

**Consequences of neglecting your children's dental health**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Children who neglect their dental health are more likely to have cavities, gum disease, and tooth loss.
- Children who neglect their dental health are more likely to have poor school performance.
- Children who neglect their dental health are more likely to have poor self-esteem.
- Children who neglect their dental health are more likely to have poor social skills.
- Children who neglect their dental health are more likely to have poor job prospects.

**evolve**

**centasota**

**dentistry**

**Alexandria Smiles**

**INSIDE**  
**NATIONAL CHILDREN'S**  
**DENTAL HEALTH MONTH**

**PAGE 16-17**



**INSIDE**  
**LOCAL LEGEND IN**  
**THE LIMELIGHT**  
**LIFE, 6**

# Alexandria ECHO PRESS

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## Helping businesses through 'dead zone'

DECA students interview sources for buy local campaign

**By Thalen Zimmerman**  
Alexandria Echo Press

**ALEXANDRIA** — Three Alexandria Area High School DECA students are working on a new social media campaign through Pride of the Lakes to spread awareness on the importance of shopping local, which they will present at the state competition in Minneapolis on March 6-8.

DECA is a global organization that helps students learn business skills.

Zach Frederiksen, 16, Emily Barten, 16, and Madeline Boe, 15, are DECA students at AAHS who partnered with Pride of the Lakes to run a campaign focused on the importance of buying local for their community awareness project.

The campaign is operated through the Pride of the Lakes' Instagram page, where the group features interviews with community residents on the importance of shopping local.

Frederiksen says Pride of the lakes is an initiative started by the Chamber of Commerce, Explore Alexandria Tourism and the

Economic Development Committee. The main goals are to foster a sense of community pride and inform and promote the importance of shopping locally.

"For the past four years, Pride of the Lakes gets three students from the DECA chapter's project management group to run their campaigns, create new campaigns and continue to get pledges," said Frederiksen.

"DECA is kind of what keeps it going and spreads its message around the county," said Boe.

Their goal is to spread awareness about the importance of buying local to the younger generation by using the social media platform Instagram, which is popular with young people.

"The youth are the future of the county since a lot of them will end up staying here. So we're trying to set the foundation, so they know how important shopping local is, and we're trying to make it relevant," said Madeline.

**INTERVIEW:** Page 17



**Thalen Zimmerman / Alexandria Echo Press**  
From left, Zach Frederiksen, Madeline Boe, and Emily Barten interview Echo Press Editor Al Edenloff about shopping at local businesses for a DECA project they will present at the state level.



**Photos by Travis Gulbrandson / Alexandria Echo Press**

Soprano Nicole Lambrecht sings a selection of "The Lord of the Rings" score on Saturday.

## A TRIBUTE TO HOLLYWOOD

**By Travis Gulbrandson**  
Alexandria Echo Press

**T**he Central Lakes Symphony Orchestra gave a performance at the Alexandria Area High School's Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Feb. 12.

The theme for the evening was Sound of the Cinema, and featured performances of works by John Williams, Howard Shore and Dimitri Tiomkin, among others. Vocal solos were performed by Nicole Lambrecht and Nicholas Swanson.

The orchestra was conducted by Brad Lambrecht.

Email reporter [Travis Gulbrandson](mailto:TravisGulbrandson@echopress.com) at [tgulbrandson@echopress.com](mailto:tgulbrandson@echopress.com)



Brad Lambrecht conducts the Central Lakes Symphony Orchestra in a concert that was given on Saturday.

## Funeral services held for worker who died at Alexandria 3M plant

**By Al Edenloff**  
Alexandria Echo Press

**LONG PRAIRIE** — Funeral services were held Monday morning, Feb. 14, for the worker who died at the Alexandria 3M plant.

Dale Skillings, 63, of Long Prairie, died from

the injuries he received after he was caught in a machine on Feb. 8. The funeral took place at Trinity Lutheran Church and arrangements were handled by the Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home.

Skillings served his country in the U.S.



**Skillings**

working at 3M in Alexandria in 2013, according

to his obituary.

Family members said that Skillings was known for the love he had for his grandchildren. "He never missed a chance to watch them in a school activity, dance, ball games, or wrestling. Any opportunity to spend time with them, he was there. He

made himself available at the drop of a hat to give the kids a ride to any activity or appointment when needed," the obituary stated.

Skillings also enjoyed fishing, hunting and camping over the years.

The obituary said he had "one of the big-

gest hearts known to his family and friends and would have given the shirt off his back to help anyone placing others before himself."

Survivors include his wife, Mary of Long Prairie; son Jeramy (Andrea)

**FUNERAL:** Page 16

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### ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL

## Big project on 18th Ave. moves ahead

**By Al Edenloff**  
Alexandria Echo Press

**ALEXANDRIA** — A major street project on 18th Avenue took a big step forward Monday.

The Alexandria City Council voted to call for bids on the \$6.9 million project that will

reconstruct 18th Avenue between Nokomis Street and Fillmore Street.

The bid will include all of the construction, reconstruction and realignment of 18th Avenue, the reconstruction of Hawthorne Street between 17th Avenue

and 18th Avenue, the reconstruction of Jefferson Street between 12th Avenue and 18th Avenue, and a right turn lane on Broadway.

It will also replace old waterlines, outdated sewer system, and eliminates a lift station that would need to be replaced soon.

The work is scheduled to take place this summer. A 3,000-foot section of the street will be built as a 10-ton urban design road with curb, gutter and sidewalks. It

will also include storm sewer with catch basins and manhole covers.

The cost of the project will be split between ALP Utilities, Alexandria Lake Area Sanitary District, the city's stormwater utility, and federal and state aid. The city's share of the cost is estimated at about \$260,000 and includes stormwater utility funds and landscaping.

Since last September, the cost of the project has increased by

**PROJECT:** Page 15

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# IN YOUR CORNER

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Wednesday, February 16, 2022  
Volume 34, Number 13  
USPS Number 918-840  
Published twice weekly  
(Wed. & Fri.)

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320-763-1214

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Subscription rates: Wednesday & Friday Mail Delivery + Digital Access: \$139.88 for 52 weeks or \$78.00 for 26 weeks  
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Postmaster: Send address changes to Echo Press, P.O. Box 549, Alexandria, MN 56308-0549

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 AM to 4:30 PM, Friday 8 AM to 12 PM

## LAKES AREA FORECAST

It was a cold weekend across the state of Minnesota this past weekend. International Falls past weekend. International Falls dropped to -40 on Sunday morning. Meanwhile, Cook fell to



Mark Anthony  
Meteorologist

-38, while Orr and Big Fork both plummeted to a cold -36. Park Rapids was a "warmer" -30 on Sunday morning. Much of the rest of central, west central and parts of northern Minnesota woke up to readings of -10 to -25 with clear skies. This lack of cloud cover allowed for temperatures to fall off very drastically overnight. An Alberta Clipper moved

through late Sunday and brought some additional snow to the region. One to two inches of snow were common north of I-94 due to this fast moving system.

