providing a Minnesota community an opportunity to enjoy the spotlight.

My first thought was "here we go again." My God, does everything have to be politicized? If you haven't noticed, we haven't had a normal Governor's Fishing Opener in a couple of years because of the ongoing impacts from COVID and uncertainties with the virus.

Organizing a fishing opener weekend involves months of planning, dozens of volunteers and as much as \$100,000 in expenses for a host community. Obviously this has made planning a "traditional" community-hosted opener difficult, because few communities are eager for the expense and uncertainty of the event.

So the scaled-back event that the Governor's Office, the DNR, and The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe have put together in short order will continue the Governor's Fishing Opener traditions of the past.

It will take place over several weeks and in multiple locations in the Chippewa National Forest region and Leech Lake Reservation.

Rep. Bliss, you said the event, to your recollection, has always been a bipartisan affair. Then why do you need to turn it into a partisan affair? Just get into the spirit and get your fishing gear ready and get out and enjoy the opener.

And Gov. Walz, thank you for all you do for Minnesota.

Fred Luckeroth, Park Rapids

# What was life really like in the 1950s?

**By Tracy Briggs** Perham Focus

admit it: Much of what I know about the '50s came from watching "Happy Days." Just like most of my Korean War knowledge came from "M.A.S.H." But now we can fill in the blanks that The Fonz and Hawkeye Pierce couldn't.

After 72 years locked away for privacy reasons, the National Archives and Records Administration has officially released the data from the 1950 U.S. census

This ginormous data dump is more than just numbers. It can really give you a sense of how life was different in 1950 compared to now. What does it say about our nation, our states and even ourselves?

the country became younger, triggering a drop in the nation's median age — which had been steadily increasing in previous decades. The median age dropped from 30.2 years old in 1950 to 28.1 in 1970. In 2019, the median age of Americans was 38.1 years.

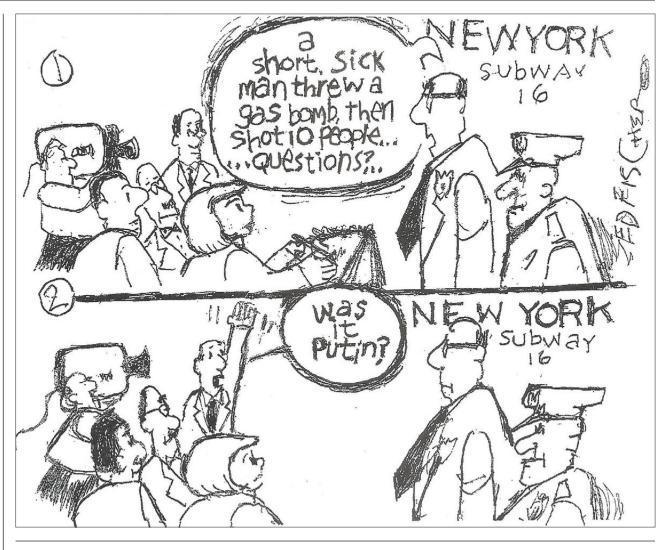
► The most populous state was New York with 15 million people. The 2020 population exceeded 20 million.

Approximately 66% of people over the age of 14 were married. That number is now down to 48.2%.

► The average family income was \$3,300. Today, it's around \$67,000.

The five most popular names for girls, according to the 1950 census: Mary, Linda, Patricia, Susan and Deborah. In 2020, the top five names for baby girls were Olivia, Emma, Ava, Charlotte and Sophia. ▶ The most popular names for boys in 1950: James, Michael, Robert, John and David. In 2020, the top five baby boy names were Liam. Noah, Oliver, Elijah and William. ► In 1950, 29% of American women were in the workforce. About 57% of women were in the workforce in 2020. ► The U.S. was less diverse than today. In 1950, "white" was 89.5% of the census, followed by "Negro" (10%) and a group of "other races" (0.5%). Today, parallel categories would total 60%,12% and 28%, respectively. ► Immigrants or foreign-born persons made up 6.7% of the total U.S. population listed in the 1950 census, with the majority born in Italy, the Soviet Union, Canada and Germany. This column originally appeared on inforum.com, the website of the Fargo Forum, owned by Forum Communications Company. Readers can reach Briggs at tracy. briggs@forumcomm.com

OPINION + NEWS | 5 PERHAM FOCUS | THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022 |



# Easter a wonderful celebration of life

**¬** unday was Easter for tens of millions of Western world Christians.

Easter is the high point in the Christian calendar in which, after having been mercilessly crucified, Jesus rises from the tomb, thus delivering a crushing blow to the sin, the death and the evil that has such a tight grip on this earthly world.

Each of the four biblical gospels -Matthew, Mark, Luke and John — tell the story of that Easter morning a little differently. The people who find the tomb are different; who and how they tell the news is different; and even when the stone of Jesus' tomb gets rolled away is different.

But the central message is all the same: "But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here.'" (Mark 16:6)



God who came to earth in the form of a mortal human, and later suffered an unjust death at the hands of religious and government authorities for threatening the status quo of how this world is ordered, was alive! He was not defeated

at the hands of those whose evil kept so many oppressed through corrupt systems of justice, commerce and government. But rather, Jesus crushed all of those systems of oppression by rising again. They would not have the final word! Hallelujah!

That is why Easter is such a joyous time for those who follow Jesus. Because through his death and sacrifice on our behalf on the

too receive eternal life. Death does not conquer us thanks to Jesus' ultimate gift to each and every one of us. But rather, we will live on in the Kingdom of God where no one goes hungry or neglected or jailed or naked or homeless.

All will enjoy the same mercy and endless compassion. All of those here on earth that were shunned but Jesus hung out with anyway — the prostitutes, the tax collectors, the widowed and the lepers — will be seated at the same table as the kings and government leaders and the unrighteously pious of this world.

Easter reminds us that, yes, on that dark day at Golgotha, the powers of this world tried to end Jesus' life and his threat to them. But in his final act as a mortal, Jesus defeated them, and in so doing, promised everyone a new life. One that will last for eternity in a kingdom so much more beautiful and unimaginable than this one!

Easter is a wonderful celebration of life! And it reminds each of us that no matter how dark of a time we are journeying through, that come Easter morning, Jesus will rise, and in doing so, he will conquer the death of this world again and again!

For he will not be found in that tomb! But rather, he is risen and active and present in this world! Hallelujah!

Devlyn Brooks, who works for Modulist, a Forum Communications Co.-owned company, is an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. He serves as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Wolverton, Minnesota. He can be reached at devlyn.brooks@ forumcomm.com for comments and story ideas.



Before I get into some interesting little nuggets from the census, you might be wondering, "Why did it take 72 years to release?"

According to the explanation on census. gov, "In 1952, the Archivist of the United States and the director of the Census Bureau made an agreement that the 1880 (and later) census records could be released to the public after 72 years. In 1978, Congress codified this agreement."

OK, legal mumbo jumbo aside, let's get into the meat and potatoes of life in 1950. MyHeritage. com cultivated these nuggets.

#### American life in 1950

► The country's population was 150,697,361. In 2020, the population had more than doubled to approximately 329,500.000.

▶ In 1950, the U.S. was four years into the famous post-World War II baby boom. With the sharp increase in births, starting in 1946 and ending in 1964,

## LETTERS POLICY

#### The Perham Focus encourages letters to the editor.

Letters to the editor must be received by 4 p.m. Monday for consideration of publication in the coming week's newspaper. Generally, letters should be 250 words or less. Include your name, address and telephone number. Only your name and city will be printed. All letters are subject to editing. For questions or comments, call (218) 346-5900. Drop off or mail your letter to the Perham Focus, P.O. Box

288, Perham, MN 56573. Perham, MN 56573. Or, email your letter to editor@perhamfocus.com.



- Comes with complete building blueprints and Construction Manual
- Windows, Doors and Roofing not included

**Before Calling View House Plans at** www.americanloghomesandcabins.com

# Housing Summit covers housing successes, continued growth in Otter Tail County

#### **News Staff**

More than 100 stakeholders gathered at Thumper Pond in Ottertail on Thursday, April 7 for a Housing Summit hosted by Otter Tail County, where they learned about past and present housing suc-cesses and talked about continued housing growth in the county.

The Housing Summit included presentations from employers, builders, city representatives, the Otter Tail County Housing and Redevel-opment Authority, and the Community Devel-opment Agency. Guest speakers from Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, the Center for Rural Policy and Development, and Ehlers discussed a variety of financial resources and partnership opportunities.

The county's new Big Build Housing Finance Programs were also introduced. These programs align with the

county's Big Build Ini- have the financial tools tiative to build, rehabil- to build and rehabilitate itate, or preserve 5,000 housing units by 2025. Big Build programs will make \$2.5 million available to housing partners to create new homes and keep people in affordable, stable homes. Funding for these programs is through the county's allocation from the federal American Rescue Plan Act and the Local Housing Trust Fund that was established in 2021.

Otter Tail County Community Development Director Amy Baldwin said, "The Big Build Housing Finance Programs will provide funding for public infrastructure needs and other financial gaps for new construction of owner-occupied and rental housing units."

County Commissioner and HRA Board Chair Wayne Johnson said, "The programs offer great opportunities for our housing partners to

homes. The county board and staff have been very intentional about creating the programs to be investments into our communities that will meet the housing needs of our workforce.

Contact cda@co.ottertail.mn.us for more information about the summit and the Big Build Housing Finance Programs.



**Contributed / Otter Tail County** A crowd heard multiple presentations April 7 at the Otter Tail County Housing Summit at Thumper Pond in Ottertail.

#### **CHURCH SERVICES**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Because of the response to the coronavirus pandemic, some scheduled meetings or services may have changed or been canceled. Call ahead to confirm that events are taking place as scheduled.

**Apostolic Lutheran Church** New York Mills Rev. Pastor Nicholas Kandoll 360-241-8450 Echoes of Mercy on KWAD Sunday: 8:05 a.m., 9 a.m. Finnish 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

#### Assembly Of God

103 N Haves Ave New York Mills Pastor Larry Bessler, 385-2033 (church) or 385-3270 (home) 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Wed. 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study

#### **Basswood Baptist Church**

Intersection Co. Rd. 14/32, Richville Pastor Bert Holmguist, 495-3800 Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:45 a.m. Worship Service Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer/Bible Study/Kids Club

#### **Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

210 Maple Ave. E, Frazee Pastor Ed Borchardt Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Adults 9-10:30 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays Services 104.1 Sundays at 8 a.m.

**Calvary Lutheran Church ELCA** 619 3rd Ave SW, Perham 346-4780 Lead Pastor Erin Bovendam Associate Pastor Dennis Preston Holy Cross Church Butler | Fr. George Michael -Canonical Administrator, Fr. Tom Skaja - Parochial Vicar Weekday Mass: 5:15 p.m. Wednesday Weekend Mass: 8 p.m. Saturday

Immanuel Lutheran Church LCMS Dent Pastor Dan Abrahams Sunday 9 a.m. Worship/SS

Lakes Area Word Fellowship Vergas Pastor Larry Vosika 218-847-8499 or 218-342-2620 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship Wednesday 7 p.m. Worship

Maine Presbyterian Church 30761 Co. Hwy. 45, 2 mi. N of Phelps Mill Pastor: Bob Kersten Summer (June thru Aug.): 9:30 a.m. Worship Service, Coffee Fellowship Everv Week Winter (Sept. thru May): 10 a.m. Worship Service, Coffee Fellowship 2nd Sunday of the Month Handicap Accessible

**New Creation Lutheran LCMC** 295 Coney St. West, Perham Pastor Randy Freund |346-7203 Pastor Linda Nicklason garden@newcreationperham.org 10 a.m. Contemporary Worship Communion every Sunday Nursery available Coffee fellowship after worship Mondays 9 am-5 pm Tuesdays 9 am-3 pm Wednesdays 10 am-6 pm Thursdays 9 am-12 pm Friday Closed

#### Northwoods LIFE Church

945 West Main St. Perham Pastor Jason Frickson Assistant Pastor Stew Burns 6:15 Wed. LIFE Groups & Kids LIFE programming

St. John's Lutheran Church 49658 Co. Hwy. 53. Rural Perham Pastor Jared Nies, 218-346-4302 stjohnperham.org 8:30 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Divine Worship 10 a.m. Friday TV Broadcast, Channel 14

St. John's Lutheran Church LCMS 4 miles west of Dent, Hwy. 108 18-758-2440 11 a.m. Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School (Sept.-May)

St. John's Lutheran Church LCMS Ottertail | Rev. Dr. Karl Weber 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Schl Communion

St. John's Lutheran Church LCMS 410 E Scharf Ave, Vergas 56587 stjohnvergas@arvig.net, 342-2791 Rev. Jacob Wagner, Pastor Worship Services: Sunday 9 am. Coffee Fellowship after Advent & Lent-Wednesday 6pm potluck after Summer-Wednesday 7 pm Sunday Bible Study 10:30 am (Sept-Mav) Sunday School 10:15 am (Sept-May) Confirmation Class 5 pm (Sept-May) Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays Handicap accessible

St. John the Baptist Catholic

Bluffton | Fr. Aaron Kuhn, Pastor Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Mass: 8 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church LCMS

St. Peter's Lutheran Church-NYM 101 W. Gilman St. (P.O. Box 7) New York Mills, MN 56567 Phone: (218) 385-2011 E-mail: stpetersnym@arvig.net St. Peter's will be resuming Worship with Communion at 9:00 a.m. beginning on June 28th!