We warmed up on Monday and Tuesday as a weak warm front pushed across the state along with fairly light winds. However, on Tuesday we had another very windy day. Wind gusts to 30 to 40 mph were found across the state.

Looking ahead, on the backside of that system another shot of colder air will invade the state of Minnesota. Wednesday night we will drop below zero once again for overnight lows with little warm up expected for Thursday. Another shot of snow will be possible on Friday as another weak disturbance is forecasted to push across the area.

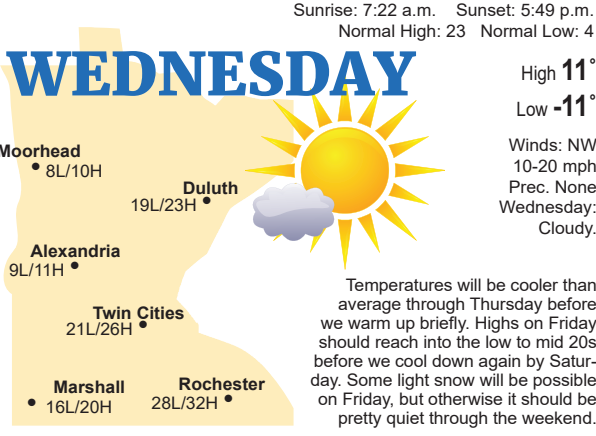
## WEATHER HISTORY

On this date in 1981, temperatures were very warm across the state. Highs climbed into the 50s and 60s across much of the state.

## WEATHER FACT

Did you know that February is our coldest month in North America? The reason is due to "cumulative cooling and a relatively low sun angle."

## MN AT A GLANCE



## OUTLOOK

**THURSDAY** Partly cloudy.



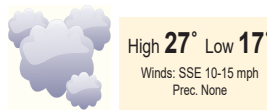
**FRIDAY** Mostly cloudy to cloudy and windy, 30% chance of light snow.



**SATURDAY** Partly cloudy.



**SUNDAY** Mostly cloudy.



Your 5-day forecast is brought to you by  
Alomere Health

# Driver improvement program offered in March

## Staff report

Alexandria Echo Press

The Minnesota Highway Safety Center will offer several driving courses in March aimed at drivers age 55 and up.

It is offering two four-hour refresher driver improvement courses and one eight-hour first-time course.

The first refresher course will be held from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, and the second will take place 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 26. Both sessions will take place at the Alexandria Senior Center.

It is also offering an eight-hour first-time driver improvement course over two days, from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, March 16-17.

The courses are open to



Echo Press file photo

A vehicle enters a roundabout in Alexandria.

the public, and the class will save drivers 10% on their auto insurance. Completion of an eight-hour course qualifies drivers for the discount, and they are required to take the four-hour refresher course every three years to maintain the discount.

A Minnesota Highway Safety & Research Cen-

ter certified instructor will provide updates on defensive-driving tips, changes in laws, vehicle technology, and traffic safety.

The cost of the four-hour refresher course is \$24 and the eight-hour course costs \$28. For more information or to register, visit [www.driverdiscountprogram.com](http://www.driverdiscountprogram.com) or call 1-888-234-1294.

## FOR THE RECORD

### Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management Meeting Thursday, Feb. 17

**Location:** 2115 Jefferson Street, Alexandria  
**8 a.m.**

1. Call to order
2. The Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approve Feb. 17 agenda
4. Approve minutes of Jan. 20 meeting
5. Financial reports
6. WTE Plant operations reports

7. Landfill Operations reports
8. MRF Operations reports
9. Plant maintenance updates
10. SCORE programs update
11. Bills
12. Other business: a. Capital projects; b. Resolution No. 3: 2022 – Bond agent fee transfer; c. Resolution No. 4: 2022 – SCORE transfer; d. Resolution No. 5: 2022 – Waste designation ordinance; e. Approval – Hauler delivery agreements; f. Approval – Organics processing agree-

ment; g. Approval – Tanker trailer; h. Approval – Estenson Environmental; i. March 17 board meeting time adjust.

*This agenda is as of Feb. 14, and is subject to change.*

To join the meeting from a computer, tablet, or smartphone, click here.

To dial in by phone, call 312-626-6799 and enter the meeting ID, 865 7498 7815, and access code 615700.

## COVID-19 CASE COUNT

Total number of COVID-19 cases confirmed by the Minnesota Department of Health in Douglas County and the surrounding area as of Feb. 14 (cumulative):

- ▶ Douglas County – 10,562 (113 deaths).
- ▶ Grant – 1,423 (12 deaths).
- ▶ Otter Tail – 13,048 (160 deaths).
- ▶ Pope – 2,867 (17 deaths).
- ▶ Stearns – 49,384 (351 deaths).

- ▶ Stevens – 2,550 (13 deaths)
- ▶ Todd – 6,499 (54 deaths).
- ▶ Statewide (cumulative) – 1,336,678 (11,830 deaths).
- ▶ Active cases in Douglas County – 186 (according to Horizon Public Health as of Feb. 10).

People (16 and older) with at least one vaccine dose in Douglas County – 20,853 or 68.8% of the population (as of Feb. 10, adjusted).



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is National  
Children's  
Dental Health  
Month

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**By Travis Gulbrandson**  
Alexandria Echo Press

ALEXANDRIA — A Circle Pines, Minn., man was in Douglas County District Court on Wednesday, Feb. 9, in relation to a drug charge. Daniel Scott Crocker, 56, currently an inmate at Douglas County Jail, appeared via Zoom for an omnibus hearing after he was arrested in Alexandria on Jan. 10 with almost 60 grams of methamphetamine. According to the statement of probable cause, Crocker was arrested in a parking lot after he agreed to come to town and sell two ounces of methamphetamine to a cooperating defendant for \$1,750. When he was searched by the police, they found a glass pipe and two baggies containing crystalline substance that field-tested positive for methamphetamine, the statement read. The baggies weighed 59.7 grams — slightly more than 2 ounces — inclusive of packaging. Todd Lawrence Berg, who was driving the vehicle, was found to have two smaller bags containing 15.6 grams and 2.5 grams of what was found to be methamphetamine, the statement read. Crocker will be released from jail if he posts a cash bail in the amount of \$10,000 or surety bond in the amount of \$100,000, or an unconditional cash bail or surety bond in the amount of \$150,000. A request to lower his bail was denied. Crocker has been charged with felony controlled substance crime in the first degree — methamphetamine sales in excess of 17 grams, and felony controlled substance crime in the first degree — methamphetamine possession in excess of 50 grams. Both charges have a maximum sentence of 30 years imprisonment and a \$1 million fine. His next court appearance will be for a contested omnibus hearing on Feb. 22.