Trinity Lutheran Church-NYM P.O. Box J | 424 E Gilman Street New York Mills, Minnesota 56567 (218) 385-2450

Unitarian Church of Underwood 206 N. Main St., Underwood. www.ucofu.org Weekly Sunday services 10 a.m Mindfulness and Ouaker Ouiet Time: 3rd Sunday/month at 8:30 a.m.

**United Methodist Church** 

301 Main St., Dent Handicap accessible 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Coffee Fellowship Communion first Sunday of month Monday and Friday 8:30 a.m. Exercise Group Wednesday 9 a.m. Quilting

#### **United Methodist Church**

Frazee | Pastor Ray Sherwood 9 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday School

United Methodist Church Ottertail | Rev. Ricardo Alcoser 218-367-2270 8:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Coffee and Fellowship to Follow

**United Methodist Church** 223 4th Ave. SE, Perham • 346-7420 www.pdumc.weebly.com Handicap accessible 10:00am Sunday Worship 11:00am Coffee Fellowship Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

### **Energy Assistance crisis** benefits available to Minn. homeowners, renters

#### **Pioneer Journal staff**

ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Department of Commerce has raised the Minnesota Energy Assistance Program crisis benefit per household.

Income-qualified homeowners or renters can now receive up to \$3,000 to pay past-due energy bills, to prevent energy disconnections and to cover costs for emergency fuel deliveries. The crisis benefit had been \$1,200. This grant is in addition to up to \$2,000 in non-crisis benefits that households can qualify for, according to a Department of Commerce news release.

crisis benefit to make energy costs more have affordable for Minnesotans who have seen their energy bills rise significantly this winter," said Michael Schmitz, director for the Minnesota Energy Assistance Program. The is program administered by the Department of Commerce through a network of local community service providers. Minnesota received more than \$167 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the program. "The crisis benefits will be especially important for households heated by propane or heating oils, who have seen their heating costs increase on average from \$1,500 to \$2,500 per household," Schmitz added. "Minnesotans who use propane or heating oils can apply for the Energy and press 1

Assistance Program to refill their tanks." Assistance Energy

applications are open through May 31.

With one application to the Energy Assistance Program, households may also qualify for water bill assistance and for the Weatherization Assistance Program, which can permanently reduce household energy costs, according to the release. Commerce is asking the Minnesota Legislature to fund up to 15,000 more Minnesotans for the Weatherization Assistance Program, to reduce energy costs long-term for those homes and reduce the state's overall ener-"We increased the gy infrastructure needs. Minnesotans who

> already qualified for Energy Assistance Program grants this year may be eligible for this additional amount of crisis money and should contact their local service provider about additional crisis benefits.

The Energy Assistance Program helps people who own or rent their homes to pay for current and past-due bills for electricity, gas, oil, biofuel and propane, emergency fuel delivery, and repair/replacement of homeowners' broken heating systems, and could also cover water and sewer bills.

How to apply: ► Search online for "Minnesota energy assistance"

► Go online: mn.gov/ commerce/consumers/ consumer-assistance/ energy-assistance/

► Call 800-657-3710

9 a.m. Tues. TV Brdcast (Ch. 14) www.calvarvperham.com 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Communion every Sunday

**Crosspoint Alliance Church** 600 8th Street NE, Perham, MN Office: 218-346-4673 Pastor Michael Bochman Services at 9:00am & 10:30am Sermons are posted on our FaceBook page as well as on our website: crosspointalliance.com

**First Congregational United Church of Christ** 'God Is Still Speaking' 11 E. Gilman St. New York Mills, 385-2587 Sheri Nelson, Pastor, 640-3722 Jack Volpe, Shirley Davis, 639-3192 Open Communion, Handicap Accessible Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Refreshments

10 a.m. Sun. Service 218-346-LIFE (5433) www.northwoodslife.com

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Dent | Fr. George Michael Canonical Administrator, Fr. Tom Skaja - Parochial Vicar Weekday Mass: 7 p.m. Tuesday; 8:30 a.m. Thursday Weekend Mass: 4 p.m. Saturday; 8:30 a.m. Sundav

St. Henry's Catholic Church

234 2nd Ave. SW. Perham Fr. George Michael -Canonical Administrator, Fr. Tom Skaja – Parochial Vicar Weekday Mass: 8:45 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Weekend Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday; 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday Second Sunday of the Month: 1 p.m. Spanish Mass

St. Lawrence Catholic Church Rush Lake | Fr. George Michael -Canonical Administrator. Fr. Tom Skaja - Parochial Vicar Weekday Mass: 8:30 a.m. Wednesday and Friday Weekend Mass: 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday

13130 Co. Hwy. 39, Frazee Pastor Thomas Batchelder 9 a.m. Sunday Worship Communion every 1st and 3rd Sunday/Mo.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church LCMS Richville | Rev. Dr. Karl Weber

8 a.m. Sunday Worship 9 a.m. Sunday School

St. Paul's Lutheran Church LCMS

31385 Co. Hwy 4. Vergas Pastor Delton Stohs Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study 9:15 a.m.

St. Paul Lutheran's Church (LCMS) 500 6th Ave SW Perham, MN 56573 218.346.7725 Church Office

stpaulschurch@arvig.net Rev. Andrew Ratcliffe pastorratcliffe@gmail.com Sundays 9:00 am Worship, 10:15 Education hour

#### United Methodist Church

Richville | Pastor Rod Tornguist 218-346-5656 Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship Wednesday: Youth 6:45-8 p.m.; Choir 7-8 p.m.

#### United Methodist Church

Vergas | Pastor Ray Sherwood 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, SS

#### Waters of Grace Lutheran - ELCA

Laurie Albertson, Synodically Authorized Minister | 334-3455 9 a.m. Worship with Communion every Sunday Location: Frazee Event Center

#### Zion Lutheran of Amor

Pastor Jim Gronbeck 495-2563/www.zionamor.org Facebook: Zion Amor Worship service 10:00 a.m. with fellowship following

Church schedules subject to change - please contact your church to confirm information.



# In the courtroom and the skies

#### Minnesota tribe carries on its challenge of the Line 3 pipeline

#### **By Jennifer Bjorhus** Star Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS — Over two days last November, an aircraft outfitted with high-definition thermal imaging equipment flew the 340-mile length of the Line 3 oil pipeline across Minnesota. It was scouting for evidence of more construction-related damage to the state's aquifers.

Oil has been flowing through the completed pipeline for months now, but the White Earth Band of Ojibwe Minnesota's largest Native American tribe with about 20,000 members — continues fighting the project in court, and through extraordinary surveillance efforts.

The band now says aerial imaging found six more sites that indicate potential breaches to public groundwater resources.

Both Enbridge and the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) say they've done aerial checks of their own and haven't found any breaches beyond the three the DNR confirmed March 20, which spilled nearly 300 million gallons of groundwater — about what a city the size of Brainerd, Minnesota, would use in a year.

But the first of the breaches went undisclosed for at least five months. The Band and environmental groups such as the Sierra Club and MN350, which shared the cost of the \$52,000 flyover, say they don't trust the process to protect the resources. "The environment is that

important to us, our natu-ral environment," said White Earth citizen Dawn Goodwin, a key pipeline opponent and co-founder of RISE Coalition, an Indigenous women's environmental group. "I live problems Enbridge self-rehere and my ancestors lived ported.

here."

The state already fined Enbridge for that first breach but the DNR is still working on comprehensive penalties for all three breaches. Meanwhile, Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison is reviewing the first incident for potential criminal charges.

White Earth tribal lawyer Frank Bibeau said they will share the new flyover information with Ellison's office. The images are also being presented in tribal court as evidence in the band's groundwater legal fight with the DNR.

The groundwater problems are exactly what Line 3 opponents warned could happen on such a major project cutting through Minnesota's watery northern landscape, Bibeau said.

"Now we have to live with it and they get paid the big money for destroying our planet," Bibeau said. "This stuff is irreparable for a millennia. Those are hard words to think about."

DNR Deputy Commissioner Barb Naramore said the agency is aware of the flyover's basic findings but hasn't yet received copies of the aerial footage and technical information.

Juli Kellner, a spokeswoman for Calgary-based Enbridge, said the company did not know about the tribe's new claims.

"We have flown over and walked the route repeatedly and have worked with geologists, hydrologists and the regulatory agencies," Kellner said. "The regulatory agencies have completed site visits and further investigation and we have found no further issues.'

Earth Band, said he thinks the group found the possible new accident sites because regulators are only looking at



Brian Peterson / Star Tribune / TNS Enbridge's Clearwater Terminal pictured Sept. 28, 2021.

Naramore disagreed. The tribal court of appeals, and DNR did its own aerial inspections "of relevant portions of the line extending beyond the areas around the three known breaches" and found no others, she said. She noted that groundwater on the surface does not always mean an aquifer was damaged.

"If White Earth or any other parties furnish us with specific and actionable information that warrants additional investigation, we will follow up as appropriate," Naramore said.

The images captured by the tribe's contractor record the temperature difference between warmer groundwater and frozen ground. Broberg said they are examining more than a terabyte of data and plan to verify sites with inspections by foot. A final report will be out this summer.

One site they suspect of being another breach is about a mile from where Line 3 crossed under the Otter River in St. Louis County: "It has a real strong thermal finger-Jeff Broberg, a geologist print of warm water," said collaborating with the White Broberg.

#### Litigation

The band's flyover results were first disclosed in court documents filed March 25 in the White Earth Band's aquifers, potentially drying up

first reported on the Healing Minnesota Stories website. They are appealing the tribal court's decision in March to dismiss the novel "rights of nature" lawsuit in which the lead plaintiff was wild rice, or manoomin, with its own rights to clean and undisturbed water.

The lawsuit challenges the DNR's permission to Enbridge to pump a maximum of 5 billion gallons of water from its construction sites. The band says the pumping during last summer's severe drought has harmed wild rice beds.

The Tribal Court dismissed the case March 10, saying it doesn't have jurisdiction because the alleged violations didn't occur on the reservation. A parallel case is pending in federal court.

#### Aquifers

The Line 3 breaches are unlikely to permanently damage the aquifers, said Timothy Cowdery, a hydrogeolo-gist with the U.S. Geological Survey. Other scientists have expressed concerns about above-ground impacts and they go beyond the waste of a public resource.

Some are concerned the discharge of groundwater could lower the water pressure in the wells or municipal water supplies. That's a particular concern during a drought, said Joe Magner, a licensed hydrologist in the University of Minnesota's Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering. Groundwater flowing out can also cause soil erosion on the surface and carry sediment into nearby wetlands, lakes and streams and damage those ecosystems, he said.

It's not clear whether any wells have been affected by the breaches. Clearbrook City Clerk Lucie Thompson said she's unsure whether the town draws from the same aquifer as the one Enbridge crews punctured near Clearbrook in January 2021, releasing at least 50 million gallons. But the city has two wells, she said, and the rupture "hasn't affected that."

The breaches can have other effects, including contaminating the aquifers and altering their chemistry in a way that damages plants and animals, said Kristen Blann, a freshwater ecologist at The Nature Conservancy.

The Clearbrook breach threatens a nearby calcareous fen complex that the DNR said is fed by groundwater from the same aquifer. Protected by state law, calcareous fens are rich in calcium and peat and so unique the DNR considers them "one of the rarest natural communities in the United States."

Enbridge has hired a consultant to study breach effects on the fen.

In the third confirmed aquifer breach, just outside the reservation of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, groundwater flowing onto reservation land could harm the band's stands of sacred wild rice, a plant particularly sensitive to water depth, temperature and chemistry. The band has said it will have a better understanding of any impacts during the coming growing season.