Email reporter Travis Gulbrandson at [tgulbrandson@echochopress.com](mailto:tgulbrandson@echochopress.com)

**DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**Monday, Jan. 31**  
Suspicious activity, person slumped in vehicle at location, fell asleep waiting for laundry, Main Street, Evansville.  
Suspicious vehicle, First Avenue W, Evansville.  
Driving complaint, vehicle all over the road, cited for driving conduct and proof of insurance, County Road 17 SE.  
Assist other agency, Oak Street S, Miltona.  
Assist other agency, 10th Avenue E.  
Motorist assist, vehicle is parked, unoccupied with flashers on, front wheel is disabled, spoke to R/O, who is calling a tow truck, she is not on scene any longer, Green Lane NE.  
Assist other agency, Oak Tree Road NE, Miltona.  
Public assist, caller has two gun triggers/gun parts that he wants to surrender, Golden Gate Avenue SE.  
Assist other agency, City of Osakis.  
**Tuesday, Feb. 1**  
10-50 with one vehicle, trailer tipped over, blocking the road, no injuries, County Road 3 NE, Osakis.  
Motorist assist, vehicle won't turn on, vehicle towed, County Road 71 NE, Nelson.  
10-50 with one vehicle, vehicle rolled over, person stuck inside vehicle, citation issued to person for no Minnesota drivers license, County Road 2 SE, Osakis.  
Theft, person has had multiple checkbooks taken and checks written from them, has possible suspect, North Meades Addition Drive SE.  
**Wednesday, Feb. 2**  
Driving complaint, vehicle swerving all over the road, State Highway 29 S.  
Assist other agency, Traverse County.  
Driving complaint, Todd

County investigating a vehicle in the ditch with a possible intoxicated driver in their county, it was gone when they got there, believed to be heading south, County Road 14 NE, Eagle Bend.  
Assist other agency, East Oak Knoll Drive NE.  
**Thursday, Feb. 3**  
Assist other agency, Willow Drive.  
Motorist assist, school bus pulled over to the side of the road, allowing vehicles to pass, Centennial Drive NW, Garfield.  
Fraud, caller states his parents are being scammed and are out of money, County Road 102 NE, Parkers Prairie.  
Public assist, giving person a ride, Third Avenue W.  
Fraud, in October caller's company sold a product to a male party in Florida, recently he reported it as fraud and received his money back even though he got the product, phone number caller was using to communicate with the male party has been disconnected, County Road 40 NW, Garfield.  
Assist other agency, Sixth Avenue W.  
Public assist, caller locked her keys in her house and her car is locked as well, she might have a spare set in her glovebox, able to open front door without damage, West Lake Jessie Drive SE.  
Public assist, First Avenue E, Osakis.  
Assist other agency, assisted with tow, First Avenue E, Osakis.  
Suspicious activity, caller states there's a lot of activity going on at location that they can see through the bay windows, County Road 82 SE.  
Suspicious vehicle, vehicle was parked in the road, left message for property owner regarding moving the vehicle, Long Lake Road NW,

Brandon.  
Motorist assist, vehicle is off road and not a hazard, called phone number for R/O and no answer, County Road 114 NW.  
Assist other agency, First Avenue E, Osakis.  
**ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Monday, Jan. 31**  
Suspicious vehicle, person stated that he was waiting outside to pick up his girlfriend, State Highway 29 S.  
Public assist, lift assist, no injuries, Fillmore Street.  
Suspicious person, Fifth Avenue E.  
Theft, caller wanted to report that Saturday night a package was taken from the porch and a couple of weeks ago she saw a male walking around her house early in the morning, has it on video, Elm Street.  
Suspicious activity, caller reports her mail was tampered with, advised caller to talk with the Social Security office about getting her number flagged, Ash Street.  
Suspicious activity, found a bike by the back window and tracks with a backpack and other things that looks suspicious, items logged as found property, Oak Street.  
Public assist, East Golf Course Road NE.  
Public assist, Sixth Avenue E.  
Suspicious activity, caller states a black male is trying to break into cars, person stated that male stated that he could steal this vehicle if he wanted and he would never see it again, person wanted the threat documented, Fourth Avenue E.  
Motorist assist, minivan with hazards on, caller was unsure if there was anyone around the vehicle, Birch Avenue.  
Public assist, North Park

Street.  
**Tuesday, Feb. 1**  
Public assist, North Park Street.  
Juvenile trouble, Pioneer Road SE.  
Public assist, Lark Street.  
Property damage crash, looks like snowplow hit the electrical box at location, Rosewood Lane.  
Public assist, Fourth Avenue E.  
Public assist, 17th Avenue E.  
Personal injury crash, two-vehicle accident in parking lot, 72-year-old female injured, 34th Avenue E.  
Theft, female took caller's credit card and won't give it back, Nokomis Street.  
Driving complaint, cars whipping around in parking lot, State Highway 29 S.  
Motorist assist, two vehicles, both parties talked to about their driving conduct, 22nd Avenue E.  
**Wednesday, Feb. 2**  
Theft, someone stole one of the caller's packages from his mailbox, Elm Street.  
Public assist, lift assist, Lake Street.  
Theft, person's apartment door was ajar this morning when she woke up, was locked when she went to sleep, medications are missing from her kitchen counter, Arbor Crossing SE.  
Motorist assist, driver pulled into parking lot to wait for dad, Nokomis Street.  
Suspicious activity, maintenance man found an opened window in their old building and would like someone to walk through with him, walked through building, screen was still on window, no sign of entry, Ninth Avenue W.  
Juvenile trouble, Ashley Lane.  
Theft, caller states that someone stole her prescription medications, State High-

way 29 N.  
Property damage crash, hit and run, Eighth Avenue E.  
10-50 hit and run, someone hit caller's vehicle and left, State Highway 29 S.  
Suspicious activity, North McKay Avenue.  
Assist other agency, traffic escort, County Road 73 NE.  
Public assist, Seventh Avenue E.  
Property damage crash, two-vehicle crash, no injuries, blocking, Dakota Street.  
Public assist, North McKay Avenue.  
Public assist, lift assist, Pioneer Road SE.  
**Thursday, Feb. 3**  
Drug-related activity, Agate Drive.  
Public assist, lift assist, Eighth Avenue E.  
Public assist, caller works at a local restaurant and states that there is a male customer that continually makes the females feel uncomfortable, Scenic Drive NE.  
Theft, previous general managers may have stolen money from deposits in back, State Highway 29 S.  
Suspicious activity, North McKay Avenue.  
Public assist, caller has questions about parking his semi at location tonight, 45th Avenue E.  
Public assist, Eighth Avenue E.  
Suspicious person, male wearing short-sleeved shirt laying in the snow bank, was stumbling around outside, public assist ride home, Fifth Avenue E.  
Property damage crash, minor crash, no injuries, not blocking, person cited for failure to stop for stop sign, 10th Avenue E.  
**This is not a comprehensive report of all local law enforcement activity, rather, a brief recap of daily calls for service.**


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**PROPHECY**  
**CONFERENCE**

**PART 1: CURRENT EVENTS FEB 17TH-18TH 6:30PM**

**PART 2: COMING EVENTS MARCH 17TH-18TH 6:30PM**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**  
**PASTOR BRENT WINTER**  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:**  
**PASTOR DAVID ISEMINGER**  
**616.755.3682**

**Q&A**  
**EACH NIGHT**

**Gospel Light**  
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**1210 Broadway St.**  
**Alexandria MN**



## AN ECHO PRESS EDITORIAL

# Take sting out of winter with these tips

**T**ired of shivering through this long winter and struggling for ways to pay your heating bill? January 2022 was the coldest January in Minnesota in eight years.