©2022 StarTribune. Distributed by Tribune **Content Agency, LLC.** 



#### The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY

to win a \$200 gas gift card! Already use EZ Pay? You're already entered to win! Enroll in EZ Pay today!	• Tub-to-Shower Conversions
Call us: 218-346-5900 Online: perhamfocus.news/ezpay	<ul> <li>Replacement Tubs</li> <li>Replacement Showers</li> <li>Walk-in Tubs</li> <li>Low-Barrier Showers</li> <li>Soaker Tubs</li> <li>Accessories and more!</li> </ul> <ul> <li>OR</li> <li>No Payments &amp; No Interest</li> <li>For 18 Months<sup>**</sup></li> <li>OFFER EXPIRES 6.30.2022</li> <li>Military &amp; Senior Discounts Available</li> </ul>
300 W. Main St., Suite C, Perham, MN 56573 YES! I authorize Perham Focus to initiate EZ Pay and I have selected the automatic payment option I would like to use.	CALL NOW! (877) 469-0795 *Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 6/30/22. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. @2022 BCI Acrylic, Inc.
Signature: Date:   Date: Date: Description: <pd< td=""><td>Сеплерате Барате Барате Барате Сеплерас</td></pd<>	Сеплерате Барате Барате Барате Сеплерас
EZ Pay from Bank Account       Must include a voided check         Debited from account on the 5th of every month       Debited from account on the 20th of every month         Financial Institution:	<section-header><section-header><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></section-header></section-header>



	BOYS	AND	GIRLS	VARSITY TRACK AN	D FIELD
Туре	Day	Date	Time	Versus	Location
Meet	Thu	04/14/2022	11:30am	Away vs. Bemidji State University, Perham, TBA	Bemidji State University
Meet	Thu	04/14/2022	4:00pm	ТВА	Perham
Invitational	Tue	04/19/2022	4:00pm	ТВА	Perham
Meet	Thu	04/21/2022	3:30pm	Breckenridge	Breckenridge
Meet	Thu	04/28/2022	4:00pm	Hawley	Hawley High School
Meet	Tue	05/03/2022	4:00pm	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton High School
Meet	Thu	05/05/2022	4:00pm	Pelican Rapids	Pelican Rapids High School
Sectional Tournament	Tue	05/10/2022	11:00am	Fergus Falls	Fergus Falls
Conference Tournament	t Tue	05/17/2022	4:00pm	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton High School
Meet	Sat	05/21/2022	4:00pm	ТВА	ТВА
Sectional Tournament	Thu	05/26/2022	4:00pm	Pillager	Pillager High School
Sectional Tournament	Thu	06/02/2022	11:00am	ТВА, ТВА	Pelican Rapids High School
State Tournament	Thu	06/09/2022	4:00pm	ТВА, ТВА	St. Michael-Albertville High School
State Tournament	Fri	06/10/2022	4:00pm	ТВА, ТВА	St. Michael-Albertville High School

			GIRLS	S VARSITY GOLF	
Туре	Day	Date	Time	Versus	Location
Meet	Thu	04/14/2022	5:00pm	Barnesville	Willow Creek Golf Course
Invitational	Thu	04/21/2022	1:00pm	ТВА	Wildflower Golf Course
Meet	Tue	04/26/2022	5:00pm	Frazee	Frazee Golf Course
Meet	Thu	04/28/2022	2:00pm	Breckenridge	Breckenridge
Invitational	Fri	04/29/2022	8:00am	Bemidji	Bemidji Town & Country Club
Meet	Mon	05/02/2022	9:00am	Park Rapids Area	Headwaters Country Club
Meet	Thu	05/05/2022	1:00pm	ТВА	Perham Lakeside Golf Course
Meet	Thu	05/12/2022	1:00pm	Hawley	Hawley Golf Club
Meet	Mon	05/16/2022	9:00am	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	Meadows Golf Course
Invitational	Wed	05/18/2022	TBD	Bemidji	Bemidji Town & Country Club
Conference Tournament	Mon	05/23/2022	9:00am	Detroit Lakes	Wildflower Golf Course
Section Play-In	Wed	06/01/2022	TBD	ТВА	ТВА
Sectional Tournament	Mon	06/06/2022	TBD	ТВА	ТВА

			BOYS	VARSITY TENNIS	
Туре	Day	Date	Time	Versus	Location
Game	Tue	04/19/2022	4:30pm	Osakis High School	Osakis High School
Match	Thu	04/21/2022	4:30pm	Minnewaska Area	Minnewaska Area High School
Match	Tue	04/26/2022	4:30pm	Moorhead	Perham High School
Triangular	Thu	04/28/2022	TBD	Away vs. Fergus Falls, Perham, Sartell	Fergus Falls-Kennedy High School
Match	Fri	04/29/2022	4:30pm	Detroit Lakes	Detroit Lakes High School
Dual	Tue	05/03/2022	4:30pm	Thief River Falls	Perham High School
Match	Thu	05/05/2022	4:30pm	Detroit Lakes	Perham High School
Triangular	Mon	05/09/2022	12:00pm	Crookston, New London-Spicer .	Perham High School
Triangular	Fri	05/13/2022	TBD	Away vs. Crookston, East Grand Forks, Perham	Crookston High School
Dual	Tue	05/17/2022	4:30pm	East Grand Forks	Perham High School
Match	Thu	05/19/2022	4:30pm	Moorhead	Moorhead - Horizon Middle School

FINLER

231 Market Drive, Perham, MN 56573 218-346-2033

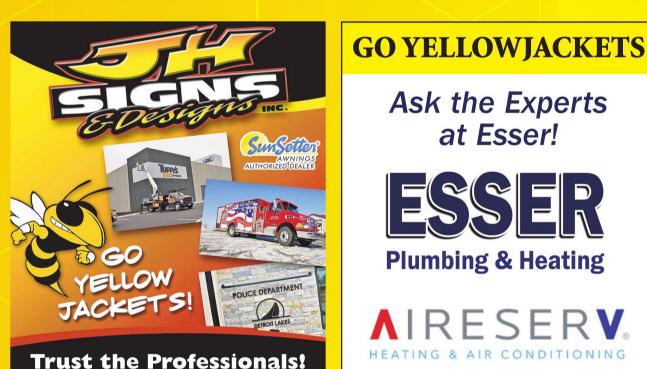
Selowinekers

			BOYS	S VARSITY GOLF	
Туре	Day	Date	Time	Versus	Location
Meet	Mon	04/18/2022	2:00pm	Pelican Rapids	Birchwood Golf
Invitational	Thu	04/21/2022	11:00am	Pequot Lakes	The Pines - Gran
Meet	Mon	04/25/2022	2:00pm	Frazee	Frazee Golf Cou
Meet	Thu	04/28/2022	2:00pm	Barnesville	Willow Creek Go
Meet	Mon	05/02/2022	2:00pm	Hawley	Hawley Golf Clu
Meet	Wed	05/04/2022	9:00am	Bemidji	Bemidji Town &
Meet	Fri	05/06/2022	9:00am	Park Rapids Area	Headwaters Cou
Meet	Mon	05/09/2022	9:00am	Bemidji	Bemidji Town &
Meet	Thu	05/12/2022	9:00am	Breckenridge	Breckenridge
Match	Fri	05/13/2022	1:00pm	Roseville Area	Thumper Pond (
Match	Sat	05/14/2022	9:00am	Roseville Area	Thumper Pond (
Meet	Mon	05/16/2022	12:00pm	ТВА	Lakeside Golf C
Meet	Wed	05/18/2022	11:00am	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	Meadows Golf C
Conference Tournament	Mwon	05/23/2022	2:00pm	Battle Lake	Balmoral Golf C
Sectional Tournament	Wed	06/01/2022	9:00am	Park Rapids Area	Headwaters Cou
Sectional Tournament	Mon	06/06/2022	TBD	Bemidji	Bemidji Town &
Sectional Tournament	Tue	06/07/2022	TBD	Bemidji	Bemidji Town &
State Tournament	Tue	06/14/2022	TBD	ТВА	Ridges at Sand
State Tournament	Wed	06/15/2022	TBD	ТВА	Ridges at Sand

For the most up to date schedules, cancellations, postponements, and reschedules please refer to the Perham Activities Hub website: perhamyellowjackets.com

f У 🖸 in

Making communities stro **SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL** ELECTRIC INC. To us, communities aren't just places on a map — they're the places we 615 Pinewood Lane call home. Where we grew up, where Arvig<sup>®</sup> donates \$1 each month you're an internet Perham, MN 56573 we live and work. Where we feel customer through the School Partnership Program. safe, welcome, and like we're part of 218-346-5560 BREMER something special. Choose Perham online! **Call JC Electric for all your wiring needs** ź arvig BANK They're part of who we are, and we're proud to support the Perham bremer.com arvig.net/supportyourschool Serving the community since 1977. Member FDIC Dent Schools. MAINSTREET // Crane Johnson Steve's Sanitation OMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING • ROLL-OFF Lumber Co. EXPRESS olid waste collection, transfe 620 East Main, Perham (218) 346-4834 lisposal, and recycling exper 205 East Main, Perham • 346-2210 support@stevessanitation.com www.stevessanitation.com 140 6th Avenue NE Perham, MN 56573 218-346-5555 HOURS: 6:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M. • 7 DAYS A WEEK GÜEST BALLON DOWN YDS TO GO OTR **GRANDSTAY**<sub>\*</sub> HOTEL&SUITES Powering communities one school, one high five, We welcome Sports and Bus Groups one unforgettable moment at a time. Good luck, athletes! • Meeting Room Available • Complimentary Grand Start<sup>®</sup> Breakfast (18 Person Capacity) • Indoor Pool with Hot Tub • Smoke-Free Hotel otpco.com • On-Site Lounge/Bar • 7 different room styles • Outdoor Patio with Fire Pit, (including a 1 bedroom king suite with kitchenette) Grill, & Playground TERIAI

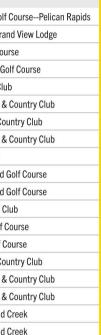


Sectional Tournamen

# eside Golf Course

Туре	Day	Date	Time	1
Double Header	Thu	04/21/2022	4:00pm	
Double Header	Thu	04/28/2022	4:00pm	
Game	Fri	04/29/2022	5:00pm	
Double Header	Thu	05/05/2022	4:00pm	
Game	Sat	05/07/2022	3:30pm	
Game	Sat	05/07/2022	6:00pm	
Double Header	Tue	05/10/2022	4:00pm	
Double Header	Thu	05/12/2022	4:00pm	
Game	Sat	05/14/2022	1:00pm	
Game	Sat	05/14/2022	5:00pm	
Game	Fri	05/20/2022	7:00pm	
Game	Tue	05/24/2022	5:00pm	
Game	Thu	05/26/2022	6:30pm	
Section Play-In	Tue	05/31/2022	5:00pm	
Section Quarter-Finals	Thu	06/02/2022	2:30pm	
Section Semi-Finals	Tue	06/07/2022	5:00pm	
Section Championship	Thu	06/09/2022	5:00pm	

VARSITY BASEBAL	L	
Versus	Location	Location Detail
Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	Dilworth	
Hawley	Perham, MN	Krueger Field
Park Rapids Area	Perham, MN	Krueger Field
Barnesville	Barnesville High School	
Watertown-Mayer	Deer Creek	
Wadena-Deer Creek	Deer Creek	
Frazee	Perham, MN	Krueger Field
Pelican Rapids	Perham, MN	Krueger Field
Esko	Esko High School	
Duluth East	Duluth	
Anoka	Anoka HS	
Fergus Falls	Perham, MN	Krueger Field
Moorhead	Perham, MN	Krueger Field
ТВА	Perham, MN	Krueger Field
ТВА	Perham, MN	Krueger Field
East Grand Forks, TBA	East Grand Forks H.S	
East Grand Forks, TBA	East Grand Forks H.S	





				V
	Day	Date	Time	Versus
	Thu	04/21/2022	4:00pm	Dilwor
	Tue	04/26/2022	4:30pm	Fergus
	Thu	04/28/2022	4:00pm	Hawle
	Fri	04/29/2022	4:30pm	Pequo
	Mon	05/02/2022	4:00pm	Detroi
	Thu	05/05/2022	4:00pm	Barne
	Fri	05/06/2022	4:30pm	Wader
	Tue	05/10/2022	4:00pm	Frazee
	Thu	05/12/2022	4:00pm	Pelica
	Tue	05/17/2022	4:30pm	Thief F
	Thu	05/19/2022	4:30pm	Park R
t.	Tue	05/24/2022	TBD	TBA, T
t	Thu	05/26/2022	TBD	TBA, T
	Tue	05/31/2022	TBD	TBA, T
t	Thu	06/02/2022	TBD	TBA, 1

ARSITY SOFTBAL	L	
S	Location	Location Detail
rth-Glyndon-Felton	Arvig Park Perham, MN	Softball Complex-Field One
s Falls	Arvig Park Perham, MN	Softball Complex-Field One
ey .	Hawley Rodeo Grounds	
ot Lakes	Pequot Lakes High School	
it Lakes	Snappy Park Softball Complex	
esville	Arvig Park Perham, MN	Softball Complex-Field One
na-Deer Creek	Arvig Park Perham, MN	Softball Complex-Field One
e	Frazee High School	
an Rapids	Pelican Rapids High School	
River Falls	Thief River Falls	
Rapids Area	Arvig Park Perham, MN	Softball Complex-Field One
TBA	ТВА	
ТВА	Frazee High School	
ТВА	Frazee High School	
TBA	Frazee High School	

Decals | Signs | Neon Banners Vehicle & Trailer Wraps Channel Letters | Lighted Signs Message Centers and More! jhsigns.com 218.346.7446

a neighborly company

218.346.3530 218.346.2138 EsserPlumbingandHeating.com





Perham: 218-346-7100 Underwood: 218-826-6560 Brandon: 320-834-4949 Rothsay: 218-867-4136

www.briansrepairandtire.com



BASEBALL



Photos by Jared Rubado / Perham Focus The Perham baseball team faces live pitching at the Detroit Lakes Community and Cultural Center on April 14 against Detroit Lakes.