There is a way to fight back – follow energy-saving and safety tips to lower your heating bill while continuing to stay safe and warm.

CenterPoint Energy, which serves nearly 900,000 residential and business customers in the state, provided a news release during another recent cold spell last week containing this advice:

- Make sure your heating system is operating safely and efficiently. Change or clean your furnace filter monthly. A dirty filter restricts airflow and can increase the operating cost of your furnace by as much as 10%.
- Set your thermostat to no more than 68 degrees when you're at home and awake. Lower it further at night or when you're away from home for at least several hours.
- Use a programmable thermostat to match your household's schedule by automatically lowering the heating temperature at night or while you're away from home.
- Make your home more airtight to keep cold air out. Use caulk or weather-stripping to seal leaks around doors, windows and other openings such as pipes or ducts. Close fireplace dampers when not in use so you don't lose heat.
- Keep curtains and blinds open during the day to allow the sun's heat to warm your house. Close curtains and blinds at night so you don't lose heat when the sun goes down.

For more information about energy-saving tips and energy-efficiency incentives and programs visit [CenterPointEnergy.com/SaveEnergy](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/SaveEnergy).

More important than saving some bucks is making sure you're not putting your safety at risk. Every winter, the law

enforcement blotter contains incidents where people are using space heaters, stoves or other heat sources that can lead to trouble – fires, carbon monoxide poisoning, explosions

Here are some safety tips:

- Check your carbon monoxide (CO) and smoke alarms. They are essential to warn you of a fire or dangerous conditions involving a furnace, water heater, fireplace or stove. Minnesota law requires every home to have at least one operational CO alarm within 10 feet of every room used for sleeping. Test your alarms monthly and change batteries as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Know the signs of CO poisoning. Early symptoms such as headache and fatigue are similar to the flu, but without a fever. Continued CO exposure can lead to more severe headaches, dizziness, nausea, difficulty thinking clearly and fainting. If everyone in a household is experiencing symptoms, it may be CO poisoning. Get fresh air immediately, and call 911.
- Immediately report a suspected natural gas leak. If you smell the "rotten egg" odor of natural gas, immediately leave on foot, go to a safe location and call both 911 and gas supplier. Don't use electric switches/outlets, phones (including cell phones), drive or start a car inside or close to the location, or do anything that could cause a spark.

For more information about natural gas safety at [CenterPointEnergy.com/Safety](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/Safety).

We have another month before the first calendar day of spring arrives, but as every Minnesotan knows, cold spells and blizzards can linger through April. Be prepared for it.

# Finding answers for senior citizens

**I**t doesn't seem like we have ever had a time when we had more people in need of personal and financial support than we have developed since this pandemic period. Nor a period when more needs are identified.



**KATHRYN  
LEBRASSEUR**  
*In the Know*

Thankfully, we have never had so many services developed to help resolve those needs. Our biggest problem is where to obtain help for ourselves or others and what the guidelines are for receiving it. Our non-profits and service groups are busy finding answers.

Due to my own work experience and personal age, I am more aware of programs offered to seniors and the reluctance of the over 60 group to ask for help. Recently, the senior is often portrayed as that very fortunate individual who has only to make a telephone call and get enrolled in Medicare and he will never have another problem. All health, nutrition, and transportation needs can be taken care of by that phone call. Also, the senior will be getting a raise in Social Security that is going to put lots of extra money into his Social Security.

The ads do not point out that a raise in Social Security for most of our true elderly is canceled out by a raise in Medicare. Most of our seniors worked their entire life and paid into retirement programs. But, if you have heard of inflation, you will understand that they never made the salaries paid today and their benefits are low and inflation makes things unaffordable.

A great many are entirely dependent on Social Security. Our elderly need our understanding and our help. Today's programs are created/improved to assist people of all ages based on needs. It is the American way to provide for all in need regardless of age or sex or mental health. However, the age of "being a good employee means having a job for life" has changed and many are being laid off in their 50s and 60s due to technology and seniority pay. Dementia and mental health are issues for all ages.

Age Friendly is truly expanding its borders and meaning. Our Area Agency serving nine counties has a group working on areas of need. AARP has a program. The State of Minnesota has recently gained that status. Our local group, originally Age Friendly Alexandria, has changed its name to Lakes Area Age Friendly. They are all working to improve services and funding for all. In many cases the needs are defined separately for rural and urban areas. Hence Age Friendly Alexandria has changed its name to Lakes

Area Age Friendly as most of the helpful services are available over a many county area. If you need assistance or are your "Brother's Keeper" and want to help others, there is a new program called Connecting Communities.

In other words, the availability of help is based on need and cataloged that way, rather than by the name of organizations. Example: We have eight places in our area where you can get help with food. Four agencies that help with home improvement and repair. We have a place to get that information. It is a directory created by the Douglas County Senior Services Office. It is created and maintained by the Senior Coordinator, Dinara Dykema. The office is located at 806 Fillmore St., Suite 1195 by the Veteran's Office and the Library. The phone number is 320-762- 3047.

If technically gifted you can get it off the website [www.co.douglas.mn.us/sr.htm](http://www.co.douglas.mn.us/sr.htm). Or you can call Dinara for that information. Need help filling in forms? She is also available to help you with the guidelines. The programs listed are for all ages. If you know a neighbor who needs grab bars or a ramp, the listed services will help regardless of age.

Another wonderful source of information on programs available and what the status is of "walk in" or appointments is Love Inc., an organization of churches partnering to transform lives. It puts out a monthly newsletter telling what is going on in kids areas, senior areas, support groups, and Community Resources. It is updated monthly and tells the type of programming available and how to obtain access. Call 320-759-3022 or email [222.loveincdouglas.org](mailto:222.loveincdouglas.org). You may also call and they will email the directory each month. Or you can call and ask for updates on things like legal services, counseling sources and prescriptions. They will refer you to help.