# All business baseball

#### **Reloaded Perham team is** eager to avenge postseason heartbreak of last year

**By Jared Rubado** Perham Focus

Perham t's been another great school year for Perham athletics. Both cross country teams were the state Class A runnersup, while Jakob McCleary took home the state championship. Brain Ramos brought home a state wrestling title in the Class 2A tournament, while Avery McAllister and Brittney Lorentz competed at the state gymnastics and diving tournaments. The Perham boys basketball team is fresh off its Section 8-2A title and a trip to the Twin Cities. After a wildly successful fall and winter season, the Perham baseball team feels like it's their turn to hang a few banners. "We have a lot of multi-sport athletes, and these kids feed off the success our school has had," head coach James Mulcahy said. "Whether it's football, basketball, cross country, wrestling or whatever it might be, they start to feed off of each other. It motivates them to match or go further than their other teams did." The Yellowjackets have few holes to fill after last year's team lost in the Section 8-2A championship game to Wadena-Deer Creek. It's an experienced group with its eyes set on success in the postseason.



#### **GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD ROUNDUP**

# Perham girls win Craig Hougen Indoor Classic

#### **By Jared Rubado** Perham Focus

BEMIDJI – The Perham girls track and field team took first place at the Craig Hougen Indoor Classic on Thursday.

The Yellowjackets beat out 13 other teams for the top spot in their third indoor meet of the season behind four first-place individual finishes. Perham (112.3) beat out Pequot Lakes (107) and Wadena-Deer Creek (93) for the top spot.

Lauryn Rustad took first place in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 9.89. Jaden Hackel (10.32, 3rd), Lil Aakre (10.84, 6th) and Olivia Rosenthal (10.87, 7th) all finished in the top eight as well.

Hackel also took first place in the triple jump at 35-feet, 5-inches, while Aakre took sixth in the 60-meter dash with a time of 8.7 seconds.

Gracie Morris won the pole vault at 9-feet, 6-inches. Maya Richter was right behind her in second place at 9-feet, with Natalie Rooney (8-feet, 6-inches) and Danail Van Watermulen (8-feet, 6-inches) in fourth and seventh.

Alexis Hartmann took second in the long jump at 15-feet, 4-inches, with Willow Thiel (14-feet, 11.5-inches) and Lola Pulver (14-feet, 11-inches) in fifth. Thiel also finished in first place in the high jump at 4-feet, 8-inches. Rosenthal was two inches behind her in fourth place.

The Yellowjackets also competed in their first outdoor invite of the season on Monday at Fergus Falls. Perham took fourth with a team score of 91.

Morris (9-feet, 6-inches) and Richter (8-feet, 6-inches) took the top two spots in the pole vault. Van Watermulen and Rooney also vaulted 8-feet, 6-inches. Hackel won the triple jump at 33-feet, 5.75-inches as well.

OTTER INVITE GIRLS TEAM SCORES- 1- Willmar 139, 2- Detroit Lakes 107, 3- Bemidji 102, 4- Perham 91, 5- Minnewaska 69, 6- Fer-gus Falls 29, 7- Pelican Rapids 22

PERHAM GIRLS TOP EIGHT FINISHERS- 200M- 1st- Abby Larson (Detroit Lakes) 27.86, 6th- Lola Pulver 30.06, 8th- Chesney Esser 30.36 800M- 1st- Nina Dawson (Willmar) 2:23.58, 6th- Leelou Novotny

800M- 1st- Nina Dawson (Willmar) 2:23.58, 6th- Leelou Novotny 2:41.33, 7th- Ella Hendrickson 2:41.60 1600M- 1st- Nina Dawson (Willmar) 5:28.73, 3rd- Gracie Morris 5:38.82, 6th- Leelou Novotny 6:00.31, 7th- Ella Hendrickson 6:00.57 3200M- 1st- Lauren Eilers (Willmar) 11:37.41, 5th- Quincy Anderson 13:04.23 100M HURDLES- 1st- Madysen Schmidt (Bemidji) 16.15, 2nd- Lau-

100M HURDLES- 1st- Madysen Schmidt (Bemidji) 16.15, 2nd- Lau-ryn Rustad 16.98, 3rd- Jaden Hackel 17.18 7th- Lily Aakre 18.92 300M HURDLES- 1st- Lauren Berg (Bemidji) 49.27, 2rd- Jaden Hackel 50.50, 6th- Lily Aakre 54.69 4X100M RELAY- 1st- Detroit Lakes 53.91, 2nd- Chesney Esser, Ari-ana Doll, Natalie Rooney, Alexis Hartmann 56.82 4X200M RELAY- 1st- Bemidji 1:52.17, 6th- Ariana Doll, Lola Pulver, Kennedy Pilgrim, Alexis Hartmann 2:00.31 4X400M RELAY- 1st- Bemidji 4:16.77, 3rd- Gracie Morris, Leelou Neveter, Avadoa Revue, Jadoa Hackel 4:26 52

The Perham pitching staff throws at the Detroit Lakes Community and Cultural Center on April 14 against Detroit Lakes.

"We improved from a really good team we had last year," Mulcahy said. "We lost only two starters. We've got the core back. We got a kid who moved from North Carolina, who's a solid ballplayer, that will fill one of those spots. The team has been working really hard.

The expectations are high. I think we'll be one of the top teams in the section again. There are a few teams we aren't sure about, but we should be one of the favorites for the conference and the section."

**BASEBALL:** Page A11

Novotny, Avalee Brown, Jaden Hackel 4:26.53 4X800M RELAY- 1st- Minnewaska 10:19.98, 5th- Quincy Anderson, Aspen Rohde, Avalee Brown, Gracie Morris, DISCUS- 1st- Avery Quinn (Willmar) 99;11", 6th- Gracie Endwards

HIGH JUMP- Ainsley Handen (Fergus Falls) 5'5", 8th- Willow Thiel

POLE VAULT- 1st- Gracie Morris (Perham) 9'6", 2nd- Maya Richter 8'6", 3rd- Natalie Rooney 8'6", 5th- Danail Van Watermulen 8'6" LONG JUMP- 1st- Sam Christoffer (Willmar) 15'6.75", 8th- Alexis Hartmann 13'2.75"

TRIPLE JUMP- 1st- Jaden Hackel (Perham) 33'5,75", 3rd- Kennedy Pilgrim 31'9.5" CRAIG HOUGEN INDOOR CLASSIC GIRLS TEAM SCORES- 1

Perham 112.5, 2- Pequot Lakes 107, 3- Wadena-Deer Creek 93, Perham 112.5, 2- Pequot Lakes 107, 3- wadena-Deer Creek 93, 4- Park Rapids 74, 5- Staples-Motley 54, 6- Hibbing 27, 6- North-ome-Kelliher-Blackduck 27, 8- Bertha-Hewitt-Verndale 26, 9- Pillager 25, 10- New York Mills 14, 11- Clearbrook-Gonvick 12, 12- Pine Riv-er-Backus 5.5 13- Nevis 4, 14- Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 2, 14- Walk-

PERHAM GIRLS TOP EIGHT FINISHES- 4X800M RELAY- 1st- Park Rapids 10:31.55, 4th- Perham 11:02.09

1600M- 1st- Calia Chaney (Pequot Lakes) 5 :16.18, 4th- Quincy Anderson 6:02 88

60M HURDLES- 1st- Lauryn Rustad (Perham) 9.89, 3rd- Jaden

Hackel 10.32, 6th- Lily Aakre 10.84, 7th- Olivia Rosenthal 10.87 60M- 1st- Joselyn Rinio (Pequot Lakes) 8.28, 6th- Lily Aakre 8.7 4X200M RELAY- 1st- Park Rapids 1:56.90, 4th- Perham 2:00.47 800M- 1st- Amber Collins (WDC) 2:32.01, 3rd- Ella Henderickson 2:34.86

200M- 1st- Riya Johnson (Pequot Lakes) 28.40, 7th- Alexis Hartmann 29.83 4X400M RELAY- 1st- Staples-Motley 4:23.88, 5th- 4:36.90

HIGH JUMP- 1st- Willow Thiel (Perham) 4'8", 4th- Olivia Rosenthal

POLE VAULT- 1st- Gracie Morris (Perham) 9'6", 2nd- Maya Richter 9'0", 4th-Natalie Rooney 8'6", 7th- Danial Van Watermulen 8'6" LONG JUMP- 1st- Madison Packer (WDC) 15'7.5", 2rd- Alexis Hart-mann 15'4", 4th- Willow Thiel 14'11.5, 5th- Lola Pulver 14'11" TRIPLE JUMP- 1st- Jaden Hackel (Perham) 35'5"

Contact Jared Rubado: jrubado@dlnewspapers.com; Twitter: @DLtribSports

#### **BOYS TRACK AND FIELD ROUNDUP**

# Yellowjackets take third in two meets

#### By Jared Rubado Perham Focus

BEMIDJI - Seniors led the way again for the Perham boys track and field team this week.

On Thursday, Jakob McCleary and Connor Kostynick racked up three combined firstplace finishes for the Yellowjackets to a thirdplace finish at the Craig Hougen Indoor Classic.

McCleary took first place in the 1,600meter run with a time of 4:31.27. Dylan Guck was 27 seconds behind him

with a time of 2:00.02. Kostynick took home the shot put title at 46-feet, 5-inches. Teagan Bennett wasn't far vault at 11-feet. behind in eighth place at

39-feet, 6.5-inches. Noah Novotny took third place in the pole McCleary vault competition at 12-feet. Micah Thompson paced the Yellowjackets in the 400-meter run at 54.92 seconds.

in its first outdoor competition of the season on Monday in Fergus Falls. third in the long jump at

in fifth place. McCleary Kostynick took first in 18-feet, 6-inches. Levi also won the 800-meter the discus at 139-feet, 2-inches. He also took second in the shot put at 45-feet, 7-inches. Novotny won the pole

Four Yellowjackets placed in the top eight in the 1,600-meter run. took second place (4:39.24), while Bjorn Anderson (5:00.61), Caden Doll (5:01.29) and Carter Flatau (5:02.96) took Perham also took third fifth, sixth and eighth, respectively.

Gordy Enyart took

Richter was right behind him in fifth at 17-feet, 8.5-inches. Thompson (38-feet, 2.5-inches) took third in the triple jump, followed by Enyart (36-feet, 11.5-inches) in fourth.

OTTER INVITE BOYS TEAM SCORES-1- Willmar 143, Fergus Falls 127, 3- Per-ham 84, 4- Pelican Rapids 64, 5- Bemidji 52, 6- Detroit Lakes 46, Minnewaska 39 PERHAM BOYS TOP EIGHT FINISH-ERS- 100M- 1st- Michael Price (Willmar) 11.11, 8th- Tyrus Coudron 11.72

800M- 1st- Colin O'Farell (Willmar) 2:04.25, 2nd- Jakob McCleary 2:04.63, 6th- Micah Thompson 2:12.12, 7th- Bjorn Anderson 2:12.34

Anderson 2:12.34 1600M- 1st- Colin O'Farrell (Willmar) 4:38.50, 2nd- Jakob McCleary 4:39.24, 5th- Bjorn Anderson 5:00.61, 6th- Caden Doll 5:01.29, 8th- Carter Flatus 5:02.96 3200M- 1st- Carson Marsh (Bemidji)

10:33.73, 4th- Dylan Guck 11:04.04 110M HURDLES- 1st- Jacob Kelley (Be-

midji) 15.87, 7th- Tyrus Coudron 20.01 4X100M RELAY- 1st- Minnewaska 46.52, 3rd- Levi Richter, Connor Kostynick, Noah

Thompson, Gordy Enyart 47.25 4X400M RELAY- 1st- Willmar 3:37.15, 3rd- Jakob McCleary, Caden Doll, Micah Thompson, Aiden Kennedy 3:41.72, 8th-Carter Flatau, Levi Richter, Henry Mahia-son, Bjorn Anderson 4:02.35

4X800M RELAY- 1st- Bemidii 8:37.16. 5th- Dylan Guck, Matt Jordenson, Blake Swenson, Nathan Rustad 9:48.74 SHOT PUT- 1st- Alexander Jensen (Fer-gus Falls) 51'10", 2nd- Connor Kostynick

45'7'

DISCUS- 1st- Connor Kostynick (Per-

Aam) 139'2" POLE VAULT- 1st- Noah Novotny (Per-ham) 11'0"

LONG JUMP- 1st- Michael Price (Willmar) 20'8.5", 3rd- Gordy Enyart 18'6", 5th-Levi Richter 17'8.5" TRIPLE JUMP- 1st- Shane Zierden 39'9", 3rd- Micah Thompson 38'2.5", 4th-

Gordy Envart 36'11.5" CRAIG HOUGEN INDOOR CLASSIC BOYS TEAM SCORES- 1- Wadena-Deer-Creek 89, 2- Park Rapids 73, 3- Perham 71, 4- Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 60, 5- Ber-tha-Hewitt-Verndale 55, 6-Staples-Motley

47, 7- Pillager 45, 8- Pequot Lakes- 42 9- Hibbing 34, 10- Nevis 29, 11- United North Central 13, 12- Northome-Kelli-her-Blackduck 8, 13- Clearbrook-Gonvick 13- Walker-Hackensack-Akeley 7, 15-TrekNorth 5

PERHAM BOYS TOP EIGHT FINISH-ERS- 1600M- 1st- Jakob McCleary (Per-ham) 4:31.27, 5th- Dylan Guck 4:58.10 4X200M RELAY- 1st- WDC 1:38.55, 4th-

Perham 1:42.20 800M RUN- 1st- Jakob McCleary (Per-

ham) 2:00.02

200M- 1st- Joshua Finseth (DGF) 23.11, 6th- Tyrus Coudron 24.56 4X400M RELAY- 1st- Park Rapids

3:44.72, 2nd- Perham 3:46.42 POLE VAULT- 1st- Brady Domier (WDC) 13'6", 3rd- Noah Novotny 12'0"

SHOT PUT- 1st- Connor Kostynick (Per-ham) 46'5", 8th- Teagan Bennett 39'06.5" 4X800M RELAY- 1st- Park Rapids 4000M RELAT 131 Park Rapids 8:46.55, 2nd- Perham 8:53.18 400M- 1st- Joshua Finseth (DGF) 52.93,

5th- Micah Thompson 54.92, 7th- Blake Swenson 55.35

Contact Jared Rubado: jrubado@ dlnewspapers.com; Twitter: @ DLtribSports

#### **CLAY TARGET LEAGUE**



Photos contributed / Courtney Vroman

Rorey Lindquist, middle, and Colby Vroman, right, earn a perfect 50-round badges during the Perham Hot Shots' first week of practice.

# Perham Hot Shots kick off new season with strong practice weeks

By Jared Rubado Perham Focus

PERHAM – The Perham Hot Shots clay target team wrapped up its second week of practice on April 3.

Rorey Lindquist and Colby Vroman recorded the highest scores of the week of the 52-shooter team. Both scored two rounds of 25 for a total of 50. In the first week of practice. Vroman recorded a 48, while Lindquist scored a 46.

Seth Berry had backto-back rounds of 23 for a week-two total of 46. Jonah Bieger shot a 25 and a 21 to match Bieger's total.

Kaden Felt and Logan Meyers each hit 45, while Isabelle Pazdernik, Alex Sazama and Gage Dulski hit 44. Of Perham's 52 team members, 10 of them scored 44 or higher.

In the first week of practice, ending on Mar. 27, Seth Berry led the pack with a 49. Calvin Berry was right behind PERHAM HOT SHOTS FIRST AND SECOND PRACTICE WEEK RESULTS Reid Aakre 28 31 Shane Beck 35 35 Calvin Berry 48 41 Seth Berry 49 46

Jonah Bieger 43 46

Aaron Briard N/S 33 Ethan Briard N/S 33 Ethan Briard N/S 42 Gage Dulski 47 44 Kaden Feldt 39 45 Colby Flatau 42 34 Dominick Hammers 38 37 Jacob Hammers 24 18 Alexis Hartmann 27 19 Alyssa Hartmann 26 33 Ashton Hendrickson 18 20 Allison Jorgenson 43 37 Amanda Jorgenson 42 36

Jayden Bormann 45 31 Rylan Bormann 23 30 Tait Bormann 38 43

Ethan Brasel 33 32

Brandon Larson 28 23 Rorey Lindquist 46 50 Brithey Loerzel 30 27 Michael Menz 23 33 Nathan Meyer 19 25 Logan Myers 37 45 Paytan Myers 29 32 Jaden Nagel 29 40 Isabella Pazdernik 36 44 Morgan Pazdernik 36 44 Morgan Pazdernik 36 44 Haven Roth 38 40 Eli Runyan 11 11 Simon Runyan 27 31 Marisa Ruther 30 23 Molly Ruther 15 27 Braysen Salo 10 17 Ezra Sampson 20 25 Neil Sautter 39 N/S Alex Sazama 47 44 Preston Shaw 36 39 Erik Smith 42 36 Lucas Swyter 17 31 Cypress Thiel N/S 42 Colby Vroman 48 50 Maddox Wagner 36 34 Shyanne Watercott 33 36 Wyatt Watercott 36 41 Carter Zachariason 36 41 Henry Zachariason 36 24



Gage Dulski, right, earns a perfect 25-round badge during the Perham Hot Shots' first week of practice starting March 27.

#### HOCKEY

# Former Laker named head coach of Augustana men's hockey

#### By Jess Myers Perham Focus

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. – Some of the most important coaching experience Bob Motzko gained prior to running the college programs at St. Cloud State and Minnesota came during the three seasons he spent as head coach and general manager of the USHL's Sioux Falls Stampede. Motzko's long-time assistant coach and protege Garrett Raboin is soon to head to Sioux Falls for his biggest coaching opportunity.

Originally from Detroit Lakes, Raboin played defense for the Huskies from 2006–10, then played professionally in Scandinavia for parts of two seasons. Motzko hired him as an assistant coach in 2012 and they have worked together for the past decade.

On Monday morning, April 18, Augustana University named Raboin the first head coach in the history of their new Division I men's hockey program, which is set to begin play in the fall of 2023. Raboin, who turned 37 on the day the Gophers clinched their trip to the 2022 NCAA Frozen Four, has been a Gophers assistant coach and chief recruiter under Motzko for the past four seasons, and prior to that worked and played for Motzko at SCSU.

"I am incredibly humbled and honored to have been chosen as the first leader of Augustana Men's Hockey," Raboin said, in a statement released by the school. "This is the right time, at the right university, with the right leadership, to bring Division I college hockey to South Dakota. My family and I are excited to become a part of the Sioux Falls community, we can't wait!"

The Vikings will begin play as a Division I independent in a new building currently under construction on their campus. Midco Arena is a \$40 million project which will seat 3,000 for hockey. They will be the first varsity college hockey program in South Dakota. In announcing the addition of hockey, Augustana athletic director Josh Morton stressed their advantageous geographic location with North Dakota to the north, the Colorado schools to the west, Omaha to the south and the Minnesota schools to the east.

"We started this process looking for someone who can build a nationally competitive men's hockey program that competes at Division I and we sure found him," Morton said. "Garrett is a proven winner, excellent recruiter and will help us build community excitement for Augustana hockey. He is a great addition

him at 48, with Sazama and Dulski at 47.

This is the 10th season for the Hot Shots as they are one of 337 Minnesota State High School Clay Target League Teams. There are nine classes and 43 conferences based on team size. Perham is in Class 7A, and competes against Benson, Buffalo, Chatfield, Fairmont, Little Falls, New Prague and Randolph.

The spring season is made up of two practice weeks, one reserve week and five weeks of competition.

Contact Jared Rubado: jrubado@ dlnewspapers.com; Twitter: @ DLtribSports

# <image>

Alex Sazama, right, earns a perfect 25-round badge in the first practice week for the Perham Hot Shots on starting March 27. and will add to the excellence of Augustana athletics."

The school will hold an official introductory press conference on Tuesday, April 19, to welcome Raboin and his family to Sioux Falls. Garrett and his wife Emily have three young children.

"Garrett Raboin is one of the true rising stars in the hockey world, and Augustana made a terrific choice in selecting him as the first head coach of the Vikings hockey program," said Motzko, who had been a strong advocate for Raboin to get his own program to run. "I have known Garrett for close to 20 years, and I have an immense amount of pride and respect for the coach and person he has become. He has built a remarkable path as a leader, teacher and recruiter at St. Cloud State and now at Minnesota, and it's certainly special to see his dedication and hard work culminate now with his first head coaching position at Augustana."

#### BASEBALL

From Page A10

The biggest problem right now is finding time to practice outside. Amid a snowy spring, the Yellowjackets have played in batting-cage scrimmages in Minneapolis and at the Detroit Lakes Community and Cultural Center. It's a chance for Mulcahy's pitchers and hitters to see live at-bat action indoors.

"We're making the most of it," Mulcahy said. "We have our community center where we do things indoors so we can see some live at-bats. We got down to Minneapolis last weekend to scrimmage Shakopee and rented the Gophers' facility for three hours. We've been doing our best to get some work in."

"It's been a long grind here over the last month being indoors," Mulcahy said. "The kids were ready to get going again. Doing things indoors is the next best thing to being outside."

Perham has two players committed to play baseball at the collegiate level, with more on the way. Senior Chas Melvin headed to play at the Division II level at Minnesota State University-Mankato, while Logan Pulju will play at the junior college level for M-State Fergus Falls. Mulcahy believes more players on his staff will also receive collegiate opportunities. "Logan has been one of

"Logan has been one of our leaders in the weight room, lifting every day. Chas was a starter on the basketball team and had an incredible winter," Mulcahy. "They're the guys we need to step up and lead this team by example. Ryan Solberg is another one. He was a great leader for DL hockey, and we need that this year. A lot of the guys who played football are part of that too. You look at the experience these kids have in other sports, and you hope they use it to be leaders on the baseball field."

What Mulcahy hopes will set Perham apart early on is his experience and pitching depth. They bring back a roster that's eager to right the final wrong of 2021 while reloading the arm arsenal should give the Yellowjackets an advantage in the Section 8-2A field.

"We have the pitching experience to win a lot of games, and they really need to set the tone," Mulcahy said. "We need to limit our opponent's runners on base. Our hitters are bigger and stronger than last year. It comes down to being composed and being smart. Not chasing bad pitches and playing the game we teach them to play is what will make us successful."

For now, the Yellowjackets are working towards putting their best game on the field when it matters most. Years



Jared Rubado / Perham Focus

The Perham baseball team faces live pitching at the Detroit Lakes Community and Cultural Center on April 14 against Detroit Lakes.

change, but the expectation stays the same: compete for championships.

"We don't want to be in the middle, and we certainly don't like being on the bottom," Mulcahy said. "The expectation is for us to be at the top. That doesn't change year to year. We want to win the Heart O'Lakes and the Section 8-2A championships."

Contact Jared Rubado: jrubado@ dlnewspapers.com; Twitter: @DLtribSports

# Blinds offer glimpse into grouse

#### From chickens to ruffies, viewing opportunities are available across northwest Minnesota

#### **By Brad Dokken**

Grand Forks Herald GRAND FORKS - It's

quite the spectacle. Every spring, male prairie grouse – prairie chickens and sharptails – gather on mating grounds called leks and put on elaborate displays in an effort to attract a mate.

sharp-tailed Male grouse are dancers by nature, gathering on their "dancing grounds" in groups of a dozen or more and rapidly stomping their little feet and spinning around in circles as part of a noisily jubilant display to attract a mate

Prairie chicken leks are called "booming grounds," for the haunting "woo-woo" booming sound the male chickens produce by inflating air tion.

sacs in their necks. They don't dance as much as sharptails, these prairie chickens, but the ing displays are a wildbooming sound seems to come from nowhere and everywhere at once. They put on quite a show.

A different kind of show takes place in the forest, where male ruffed grouse set up shop on a log and produce a drumming sound by rapidly beating their wings, as part of the annual springtime ritual to entice a female into breeding range.

Unlike sharptails and prairie chickens, though, ruffed grouse are solo artists, with only a single bird on a drumming log. Any rogue male venturing into a drummer's territory is likely to receive a rough recep-

Whether grouse or ruffed grouse, the springtime matlife-watcher's dream, and several sites across northwest Minnesota offer viewing blinds for watching the shows. Here's a closer look.

#### 'Taj Ma Chicken' and 'Sharpie Shack'

Svedarsky, Dan а retired natural resources professor at the University of Minnesota-Crookston, has both a prairie chicken blind and a sharptail blind available to reserve on established leks in Polk County south of U.S. Highway 2 and west of state Highway 32.

prairie Svedarsky's chicken blind, which

prairie the most deluxe viewing blind in the region. Measuring  $4^{1/2}$  feet by 16 feet, the blind built atop is co-sponsored by the additional details. Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society.

For viewers who want to watch sharptails dance, Svedarsky's "Sharpie Shack" is set up on an established lek that has about 20 males, he said. The Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse Society, with assistance from some of Svedarsky's former students at UMC, co-sponsor the blind.

Both blinds are set up in their regular spots, which are "wet as 1. usual," Svedarsky said.

edu. It might take a few Winter said. days for him to reply to queries sent before April 16, but once a reservation a flatbed trailer can hold is confirmed, Svedarsky up to about 15 people and will send out a map with

#### Bluestem **Prairie SNA**

This might be one to put on the calendar for next year. The Nature Conservancy has two blinds for viewing prairie chickens at Bluestem Prairie Scientific and Natural Area in Clay County near Glyndon, Minnesota, but they are almost booked for the season, said Sonia Winter of TNC, who begins taking reservations Feb.

As of late March, a To reserve one of the few openings were still he dubbed the "Taj blinds, email Svedarsky available in early to mid- spring, contact W Ma Chicken," is easily at dsvedars@crk.umn. May, but that was it, swinter@tnc.org.

TNC staff try to get the blinds out by the last weekend in March but got them out a bit earlier this year, Winter said. At Bluestem Prairie, Winter says she generally takes reservations from about March 25 to May 15, "give or take a few days." Activity peaks in late April, when hens visit the lek.

"That tends to get the guys riled up," she said.

Because the blinds book up so early, Winter says most viewing enthusiasts put a note on their calendars to contact her the following year.

For more information or to try and reserve a blind yet this spring, contact Winter at





#### Summer Camps Jobs available

Want to get your creative juices flowing? Join our Culinary Arts team at the Language Villages summer camps near Dent or Callaway, MN.