Our library will let you use their computers, etc. They will even help you use them. Our law enforcement welcomes hearing from you about scams/frauds. Our media all are receptive to promoting programs available, Our college responds to our needs and is a source of scholarships and help. We have great medical care right here. Our local businesses adapt to our needs.

We are living in the right area! I feel it is the best area and I reflect on all that is available before going to bed each night. I sincerely hope that one of our readers of this column will find an answer to help enrich life for themselves or a neighbor.

Kathryn LeBrasseur is a former executive director of the Alexandria Senior Center and has been involved in a variety of community organizations, many focusing on senior issues. "In the Know" is a rotating column written by community leaders from the Douglas County area.

# 1972: Community Bank opens

**This Week in 1972 – 50 years ago:** The new Community State Bank of Alexandria will officially open. The new bank is at 3rd Avenue and Maple and features what officials call the most modern of banking facilities. It is of colonial design and has more than 4400 square feet of indoor floor space plus a unique "in-bank drive-in" facility of another 2700 square feet. An additional 800 square feet has been reserved for a display area. The bank will initially employ ten persons. There are five teller windows and three enclosed drive-in stalls. Construction began in December 1970 when the new bank was awarded its charter. The bank – the newest in Minnesota – has more than 180 local stockholders and will use the slogan "Owned by the Community it Serves."



**RACHEL  
BARDUSON**  
*Observations from the Archives*

**1972, 50 years ago:** Glenwood voters approved an \$188,000 bond issue by a narrow 26 votes and the city will soon have a new municipal building as a result. The new building will be built on the site of the present 70-year-old structure. It will measure 131 by 88 feet and will have a fire bay to house the city's fire equipment, an ambulance bay, city offices and meeting area, jail facilities for both the City of Glenwood and the Pope County Sheriff's department, and a mezzanine area.

**1997, 25 years ago:** Attorney JoEllen Doebbert has opened her new law office at 1022 Broadway in the Farm Credit Service building in Alexandria. A general practitioner, Doebbert provides legal services to clients primarily in the areas of business law, estate planning and family law. Doebbert is a 1988 graduate of William Mitchell College of Law.

The search for a new superintendent for Alexandria School District is well underway, with public meetings scheduled for the interview process. Dr. George Cassell, the current superintendent, will retire next year after 10 years of service to the district.

**2012, 10 years ago:** The 2012 Ice Fishing Challenge was back on Lake L'Homme Dieu near Kruger's Creek access after moving to Lake Agnes last year and people came out in record numbers as more than 3,500 anglers were on the ice ready to catch the \$20,000 top prize. Brandon, South Dakota native Larry Franke took home the prize with his 2.71 pound northern.

The new Ashby Living Center, 112 Iverson St. in Ashby, will open its doors to the community and surrounding area. The living center will feature home-style residential space featuring 24 single- and double-bedroom suites, assisted living, memory care and adult day services.

**Just For Fun, 1987 – 35 years ago:** A spelling bee was held at Alexandria's Central Junior High School's Media Center to determine which student would represent District 206 in the Region IV Spelling Bee in Fergus Falls. The best spellers in grades 5 through 8 took a written test in which, because of a tie, the qualifying spots were earned by seven boys for the oral portion of the bee. Words like connoisseur, fluorescent, reconnaissance, rhythmical and chandelier were read. Steven Winters, son of Jim and Sue Winters, was declared the winner when he correctly spelled chauvinistic.

Also in 1987 – 35 years ago: Darrel Flaig was presented the 1986 Sertoma Service to Mankind Award. During his 51 years at Anderson Funeral Home, he worked for all three generations. He retired in 1980 and has since given of his time and talent to the community.

**Sports Trivia, 1997 – 25 years ago:** The Western MN–Dakota Snowboarding Point Series held the first Continental Open at Andes Tower Hills. Only four sites in the United States have been chosen to host this event. Nine of the 12 events were won by snowboarders from Alexandria, including Natalie Runge, Elise Anderson, Rachel Jost, Daniel Crank, Nathan Odio, Ned Gaffaney, Brent Kluver, Brandt Kuehl and John Koch.

Rachel Barduson of Alexandria is a regular contributing columnist to the Echo Press Opinion page.

## LETTERS

### Hunters are not poisoning themselves or others with lead ammunition

**To the editor:**

As a hunter, I was disappointed to read the (Feb. 4) letter to the editor which made a lot of scary claims about lead ammunition but did not cite a single statistic to support the claim that traditional ammunition harms humans. Neither the Minnesota DNR nor the CDC have documented a single case of lead poisoning from the consumption of traditionally harvested venison.

I know hunters to be thoughtful and considerate stewards of our natural areas and the wildlife that call them home. Besides being the major source of funding for our conservation efforts in Minnesota and across the country, hunters also provide much needed economic support

to our small towns. Hunters support over 12,000 jobs across the state of Minnesota and generate over \$93 million in taxes. Many of the taxes hunters pay are part of a "user-pay, user benefit system" that lead to Minnesota being the sixth best state for wildlife conservation contributions in 2019.

I bring all of this up because unfortunately the number of people going out to hunt each year has been falling, and negative letters like the one recently in this paper will only hurt those numbers further. We should be encouraging a new generation of people to get out and experience the excitement of hunting, not suggesting that hunters are poisoning themselves and families. Nothing could be further from the truth!

**Durk Stark**  
**Alexandria, MN**

### Submitting letters to the editor

The Echo Press encourages readers to voice their opinions through letters to the editor. Please, however, keep your letters brief and to the point. Letters of more than 300 words or excessively long letters may be edited to a shorter form by the newspaper staff. Personal attacks against private individuals will not be printed. All letters must be signed and include the writer's address and telephone number. Letters published will include the writer's name and the city of residence only. Writers are limited to publishing one letter every 30 days. Submissions can be emailed to [aedenloff@echopress.com](mailto:aedenloff@echopress.com) or submitted to the Echo Press office at 225 7th Ave. E., Alexandria, MN 56308. For information, call (320) 763-3133.



OBITUARIES & DEATHS

James (Jimmy) D. McClure

James (Jimmy) D. McClure, (52), of Cokato, MN, passed away on Feb 8, 2022. Jimmy was born in Sibley, IA to Julie (Newman) Blank and Glen Dykstra on May 3, 1969. He graduated from Alexandria High School in 1988. After high school he pursued Natural Resources/Conservation education at Vermilion Community College and ultimately chose to enter the workforce as a truck driver. Jimmy met Tonia in 2003 and fell in love. They blended their lives and their families and were married on September 15, 2007.

Jimmy was active in racing for many years, and a huge NASCAR fan. He had a passion for trucking and enjoyed opportunities to drive a range of vehicles and haul a wide variety of loads within the Midwest and locally. He could tell you the make, model and year of every truck he saw on the road. He was a great trucker, hardworking, but more than anything he was a dedicated family man and loved the outdoors. He always looked forward to deer hunting in the fall and summer vacations in Detroit Lakes with his family. Recently he enjoyed many camping adventures with his wife and friends. He also enjoyed playing games and making people laugh. Laughter could be heard wherever Jimmy was. More than anything he loved his family, his wife, children and grandchildren.