> Call or text Dan at 218-368-3192 https://hr.cord.edu/postings/8709

internal and external customers.

Working with the company's centralized page production team managers to coordinate design, workflow and deadlines.

#### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- Bachelor's degree, with writing and editing experience preferred.
- Excellent communication skills and customer service skills.
- Publication writing experience in a deadline driven environment.

#### The Jamestown Sun

For more details and to apply go to: www.forumcomm.com/careers EOE

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

# COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

cal

#### WANTED TO BUY

#### WANTED: **ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES**

Running or not. Titled or not. Cash in exchange. Sell now while prices are high! Call Dan at 612/720-2142

#### SEED/FEED/GRAINS

#### SOYBEAN WHITE MOLD have you worried this year? We want to help with a winning stratfor 2022. Call Heads Up egy

Protectants

Plant

866/368-9306

Advertise here statewide in 210+ newspapers for only \$279 per week! Call 800-279-2979

#### ADOPTIONS

#### **PRIVATE ADOPTION:**

Kind, nerdy, loving couple hope to adopt a baby. Certified to adopt. Legal expenses paid. Paul and Val call/text: 347/480-9505 www.paulandvaladopt.com

#### MISCELLANEOUS

#### LOOKING FOR ASSISTED LIVING

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

#### **DISH NETWORK \$64.99**

for 190 Channels! Blazing fast internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & get a FREE \$100 Visa gift card. FREE voice remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE streaming on ALL devices. Call today! 855/562-4309

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

America's premier mobile

#### **DONATE YOUR CAR**

truck or boat to Heritage For The Blind. Free 3-day vacation, tax deductible, free towing, all paperwork taken care of 844/220-9501

#### THE GENERAC PWRCELL

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

#### HELP WANTED HELP WANTED TECHNOLOGY TECHNOLOGY



#### COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY (CPT) **TECHNICAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST**

**ABOUT THE COMPANY:** Counties Providing Technology (CPT) has over 35 years of experience providing an affordable solution to the computerization of local government information.

**POSITION SUMMARY:** Under the direction of the Executive Director(s), the Technical Support Specialist manages and maintains assigned CPT computer programs for MN and ND counties. This position provides quality customer service to end-users by resolving queries, providing solutions, and guiding product upper through for the product upper directive product the service of the product of the service of the serv product users through features and functionalities.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE: Associate Degree Business, Accounting, Computer Science or equivalent education and experience in technical support, accounting, programming, data analysis or related field.

**ESSENTIAL QUALITIES:** You can solve widely varied complex problems using analytical ability and inductive thinking in complex situations. You use excellent interpersonal and communication skills to build client confidence and connections. You embrace teamwork and can also work independently. You are a highly adaptable lifelong learner.

#### EMPLOYMENT VARIABLES:

37.5 hours/week Work is typically performed at our office, conveniently

Starting wage is \$21.37-\$28.90 per hour DOQ. \$700 per month employer paid contribution toward the purchase of group health and voluntary benefits. Employer contribution of 7.5% PERA retirement account. Employee earns vacation and sick leave accruals and receives eleven paid holidays annually.

**TO APPLY:** Apply online at *www.co.stevens.mn.us* under Employment Opportunities.

DEADLINE: April 22, at 4:00 p.m.

**CONTACT:** If you have questions about the position or application process, contact Mike Koehler 320-589-2110 or mike.koehler@cptmn.us

Counties Providing Technology is an EEO Employer



**MOBILEHELP** 

medialert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety and peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free

brochure! Call today! 877/629-2287



#### HELP WANTED GENERAL

IMMEDIATE **OPENINGS** Welders/Painters Full Time Employment Nights & Weekends off

Competitive Pay Full Benefits Package

Call Henry Buildings 218-863-6444

#### Professional Agronomy Services

A full service retail agronomy center is looking to fill the following positions in Perham & Wadena:

\*Seasonal Class A & Class B Truck Drivers Warehouse Personnel \*Payloader Operator \*Custom Applicator

If you don't have a Class B CDL, we are willing to train the right people and you can obtain a Seasonal Class B CDL. (Call with questions about the Seasonal CDL) Must pass drug screen & background check. Competitive wages with opportunity for overtime. Potential full time opportunity. Duties include, but are not limited to, making deliveries within a 60 mile radius of Perham & Wadena, warehouse support and customer support.

Call 218-346-2355 or apply in person at 905 Pinewood Circle Perham

#### **HELP WANTED** PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

## **Seasonal Intern**

The East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District is seeking an individual to fill a Seasonal Intern position located in the Perham and Wadena field offices. should Applicants in pursuing a interested Agronomy, and Natural career in Conservation Resource Management, Environmental Science, Soil Environmental Science, Sci Science, Soil and Water Conservation Technology or related field Applicants must have a valid driver's license.

For a full job description and application contact the EOT SWCD office at (218) 346-9105, located at 801 Jenny Ave SW, Perham MN 56573 or visit our website at www.eotswcd.org An Equal Opportunity Employer.



Qualifications:

\*Knowledge of District policies and procedures. \*Knowledge of current Child

National Nutritional standards. \*Ability to operate commercial kitchen equipment.

\*Skill in reading and interpreting documents such as common safety

guidelines, operating and maintenance instructions and procedure manuals. \*Ability to apply basic mathematical concepts such as multiplication, division, fractions, percentages, ratios and proportions to practical

ratios and proportions to practical situations. \*Ability to communicate with \*Ability to communicate with students, co-workers and various

business contacts in a courteous and professional manner.

Ability to effectively function as a

Apply online at

www.applitrak.com/ perham/online Applications are also available in the District Office or contact

Krystal Boyd at kboyd@perham.k12.mn.us

0

team player. \*High School graduate

equivalent.

That new

JOB feeling.

Get it here.

jobs**HQ 🔊** 

**AUCTION SALES** 

ITEMS WANTED!

**Consignment Auction** 

Located: 202 Industrial

Park Rd. - Sebeka, MN

May 21, 2022 - 9:30AM

Accepting: Tractors, Skid Loaders, Farm, Construction, &

Landscaping Equipment, Cars, Trucks, Trailers, ATV's, Farm

Misc., Tools, Lawn & Garden.

(No Household or Firearms)

Sale Bill Deadline

April 29th, 2022

FISCHER SALES NAL AUCTION & APPRAISAL SER **Call or E-mail us to consign** 

your items today! Competitive Rates!, No Buyers Premium

Auctioneer: Tony Fischer #10-36

Ph: 218-330-7115

#### **HELP WANTED SKILLED AND TRADES** RETIRED WELDERS WANT TO MAKE EXTRA MONEY?

Work Part time Flexible Schedule Call Henry Buildings

218-863-6444

**NEW COMPANY!** American Hydro Doors

Need Lead 2 Welders Need Lead Production Manager

Full Time Employment Call Henry Buildings 218-863-6444



#### **HELP WANTED** TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Class A or B CDL Driver for Full Time Farm Milk pick up within **60** mile radius of **Perham.** Tanker endorsement required.

Competitive starting wage Rotating Schedule. Excellent benefits package for full time. On-the-job training provided.

Apply in person at Lakes Area Cooperative 457 3rd Ave. SE Perham, MN or call Luke, 218-346-1682 or apply online at: lakesareacoop.com/ forms/employment

# MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE For Sale Country Fresh Farm Eggs 218-770-3513

# DOGS



**AKC Standard Poodles** Gorgeous, family raised on farm AKC pups, OFA tested parents, nunting/companion/working dogs Vet checked, up to date on shots \$1500. 218-590-7106 www.Poodlesaround.com

#### **APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

Lake Home. Hoffman Lake. 3bed. 2 ba.18 mi So,. DL. Per-ham Schools. \$1,055. mo. Plus utilities. 1 yr lease required. Ref Required. 218-841-4863

Grow Perham LLC. has 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments available. Heat, water, sewer, garbage and garage included. Washer/dryer in unit. 6 month

lease. No smoking or pets. Please call 218-346-3255 for showing. (218) 346-3255 or email: helmeke@eot.com

#### **REAL ESTATE** MISCELLANEOUS

Frazee/Evergreen area Live ON-SITE 6 Tract

Real Estate Auction. Wednesday May 4th Starting at 10AM.

at 10AM. Owners: Brenneman, Schmucker, & Gingerich. All properties are located near Perham and Frazee in Becker County. Properties include Homesteads and farm sites with multiple out buildings, farm and pasture land, recre-ational and hunting land. Pre-view Tuesday, April 19th from 3-6PM. 3-6PM. For more information contact

Bachmann Auctioneers, LLC, Bachmann Carow Real Estate Inc. 218-346-7325, Vince 218-640-7653, Austin 218-841-2469 visit or www.bachmannauctioneers.com

Lic03-23

#### **MN LEGALS**

#### **ADVERTISEMENT FOR** BIDS

PROJECT: New York Mills City Hall Boiler Replacement

OWNER: City of New York Mills Sealed proposals for the work associated with the replacement of two boilers and ancillary items at city hall for the city of New York Milles, Min-nesota will be received at the City Clerk's office, 28 West Centennial 84 Drive, New York Mills, Minnesota, until 2:00 p.m. Central Time Zone, Tuesday, May 3rd, 2022, at which time they will be opened and publicallv read

Single prime bids for mechanical work will be accepted.

Bids shall be in accordance with, and Bids shall be in accordance with, and submitted on supplied Bid Form within, from Bidding Documents pre-pared by JPK Engineering, LLC, 1325 23rd Street South, Suite E, Fargo, ND 58103, Failure to use supplied bid forms will result in rejection

#### **MN LEGALS**

of the Bid. One hard copy of the Bidding Docu-ments (Project Drawings, Specifications, and Addendums) may be obtained by prime bidders upon pay-ment of a refundable deposit of Fifty ment of a refundable deposit of Fifty dollars (\$50.00) from JPK Engineer-ing, LLC, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday, or \$25 non-refundable fee of Twenty-Five dollars (\$25.00) to receive an electronic version of the Project Drawings and Specifications. The same documents may be examined at the following locations until Bid opening time: opening time: North Dakota Builders Exchanges:

Fargo

The deposit may be refunded pro-vided the plan set is returned promptly and complete, including Addenda within 10 days of the bid. Pre-Bid Inspection: Access to the building is restricted; A

pre-bid inspection is scheduled for Wednesday, April 20th, 2022 at 2:00 p.m., local time. Interested sub-bidders may also attend. Bidders will meet at the north door towards the west end of City Hall. Bidders can park in the lot located to the north of the building

the building. Each bidder shall fully inform themselves prior to bidding as to existing conditions and limitations under which the Work is to be performed, and include in the bid a sum to cover the cost of items necessary to per-form the Work as set forth in the Contract Documents. No allowance will be made to any Contractor because of the lack of such examination or knowledge. The submission of a bid will be considered as conclusive evi-dence that the Contractor(s) has made such examination

Each Bid submitted shall consist of one sealed envelope clearly marked "Bid Proposal". The Bid Proposal en-velope shall be marked with the con-tractor's name and address, the York Mills City Hall Boiler Replace-ment, and the bid date Tuesday, May 3rd, 2022.

3rd, 2022. Included in the envelope marked "Bid Proposal", a Bidder's Security Bond in a sum equal to five percent (5%) of the full amount of the Bid to the City of New York Mills, executed by a surety company authorized to do business in Minnesota; the bond shall be for the highest amount of the Bidder's total bid combination including add alternates.

In the envelope marked "Bid Proposal" each prime contractor shall submit 2 copies of the Bid form sup-plied with the Bidding Documents or through addenda. On the envelope containing the Bid Proposal form, bid-der shall acknowledge receipt of all addende Refer to the Information to addenda. Refer to the Information to Bidders for specific bid submittal in-structions. Bids submitted that do not follow the bidding requirements will be returned unopened. All bids must be upon the basis of

cash payment for the work and mate-rials and must be sealed. All con-struction items covered in the contract must be completed by the defined schedule No base bids or alternate bids may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after the date and time set for the opening of bids

The City of New York Mills reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informalities therein. The successful bidder is required at the time the Contract is executed to provide a Sales Tax Certificate, Workers' Compensation Certificate, Certifi-cate of Insurance to include Builders Risk coverage and Company Safety Manual.

City of New York Mills New York Mills, MN Julie Roberts City Clerk (4/11, 4/18, 4/25)

#### **DEAD LAKE TOWNSHIP NOTICE**

Dead Lake Township Supervisors will be having their road tour on April 23, 2022

The Supervisors will be leaving the Dead Lake Town Hall at 9:00 am Kim Wells DLT Clerk 4/14. 4/21

#### **MN LEGALS**

#### Part-time **Road Maintenance** Worker

Opening for part-time Grader Opera-tor. Performs routine equipment maintenance & inspects equipment on regular basis. Complies with safety precautions. Must have ability to operate equipment and machinery. Previous experience preferred but not required. Wages depends on experience. For more details, call Justin Kirchenwitz (218-298-4024) Send resumes to Dead Lake Township, PO-Box 54, Richville, MN 56576 AA/EOE

#### **Dead Lake Township Public Notice**

Request For Chloride on Township Roads

Property owners wanting dust control on their road for 2022 must make a request to the Dead Lake Township Board by May 15, 2022. Please include the following

A. Clarify mark the section and meas urement that you want the chloride to be applied on. B. The contact name, address, and

telephone number. The cost of dust control shall be

shared equally between the Township and the property owners on a 50:50 basis. The property owner cost will be \$.52 per foot. Full payment must be 15. Send request and payment to Dead Lake Township, PO Bos 54, Richville, MN 56576.

Justin Kirchenwitz Chairman

218-298-4024 4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12

## **Official Publication**

County of Otter Tail Notice of Public Hearing and Intent to Consider Plans for Redistricting of County Commissioner Districts in Accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 375.01 to 375.025

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 375.025, Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, the 26th day of April, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners will bald a public because in a commissioner of the april of the appendix of the app County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing in the Commis-sioners'/Otter Tail Lake Rooms of the Otter Tail County Government Serv-ices Center, 500 Fir Ave W, in the City of Fergus Falls, for the purpose of considering preliminary plans for the redistricting of Otter Tail County Com-missioner Districts and for the pur-pose of redistricting Otter Tail County Commissioner Districts. A copy of the preliminary plans under considera-tion with all attachments and support-ing documentation shall be available ing documentation shall be available for public inspection in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer during regular office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and on the Otter Tail County website at https://ottertailcountymn.us/redis-

tricting. Any citizen intending to submit a plan for consideration in the redistricting of Otter Tail County Commissioners Dis-tricts must do so no later than Friday,

April 15th, 2022. Wayne Stein, County Auditor March 30, 2022 4/7. 4/14. 4/21

#### PUBLIC NOTICE ATTENTION: PERHAM CITY RESIDENTS HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Perham Public Works Department will be flushing hydrants starting at 10:00 pm on Sunday, April 24, 2022 and finish on or before Friday, May 6, 2022. Because of the flushing, you may notice particles or discol-ored water for a short duration in your business & household faucets. If this occurs, run your water for a few min-utes and it should clear up.

The purpose of flushing is to clean out deposits in the water mains that have built up. Thank you for your cooperation. Jeremie Schossow Public Works Director 4/14, 4/21

apartmentsHQ 1 www.apartmentsHQ.com



**MILK TRUCK** DRIVER

Specialist The East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District is seeking an individual to fill a full-time Shoreland Specialist position located in the Perham field office. A bachelor's degree in Conservation and Natural Resource Management, Environmental Science, Soil Science, Soil and Water Conservation Technology or closely related field or an equivalent of education and related work experience. Erosion and Stormwater Management Certification

and basic understanding of civil engineering practices is preferred. Applicants must have valid driver's license. For a full job description and application contact the EOT SWCD office at (218) 346-9105, located at 801 Jenny Ave SW, Perham MN 56573 or visit www.eotswcd.org An Equal Opportunity Employer.



Condominiums/



Certain income restrictions apply Contact DW Jones Management 218-850-1438 or our website www.dwjonesmanagement.com



			C	CR	$\cap$	2	Ν	סר	n			
				יחי				חכ				
1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13				-	14			
15				16				17			-	
18			19					20			-	
			21				22					
23	24	25				26				27	28	29
	24	25				20				21	28	29
30					31				32			
33				34				35				
		36	37				38					
39	40					41				42	43	44
45					46		<u> </u>	-		47	-	
48					49					50	-	
51					52		<u> </u>	-		53		
01					52							
ACROSSDOWN25. Grappled1. Cut1. Hunting dogs, for short26. Unopened flower 28. Strong brew2. Period in history3. Bog product31. Bunny's motion13. Speak4. Sheds32. Informed14. City vehicle5. Surfaced34. Created15. Lingerie item6. Word of woe35. Colorful march16. Up for grabs7lodge38. Heredity factors20. Was sick9. San Francisco attraction: 2 wds.39. Slender21. Timeworn10. Wheel rod11. Knotted22. Pesperate10. Wheel rod40. Chess piece23. Patches of grass22. Speck33. Relay section20. Proves human23. Relay section24. "Bells Ringing"44. Sound quality 46. Massage								v er otion urch ctors e it ount				
(s 36.E) 38.Gi 39.Cl 41.Ju 45.Cl 47.Si 45.Cl 47.Si 48.Hi 49.Pr 50.Sc 51.Ri 52.Lc	or tudiec kchang uy's d hose ury's j lassica urprise ad an re-own oft me esults	I) ge late udgm al dar ed she obliga ned etal	icer out ation		H C C F F F F F F F C K K		В В В В В В В В В В В В В В В В В В В		<ul> <li>A</li> <li>A&lt;</li></ul>		E E E M M E E E E E	日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日

#### SUDOKU

Fun by the Numbers. Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

	7						9	
4				6			5	
		9	8				3	1
5			2					
	3					8		
			3		9			4
8			4					5
6						9		
				7				2

#### **HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:**

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and b

figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

once in each row, column and box. You can														
	TODAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED													
2	4	F	8	Z	9	G	6	3						
3	8	6	G	2	F	L	4	9						
G	9	L	3	6	<b>7</b>	F	2	8						
4	2	G	6	F	3	8	9	Z						
9	٢	8	4	G	Z	2	3	6						
6	Z	3	9	8	2	4	ŀ	G						
ŀ	3	9	Z	4	8	6	G	2						
Z	G	2	٢	9	6	3	8	4						
8	6	4	2	3	G	9	Z	F						

# Organ donation group gets 'failing' grade

## Federal review dings LifeSource; organization says rating based on 'anomaly' year

#### By Paul John Scott Perham Focus

ROCHESTER, Minn. LifeSource, the organ transplantation organization for Minnesota, the Dakotas and western Wisconsin, has dropped below a critical threshold in a federal review designed to shorten organ waitlists, although a top executive says the change is based on "an anomaly" due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the review, contained in an annual report released by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services earlier this month, the 33-year-old Minneapolis based nonprofit has been downgraded to a bottom-level, Tier 3 status termed as "failing."

The downgrading has no immediate consequences for LifeSource, one of what's known as an Organ Procurement Organization. But organizations that rank within Tier 3 at the end of the current contract in 2026 will lose their certification.

Since 2021, the OPO Annual Public Aggregated Performance Report has ranked the nation's donor organizations according to a complex formula evaluating their ability to enlist eligible donors and arrange for the transplantation of organs compared to other such organizations. Due to reporting delays, the



Joe Ahlquist / Post Bulletin

LifeSource is an organ procurement organization based in Minneapolis.

reports draw on twoyear-old data.

LifeSource was joined this year by 21 other organizations deemed to be "failing." The rankings were not announced formally, but CMS posts them publicly at the end of the first quarter. The next ratings, due by April of 2023, will reflect data from 2021.

"The 2022 OPO Annual Performance Report assesses performance in 2020, and that year was an anomaly for Life-Source," says LifeSource Chief Strategy Officer Susan Mau Larson in a statement. "This is evident when placed in the context of performance prior to 2020 and since." Mau Larson said LifeSource had its best year to date in 2019 and

trajectory of increasing has fallen from 38th to donation." 46th place in the new

"Donation in our region was severely impacted by the pandemic," the statement continued. "In 2021, donations in our service began to increase and that has continued into 2022." Mau Larson says LifeSource anticipates caring for 268 donors in 2022, "which is a 30% increase above the highest year in our history."

CMS, which compares the nation's 57 OPO organizations to each other. drew on data from 2019 at the time of its first comparative performance evaluation, a 2021 Report in which LifeSource garnered 38th place out of what was then 58 organizations studied, the bottom position in Tier "began 2020 on a strong 2. Since then, LifeSource

46th place in the new report.

CMS says that the OPO would have needed to increase its performance by 12 donors or 72 organs in the 2021 analysis to reach the median, and by 45 donors or 164 organs to reach the top 25% of all OPOs.

#### **Programs faced first** evaluation in 2021

In 2019 CMS issued a report stating that the OPO system lacked objective metrics, transparency, accountability and incentives for improvement.

program was The launched to address a 400% performance differential between highlow-performing and organ procurement organizations leading to charges that the system was only capturing one-fifth of the donor potential, exacerbating waiting lists unnecessarily.

"COVID has been shown to cause organ failure, and experts project the pandemic will drive a massive spike in the need for transplants," said Greg Segal, Co-found-er of ORGANIZE, a nonprofit that advocates for shorter waiting lists for transplant recipients. "So for OPOs like LifeSource to have gotten worse in 2020 is truly catastrophic for patients."

Segal says its not universal that low performance emerged from the pandemic, citing research finding that despite an early-year dip, 2020 set an all-time high for organ transplants nationally, one driven by an increased potential donor pool due to record "deaths of despair," the term for drug overdoses and suicide.

Little objective, internal data is available on what separates OPO's who perform well from those who perform poorly, but academic studies argue that staffing, leadership and communication all play a role.

A 2020 Commentary in JAMA noted that leadership changes have made large changes in OPO performance elsewhere, citing a doubling

nationally, of donors following such changes in Washington and Oklahoma, and a 40% increase following new leadership in South Carolina. A 2017 study has noted communication differences in low- and high-performing organizations, while other research has specifically noted the need for OPO's to better communicate with Black families.

> LifeSource hired 39 new staff last year, according to Mau Larson, including 26 in clinical operations. Of the 29 hires in 2022 thus far, she said, 23 are in clinical roles. The clinical staff is now risen 15.2% "since the start of 2021," she says and the organization is currently undergoing an executive search following the retirement of its CEO, who "was able to assess our programs and develop a strong, longterm plan," according to Mau Larson.

> "Consequently we are on track for a record-breaking year in donation and well-positioned to attract a new CEO who shares our commitment to constant improvement, growth, and innovation in organ donation and transplantation on behalf of the people of Minnesota, North Dako-ta, South Dakota and western Wisconsin."

Paul John Scott can be reached at pscott@forumcomm.com

#### LINDQUIST

From Page 1

Rowdie knocked on the bathroom door to tell his dad something, "and he heard him moan," Melissa recalled. "When we opened the door, we found he had collapsed on the floor. My son had his cell phone and called 911."

Melissa thought the incident was diabetic-related, as Ben has Type 2 diabetes and doesn't take insulin. The disease is known to progress, and she thought his collapse may have been the first sign that it had.

But when Perham Health EMS arrived, the emergency

Ben's future. We don't know exactly how this journey is going to go, but (the EMTs) at least gave us a chance to keep going and fight."

Melissa and Rowdie drove to Perham to see Ben get airlifted, and then headed to Fargo. Before they arrived, a surgeon called.

'They wanted to remove part of his skull to relieve pressure from the brain swelling," Melissa said. She consented to the surgery.

The operation concluded at around 4:45 p.m. that day, and after that Ben was taken to the intensive care unit.

"We were able to see him within an hour or so after he was out of the surgery," Melissa said. The sight was jarring. Her husband was intubated and missing half of his skull. Melissa learned that the surgical team had removed a large hematoma on the right side of Ben's head, which was what had caused swelling and the stroke. The doctors gave Ben a 10-30% chance of waking up. If he beat the odds, there was great uncertainty about what functions he would be able to regain.

While Ben's life hung in a delicate balance, a steady stream of visitors came to his bedside. In addition to Melissa and Rowdie, the couple's daughter Rylee, 21, and son Rorey, 17, also visited, as did Ben's parents and brother.

Melissa was asked the most difficult question of her life: whether she wanted the doctors to proceed with aggressive life-saving measures.

"I grabbed my kids and told them this is not something Dad and I talked about, but they needed me to make a decision," she said. "We agreed to give him the best shot he could have."

Two days after the surgery, Ben showed promising signs. He began squeezing the doctor's hand, giving a thumbs-up with his right hand, and moving his right leg

speak some, and he just

started eating on his own. 'Right now his biggest frustration has to do with fine motor skills, like moving

a peg from one spot to another," Melissa reported.

As she spoke of her husband's struggle, her voice broke with pride. She said her husband is a fighter who takes on challenges, regardless of the adversity he faces.

"We keep pushing forward and are still doing that now," she said. "We're trying to find the best rehab he can go to, when he is well enough."

Melissa, who is the retail manager of The Nest in Perham, said she's thankful for the kindness the family has seen from their employers, friends, community and strangers. In the joking fashion that married couples often share, she told Ben she wasn't aware that so many people loved him.

medical expenses.

Cindy Byer, of Frazee, arranged the Go Fund Me account, saying she wanted to do something to help her "very outgoing, determined and strong-willed" co-worker at Lakes Area Co-op. Ben is the manager of the co-op's feed department and car wash.

Tammy Nevala, Perham Health's emergency department director, said signs and symptoms of a stroke include: loss of balance, squinting or rubbing of eyes and trouble reading, dizziness, facial drooping. severe headache, weakness, numbness, trouble speaking or confusion.

responders determined that Ben was suffering from a massive stroke. They requested Life Flight transport to Sanford Medical Center in Fargo.

"There are not enough words to express what the Perham EMS did for my family," Melissa said. "Because of their training and quick action...no time was wasted. Every moment during a stroke is critical and those actions may have made the difference on the outcome of

Two weeks after he was admitted to the hospital, he was moved out of the intensive care unit.