Jimmy was preceded in death by grandparents Paul and Lorraine Newman, Henry (Hap) and Dorothy Dykstra, and step-father James C. McClure. He is survived by his wife Tonia, daughters Jessica (Jacob) Doll, Elizabeth, Emilee, Mackenzie, and Megan; grandchildren, Destiny, Gabby, Grace, Hope, Ryder, Carson, Damien, Ainsley, Angelina, Kinsley, Layla, Azrael, his parents Julie and Roger Blank, Glen and Janet Dykstra, and his siblings, Alicia (Michael) Klimek, Patty (Bruce) Wiitanen, Jed Dykstra, Paige Dykstra and many additional extended family members.

Funeral Services will take place Thursday 2/17/22 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Dassel. Visitation will begin at 12:00pm, service will begin at 1:00pm followed by fellowship. Arrangements by Swanson-Peterson Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Cokato, [www.swansonpeterson.com](http://www.swansonpeterson.com) 320-286-2534



Shirley Revering

Shirley Mary Shimota Revering, age 79, of Denton, Texas, passed away February 8, 2022, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Shirley passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family. She was born in Bertha, Minnesota, on September 12, 1942, to Octiva and Joseph Shimota. She graduated from Clarissa High School then moved to Minneapolis and worked at Honeywell. She met Bill Revering and they were married on July 8, 1963, and celebrated 58 years of marriage last year. They first lived in Minnetonka, Minnesota, and then moved to Alexandria, Minnesota. There they had three children, Brenda, Brad, and Jennifer. While in Alexandria, Shirley and Bill owned several businesses. She was very active in St. Mary's Catholic Church and taught CCD for over 25 years. She enjoyed golfing and any outdoor activities. Fishing was her favorite.

The family moved to Texas in 1980 and called the Austin area home for several years ultimately settling in Georgetown. While living in Georgetown, Shirley started the annual kolache bake fundraiser at St. Helens Catholic Church. It was a huge success and it continues to this day. In 2015, Shirley and Bill moved to Denton, Texas, to be closer to family. Moving into Robson Ranch they immediately made friends and were active in the community. They joined several clubs such as the RV club, Women's Club, Men's Club, Golf, Bocce, Garden Club, Poker, Euchre, and Bible study and several other clubs. Shirley enjoyed entertaining at their home. Christmas parties were their most famous.

Shirley has five grandchildren, Blake Winkley, Megan Converse, Nicole Kramer, Jack Revering and Emily Revering, and one great grandson, Everett Converse. She was very excited to celebrate her mother's 100th birthday on July 5th, 2021, at which time the family captured a five generation picture. Shirley was always very busy, but never too busy for family. Her most precious moments were having everyone around and cooking meals together.

Shirley is preceded in death by her father Joseph Shimota and her brother Joe Shimota. She is survived by her mother Octiva Shimota, husband Bill Revering, children Brenda (Steve) Sherwood, Brad (Jennifer) Revering, and Jennifer Revering. Grandchildren Blake Winkley, Megan (Jonny) Converse, Nicole Kramer, Jack Revering and Emily Revering, great grandson Everett Converse and sister Beverly Geraets.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Bread of Life, St. Marks Catholic Church of Denton.

Visitation and Rosary will be held Wednesday, February 16th from 5:00 - 7:00 pm at Bill DeBerry Funeral Home in Denton. Funeral mass will be Thursday, February 17th at 10:30 am at St. Marks Catholic Church in Argyle Texas



Donald Erstad

Dec. 11, 1928 - Feb. 10, 2022  
ALEXANDRIA, Minn. - Donald Erstad, 93, Alexandria, Minn., died Thursday, Feb. 10, in his home.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to noon, followed by a memorial service at noon, Saturday, Feb. 19, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Alexandria. Military honors will follow. Arrangements by Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory in Alexandria.

Maurice Roth

May 8, 1928 - Feb. 8, 2022  
MENAUGA, Minn. - Maurice Roth, 93, Wadena, Minn., died Tuesday, Feb. 8, in Green Pine Acres.

Visitation will be from 9:30-10:30 a.m., followed by a memorial service at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 26, at Wadena Alliance Church. Arrangements by Karvonen Funeral Home.

Anderson Funeral Home set to host grief seminars

By Celeste Edenloff  
Alexandria Echo Press

Grieving the death of a family member or friend can be hard and at times, painful.

Anderson Funeral Home in Alexandria is sponsoring morning and evening sessions of a grief seminar, "Growing Through Our Grief."

It will take place Mondays at 6 p.m. from Feb. 21 through March 28 and on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. from Feb. 22 through March 29.

All sessions will be held at Anderson's on Broadway, 801 Broadway St., Alexandria.

Jeri Dawson, Grief Care Coordinator at Anderson Funeral Home, will lead the seminar, which is intended to meet the needs of anyone working through the grief process resulting from the death of a loved one and to provide support to get through the steps of grieving.

Each session will include information and education on some of the primary stressors associated with the death of a loved one.

The sessions will last approximately 90 minutes and include a break. There is no charge for the seminar. Anyone who would like help in the grief healing process is welcome to attend.

For more information or to register, call Anderson's on Broadway at 320-219-6278.

Grief sessions

► Session 1: Overview of grief and the process of grieving – Introduction: the task of grieving.

► Session 2: Feelings – How do I name them? What do I do with them? Video: "White Water."

► Session 3: Impact of loss on the family – Your new role with friends and family, redefining myself/new coping tools.

► Session 4: Reflections – Spiritual profile and personal recovery. Video: "Invincible Summer."

► Session 5: Journal and letter writing – Recording our personal grief journey.

► Session 6: Hope and healing – Taking care of myself, ritual of recovery.

Email reporter Celeste Edenloff at [cedenloff@echopress.com](mailto:cedenloff@echopress.com).