Now, six weeks since his near death experience, Ben is able to move both legs, squeeze his hands, give a thumbs-up in response to a doctor's question, write,

"He just nodded and said, 'Of course they do,'" she said.

A fundraiser was recently held to help the family, and a Go Fund Me account was activated to help them pay the costs of daily bills, travel and

"If you have any of the symptoms ... call 911," Nevala directed.

She said urgency is key to surviving a stroke.

"Time is brain," Nevala said. "The sooner you seek help for your stroke symptoms, the more positive outcome (you'll have). According to the Minnesota Department of Health, stroke is the sixth-leading cause of death and one of the leading causes of disability in Minnesota."

#### **ESPORTS**

From Page 1

"I saw us winning the moment we were signing up for esports," added Cupkie. "We definitely deserved it."

The five teammates put in plenty of work, and it paid off. Competing in the video game "Valorant," a charac-ter-based multiplayer game in which characters have special powers and gather weapons to take out opponents, the Perham team lost only a couple of games all season, and won their overall tournaments. When they went to state, they were undefeated, 9-0.

state champi-As ons, they maintain that undefeated record.

Pickrain, Baumgart and Cupkie had prior experience with "Valorant," having played the game on their own before esports was introduced in the Perham school district. The three of them all have high ranks in



**Contributed / Empowering Kids** 

Jacoby Pokrzwinski, Jaxon Pickrain, Levi Baumgart, Marcus Cupkie and Aiden Burke compete together at the esports state tournament in Grand Forks, North Dakota in early April, playing "Valorant" on their computers.

the game, with Pick- attain. rain and Baumgart both "diamond" rank, the third-highest achievable rank, and Cupkie at to play enough games to "immortal" rank, which achieve a rank, but they only the top one percent are well on their way. of players in the region

Pokrzwinski and Burke are newer to "Valorant" and have yet

All of the players are school activity.

dedicated to esports, sharing a love for gaming. They said it's an exciting experience to be able to do something they already enjoyed in their free time as a

"(I got involved because the school) said something about it on the announce-ments," Burke recalled. "I immediately went in and joined that night."

Pokrzwinski's mother saw a post about esports on Facebook and told her son about it, and soon after, he joined.

Cupkie was ready to join before the school even had an esports program: "As a joke, I asked if they thought about doing esports, and surprisingly they said they were thinking about it and that they'd keep me updated," he said.

Already friends, Pickrain and Baumgart joined the team alongside Cupkie when esports was introduced.

And Burke and Pokrzwinski, though new to the group, fit right in and found it easy to work with the team after the first few weeks of getting to know each other.

state competition, competed the team

together seamlessly. "In those final matches, you could tell that (the team members) were coordinated, " said Justin Sonnenberg, general manager of Perham's esports. "They were able to spread out when they needed to, and come together and punch through when they needed to, as well."

Each individual player developed and honed his own skills and niche among the team as the group played and strategized their games. Cupkie creates space and takes on the first fights for the team; Pickrain, Baumgart, and Burke use utilities to help Cupkie take on those fights, and Pokrzwinski supports and defends his teammates.

The five enjoyed a successful year in esports, and according to them, finishing undefeated feels good.

"I know that next season, we're probably all going to do it again, By the time of the said Pokrzwinski. "I'm going to get a PC so that I can practice more."



Elizabeth Vierkant / Perham Focus

Abraham Lincoln, portrayed by Chuck Johnson, contemplates his Gettysburg Address the night before delivering it. The arm band he wears is a mourning band for the son he had recently lost.

#### PLAY

#### From Page 1

first-time playwright had no idea what it would bring.

A few days after the play premiered, Johnson was contacted by Destination Gettysburg, a marketing organization for Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. They heard about Johnson's play — and the awards it won in Wadena — and asked him to perform it during the 159th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, in Gettysburg itself.

This shocked Johnson. Though his play, which brings to life the night President Abraham Lincoln finished writing his famous Gettysburg Address, won Best Lead Actor, Best Original Script, and First Place for Outstanding Play at the Madhatters One Act Play Showcase, the invitation to perform it in Gettysburg was an extra honor he wasn't expecting.

"That just blew me away, and it still does," Johnson told the crowd after a performance of his play at the ITOW Veterans Museum in Perham on Monday, April 4. "It's really challenging and a deep honor for me to represent what Abraham Lincoln might have been thinking while he was preparing the speech."

Johnson first wanted to perform a one-act play about Lincoln after reading, "Killing Lincoln," a book by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard that covers John Wilkes Booth's assassination of the president. Johnson's original vision for the play delved inside the minds of both Booth and Lincoln as they got closer and closer together throughout the night of the assassinaa train ride isn't true. In fact, the president finished it in his room the night before giving the address.

While not much is known about the writing process Lincoln used, Johnson's account is based on research he conducted on the16th president. In his play, Lincoln works through the night, asking himself questions and philosophizing, gradually finishing the address.

Johnson's play is both intellectual and emotional. Lincoln was mourning the loss of his son while he was writing the Gettysburg Address, and Johnson incorporates that into his performance and costume – wearing mourning bands on his arm and hat. As Lincoln questions the thousands of lives lost during both the Battle of Gettysburg and the Civil War, and the lives destroyed by slavery, he breaks down.

"(Lincoln) was a great man," Johnson said. "As you dig deeper into him and see who he was and what he did, you have to be influenced by that. We're lucky that we've had people who've gotten us where we needed to go, and this may be the most primary example."

Johnson will be sharing his play with Lincoln fans and Civil War buffs from all over the country this June 30 to July 3 at Gettysburg, two times a day, during the anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

For those in the Perham area, Johnson will perform his show at the Perham High School auditorium on April 28 as a fundraiser for the Perham Center for the Arts. The play will immediately follow music performed by Lou, Doug, and Phil, at 7 p.m.

"I always knew that Abraham Lincoln was an

# Wear jeans with a purpose April 27 in honor of Denim Day

#### By Someplace Safe staff

Sexual assault awareness month, which occurs each April, is about more than just raising awareness of sexual violence. It is about coming together, educating communities and taking action.

In fact, education and awareness are some of the best ways to prevent sexual violence, sexual harassment and exploitation. One way in which communities can take an active role in raising awareness and supporting survivors is by participating in the annual Denim Day campaign.

So what is Denim Day? Denim Day was first triggered after a 1998 ruling by the Italian Supreme Court. In this case, a rape conviction was overturned due to the justices' belief that since the victim was wearing

tight jeans, she must have helped her attacker remove them, thereby implying consent. The following day, the women in the Italian Parliament came to work wearing jeans in solidarity with the victim. Since then, wearing jeans on Denim Day has become a worldwide symbol against the misconceptions about sexual violence.

► Wear jeans on April 27: Show off your favorite pair of jeans as a visible symbol of support for survivors of sexual violence on Denim Day. Get your friends, coworkers or group members involved in sporting denim for the day.

► Spread the word on social media: Post your participation photos on April 27 and use the hashtag #denimday. Show off your jeans to friends and followers!

▶ Display Denim Day flyers and stickers: Place Denim Day flyers in your office breakroom, hang a flyer on your front door/ window or place one on a community bulletin board. Someplace Safe also has free Denim Day stickers available to participants. Contact Someplace Safe at 218-739-3846 ext. 222 or newsletter@someplacesafe.info to request your Denim Day participation packet.

► Join the Dollars for Denim campaign: You may also choose to support Someplace Safe and local survivors of sexual violence by making a monetary contribution. Consider contributing a few dollars for the "privilege" of wearing jeans. You may also coordinate a Dollars for Denim collection at work, on campus or within your group.

#### LAND

From Page 1

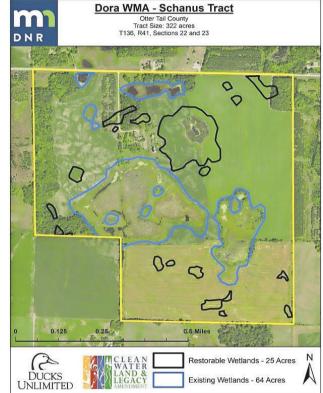
Schneider informed the commissioners that Ducks Unlimited was purchasing the property "to restore and protect wetlands and oak savanna" and to provide a new public hunting area.

"Opportunities for acquisition in the prairie/forest transition zone are rare," read a document presented to county commissioners. "Therefore, this tract represents a unique opportunity to provide public land and recreational opportunities in an area that is otherwise dominated by private land."

The parcel was also noted to be unique in size, as it is twice the size of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' minimum standard of 160 acres to be considered a Wildlife Management Area.

Dora Township is located west of Dent and south of Vergas.

and south of Vergas. Schneider said the plan is to purchase the land this spring. Following the acquisition, the land may be donated to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as soon as 2023. He said the donation date depends on how much time is



Contributed / Ducks Unlimited

This map shows the land that will make up the 322acre protected wetland in Dora Township.

needed to remove the old farm building and tend to other details, such as septic tank removal.

When it comes to taxes on the land, Schneider said when Duck Unlimited acquires the property, the taxes will be paid in full. In 2022 the taxes due were stated to be \$2,372. Documents provided to the commission stated Ducks Unlimited would also pay 2023 taxes before donating the land.

After Ducks Unlimited donates the land to the DNR, Schneider explained that the DNR would make an annual 'payment in lieu of taxes' in future years. He estimated the amount to be \$5,900. The amount was noted to be at least twice as much as the current county taxes for the parcels.

Funding to purchase the land was appropriated from the state's Outdoor Heritage Fund. That requires Ducks Unlimited to transfer the land to the DNR, Schneider said.

There was no approval needed by the commissioners for the project to move forward.

Schneider previously spoke with Dora Township supervisors and said they had a "positive conversation" about the project.



LIOII.

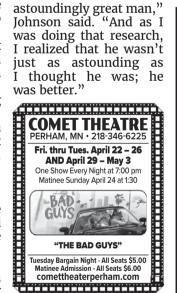
In the end, however, Johnson decided he didn't want his play to portray two people.

"And so I left that behind, but the Abraham bug was there," Johnson said.

Then he read, "Writing the Gettysburg Address," by Martin Johnson, a book exclusively about the writing of the speech, and he was inspired. "I sort of fell into Get-

"I sort of fell into Gettysburg," Johnson continued. "I didn't realize how dramatic it was, and it really lent itself to the drama."

Johnson said the widespread belief that Lincoln wrote the speech during







Located in Perham, MN CALL 346-7678

FOR DETAILS!

# Now That's Something to **Feel Good About**

At Tri-County Health Care, we offer a better approach to primary care: We focus on building a life-long relationship with you and your family. We specialize in care for all ages – but what sets us apart is how our team coordinates your family's care as your needs evolve. Trust compassionate care from a team of providers who remain focused on what matters most: helping you—and your family—live stronger, healthier lives.



is becoming Astera Health



Give your family the best chance for a happy, healthy future together: Call 218-631-3510 to schedule a Primary Care appointment or visit tchc.org/primarycare



Air is life. Make it perfect."

# The perfect air you need. The savings that make it possible.



At Aire Serv / Esser Plumbing & Heating, our flexible financing and rebates help you afford the perfect air you deserve.

Make no payments for 6 months when you finance a new Lennox® system for as little as \$132 A MONTH\*



OFFERS EXPIRE 06/10/2022. CALL TODAY!

#### AIDESEDV -----





a neighborly company

#### 218.346.2138 I esserplumbingandheating.com

Offer expires June 10, 2022.

\*Offer available March 7, 2022 to June 10, 2022. Offer based on a retail price of \$10,000. Requires purchase of qualifying Lennox system. Financing available to well-qualified buyers on approved credit. No down payment required. Financing requires 120 equal monthly payments of \$132 a month of principal and interest after the first 6 months. Normal late charges apply. Cannot be combined with any other Lennox promotional offer. Minimum and maximum amount financed of \$3,000 and \$100,000, respectively. You may prepay your account at any time without penalty. Financing is subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. See Truth in Lending disclosures available from lender for more information. \*\*Rebate requires purchase of qualifying Items between March 7, 2022 to June 10, 2022. Qualifying items must be installed by June 17, 2022. Rebate claims must be submitted (with proof of purchase) to www.lennox.comsumerrebates.com no later than July 1, 2022. Rebate is paid in the form of a Lennox Visa@ Prepaid Card is subject to terms and conditions found or referenced on card and expires 12 months after issuance. Conditions apply. See www.lennox.com/terms-andconditions for complete terms and conditions. © 2022 Lennox Industries Inc. Lennox Dealers are independently owned and operated businesses. E10091-135246-570694

# Men | Women | Veterans College & High School Graduates Join Ovr Team!





#### **Your Career**

Now hiring HVAC and Plumbing Professionals. We will train you! Our teams work on new construction and remodeling projects of all sizes.



#### **Great Pay & Benefits**

Join a company that is family-owned and located in the heart of Minnesota's lakes country. Be a part of a growing community that's also a great place to live, work, play, raise a family and grow your career.



#### **Start Today**

Call **218.346.3530**, email **careers@esserinc.com** or stop by our office at **542 West Main Street** in **Perham** and tell us you're ready to work with a team of experts that's well known in the Lakes Area for their quality of work and team.

careers@esserinc.com | 218.346.3530 | esserplumbingandheating.com