DOUGLAS COUNTY COURT REPORT: FEB. 7-11

DOUGLAS COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

Monday, Feb. 7

Gonzalez, Logan Franklin, North St. Paul; Felony fifth degree controlled substance crime — methamphetamine possession in excess of .25 grams, conditions of the court, \$150 fees, 23 days local confinement with 15 days credit for time served, 5 years supervised probation

Tuesday, Feb. 8

Skinner, Dylan Craig, Alexandria; Felony first degree driving while impaired — operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, \$285 fees, commit to commissioner of corrections correctional facility in St. Cloud for 65 months, concurrent

Nyirenda, Crispin NMN, Alexandria; Felony first degree driving while impaired — operate a motor vehicle with an alcohol concentration of .08 or greater within two hours of driving, commit to commissioner of correctional correctional facility in St. Cloud for 42 months, stay for 7 years, 180 days local confinement with 3 days credit for time served, \$990 fees, conditions of the court, 7 years supervised probation

Skinner, Dylan Craig, Alexandria; Felony first degree driving while impaired — operate a motor vehicle with an alcohol concentration of .08 or greater within two hours of drinking, \$135 fees, commit to commissioner of corrections correctional facility in St. Cloud for 70 months, concurrent

Thursday, Feb. 10

Allen, Jesse Randall, Alexandria; Felony fifth degree controlled substance crime — methamphetamine possession under .25 grams, commit to commissioner of corrections correctional facility in St. Cloud for 12 months and 1 day, stay for 3 years, 20 days local confinement with 5 days credit for time served, \$185 fees, conditions of the court, 3 years supervised probation

Friday, Feb. 11

Beach, Jayme Lynn, Alexandria; Felony threats of violence, 30 days local confinement with 5 days credit for time served, \$135 fees, conditions of the court, 5 years supervised probation

This is not a comprehensive report of all district court activity, rather, a brief recap of felony charges.

Howard Buenting

will be remembered most for his wry sense of humor that not only delighted people but often left people wondering. He was born in Green Bay, WI and was known for his pranks and playfulness.

He had a kind and tender soul, and was loved wherever he went because of his ability to truly be present with people and accept them with grace and kindness. He worked as a Lutheran Pastor and as an Addiction Counselor throughout most of his life and gave hope and inspiration to others.

He married Roberta Pageler in 1958 in Manson, IA and they had four children - Peter (Dawn) Buenting; Marlys (Ky) Helmich; Andrea (Todd) Olson and Sara (Raj) Beekie.

Howard's faith was his anchor and his playful, warm, compassionate heart his guide.

During his life he enjoyed trout fishing, coin collecting, playing sports, jogging, gardening, preaching, singing, driving and goofing around.

He died on January 15th at Bethany on the Lake at the age of 89 years.

The family of Howard would like to thank the staff of Pelican Bay at Bethany for their ongoing kindness and care, and to Hospice of Douglas County for their deep compassion and commitment to bringing comfort and companionship. Words cannot express our gratitude.

A Memorial Service is being planned for April 2 at Zion Lutheran Church in Shawano, WI. "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." ~ Phil. 1:21

Mark A. Hemquist

July 3, 1958 - Feb. 13, 2022

PARKERS PRAIRIE, Minn. - Mark A. Hemquist, 63, Parkers Prairie, Minn., died Sunday, Feb. 13, in his home on the Hemquist family farm.

Visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18, at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Parkers Prairie. Visitation will continue from 10-11 a.m., followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 19, at the church. Pastor Rachel Stout will officiate. The service will be livestreamed on Lind Family Funeral Home's website. A private family interment will be at a later date in Swedish Lutheran Cemetery in Parkers Prairie.

Arrangements by Lind Family Funeral & Cremation Services in Alexandria.



Clifford Martin Alveshere

Oct. 12, 1926 - Feb. 3, 2022

ALEXANDRIA, Minn. - Clifford Martin Alveshere, 95, Alexandria, Minn., died Thursday, Feb. 3, in his home.

A private family memorial service will be in Alexandria. A celebration of life will be this summer at Knute Nelson Memorial Field in Alexandria. Donations are preferred to Alexandria Youth Baseball Association (AYBA) Capital Funds.

Arrangements by Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory in Alexandria.

Tammi Hull

Feb. 27, 1969 - Feb. 12, 2022

ALEXANDRIA, Minn. - Tammi Hull, 52, Alexandria, Minn., died Saturday, Feb. 12, in her home.

Visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, at Anderson Funeral Home in Alexandria. Visitation will continue from 10-11 a.m., followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 23, at the funeral home.

Arrangements by Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory.

Sally Lavonne Wilkins

July 28, 1938 - Feb. 13, 2022

ALEXANDRIA, Minn. - Sally Lavonne Wilkins, 83, Alexandria, Minn., died Sunday, Feb. 13, in her home.

Visitation will take place from 10-11 a.m., followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m., Friday, Feb. 18, at New Life Christian Church in Alexandria. Pastor John Taplin will officiate.

Arrangements by Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory.

Stanley Wayne Greiner

Nov. 20, 1943 - Feb. 9, 2022

MILTONA, Minn. - Stanley Wayne Greiner, 78, Miltona, Minn., died Wednesday, Feb. 9, in his home.

Services were previously held. Interment will be in Parkers Prairie (Minn.) Cemetery.

Arrangements by Arransong Funeral Home and Crematory in Alexandria, Minn.

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# A LOCAL LEGEND

Runestone Museum recites the rise of Alexandria’s Big Ole for History at Home

By **Thalen Zimmerman**  
Alexandria Echo Press

**Alexandria**  
The latest installment of History at Home hosted by the Runestone Museum featured the origins of the 28-foot-tall, 8,000-pound Viking statue known as Big Ole. “Statues represent what people in the past chose to celebrate and memorialize. They do not represent history itself. Indeed, teaching history is almost never the reason why statues are erected. Instead, statues and public spaces since antiquity have most typically been used to represent power and authority,” said Runestone Museum Executive Director Amanda Seim. “Big Ole is a symbol of a unique and controversial local artifact and represents a strong Nordic immigrant history that we have as a community.”

**In the beginning**  
In 1964, the World’s Fair was held in New York City and featured pavilions from states across the country. In September of the same year, the Runestone Museum and the Chamber of Commerce in Alexandria were approached by the North Star World’s Fair Corporation out of Osseo about adding a Kensington Runestone exhibit, which would be accompanied by a Viking statue, to the Minnesota pavilion.

The original concept art featured a Viking with “Alexandria, Birthplace of a Nation” on its shield. “But they decided that the theme would actually be ‘birthplace of America’ with a question mark,” said Seim. “North Star felt that the question mark would stimulate controversy and attract visitors while also calling attention to the possible early Norse exploration of North America and Minnesota.” According to Seim, the statue would cost the Runestone Museum \$25,000 to be paid to North Star by Sept. 1, 1965. And when the fair ended in October, the statue’s title would transfer to the museum and be brought back to Alexandria. The statue was commissioned by the same company responsible for the

Smokey the Bear statue in International Falls, the Gordon Display Company in Minneapolis. By the time of its completion, the Viking statue had grey hair, stood 28 feet and weighed four tons. It was made of weather-resistant fiberglass that could allegedly withstand 100 miles per hour wind gusts. On Apr. 7, 1965, the statue and the Runestone began their maiden voyage to New York on a replica Viking ship that doubled as a trailer. The day was dubbed Runestone Day by the Chamber of Commerce president. Along the way, the display made stops at the Twin Cities, Milwaukee, Chicago, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Atlantic City and, finally, New York. Controversy arose around the statue. Russell Fridley from the Minnesota Historical Society was quoted in the Minneapolis Star saying, “Mixing history and commercialization can cause problems if claims are made, which exceed evidence supporting them.” Seim says Fridley was bothered by the theme “Birthplace of America” because it did not apply to the nation nor its first inhabitants. He also felt the theme positioned white Christian males at the center of the history of America, lending legitimacy to national sovereignty and privilege for this specific group and suggested that its use at the Minnesota pavilion was an abuse of history. Seim said the Minnesota governor at the time, Karl Rolvaag, did not support the exhibit either, nor did he want to spend any money on the state pavilion. “In fact, as a state, Minnesota had one of the lowest state contributions to its pavilion exhibit compared to participating states,” said Seim. “And overall, the 1964/1965 World’s Fair was not considered successful.” Many states closed their pavillions due to the low number of attendees. However, one of the popular highlights from the fair was the Viking statue at the Minnesota pavilion.



Alexandria Echo Press file photo  
Big Ole stands at his former location on Broadway Street between Second and Third Avenue.



Thalen Zimmerman / Alexandria Echo Press  
The original model stands on display near the front desk at the Runestone Museum.

According to Seim, within the first seven days, it was estimated that 20,000 to 25,000 people visited the exhibit itself, and over 500,000 people took their pictures in front of the statue. Two months into the exhibit, though, the Runestone Museum and the Chamber of Commerce were notified that the North Star Corporation was closing the pavilion early and did not have enough money to send the statue to Alexandria, which prompted an emergency meeting. Museum leaders said they would only pay \$20,000 of the agreed-upon \$25,000 because North Star did not follow through on the length of the exhibit. This resulted in many complications, and in the end, the museum ended up paying the

total price. The statue was officially welcomed to the community with a ceremony on Dec. 21, 1965. Upon its return, the statue was repainted and the question mark removed. It was positioned at the intersection of Broadway Street and then Highway 52, known today as Highway 82 or Third Avenue. **Over the years** Seim says in 1966, some of the local merchants came up with the idea to promote downtown Alexandria as a Christmas capital. Because of this idea, it was decided that Big Ole should be dressed in a Santa Claus outfit during the holidays. Petra Anderson, an experienced seamstress trained at the

University of Minnesota Morris, was asked to make the suit and a gift sack. About 156 yards of red corduroy fabric and three large white blankets made both the suit and his sack. Unfortunately, in 1967, vandals lit the statue on fire that November, destroying the Santa suit and costing \$3,000 worth of damages. Another suit was made and it lasted until 1970 when the suit was considered too worn and the cost to maintain it was too high. By 1972, it was agreed upon that the statue would be named Big Ole. Before he was unofficially referred to by locals as Sven, or Big Ole, because “the Viking statue” was way too long of a name. In 1980, Due to a traffic light installment, Big Ole was moved north on Broadway between Third and Second Avenue, in the middle of the road between the Runestone Museum and his current location. Ole was repainted in 1991 with fresh looks. Honor student Travis Larson painted Ole’s hair blonde and added blue around his pupils to look more kind and youthful. On Monday, Aug. 28, 1995, the Runestone Museum staff was alerted that Ole’s spear went missing sometime between Aug. 26 and 27. Alexandria Extrusion was contacted to remake the spear, and Alexandria Light and Power helped replace it. The original spear was never found. In 1996, storms and aging caused Big Ole to wobble. He was moved to the museum’s agriculture building. During this time, the roof collapsed due to heavy snowfall, causing even more damage. For most of 1996 and 1997, Big Ole was under

repair, costing \$27,000. In 1997, Ole was resurrected during an event dubbed Ole Oppe Fest, which means Ole Up. The event became an annual fundraiser. In 2002, due to cars crashing into Ole, he was moved to his present location, Big Ole Central Park. Another slew of storms in 2015 resulted in \$15,000 worth of repairs. A vote was put to the community for a new hair color and red was the most popular choice. **A community representation** “States have symbols that it identifies with like a flag, a flower, or a fish,” Seim said. “In the 1930s, states and Minnesota specifically took a step further to promote tourism. Regional statues began popping up to promote local industries, like the Jolly Green Giant in Blueearth and Chisholm’s Iron Man Memorial. They also were used to promote local namesake wildlife, like Pelican Pete in Pelican Rapids and Otto, the otter in Fergus Falls, which is the seat of Otter Tail County. They also represented other cultural aspects like folklore, for example, Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox in Bemidji.”


Alexandria has Big Ole that represents the Norse heritage of the settlers who call Alexandria home. Today, he can be watched 24/7 on ALP’s website with a live stream webcam. History at Home is a series of classes given as part of a partnership between the Douglas County Historical Society, the Legacy of the Lakes Museum and the Runestone Museum, with support from Alexandria Community Education. Email reporter Thalen Zimmerman at [tzimmerman@echopress.com](mailto:tzimmerman@echopress.com)



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- Stuart and Evelyn Henrickson



STUDENT NEWS

**Staff report**  
 Alexandria Echo Press

**Graduations**  
 ▶ Dylan John Arceneau of Alexandria graduated Fall 2021 from the University of Minnesota Crookston with a degree in manufacturing management.

**Academic honors**  
 ▶ Two Evansville students, Samuel Fuller and Kristen Kokett, were named to the dean's list for Fall 2021 at Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. They earned a GPA of at least 3.5.

▶ Chane Pederson of Carlos was named to the dean's list at Ridgewater College in Willmar, Minnesota, for earning a GPA of at least 3.5.

▶ Parker Revering of Garfield was named to the dean's list at American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts.

▶ Four local students were named to the president's honor list at The North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton for earning a GPA of 3.5 or higher. They are:

Joseph Brezina of Alexandria, in the Land Surveying & Civil Engineering Technology program; Garret Honkomp of Alexandria in the Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology program; Ty Weller of Carlos in the Land Surveying & Civil Engineering Technology program; and Preston Yohnke of Carlos in the Liberal Arts program.

▶ Two Alexandria students, Bailley Kay Peterson and Madison Kate Ressemann, were each named to the president's honor roll at Valley City State University in North Dakota for earning a GPA of 4.0 in Fall 2021.

▶ Trenton Hohn of Alexandria was named to University of Iowa dean's list for 2021 fall semester for earning a GPA of at least 3.5. Hohn is a first-year student in the university's College of Engineering and is majoring in chemical engineering.

▶ Jaya Hatlestad of Alexandria was named to the dean's list at The University of Wisconsin-River Falls for earning a GPA of at least 3.5. Hatlestad is studying health and human performance.

▶ The following students were named to the high honors dean's list at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, Minnesota, for earning a GPA of 4.0: Sydney Ellis and Madison Revering of Alexandria; Vonda Pfannenstiel of Carlos; and Chelsey Sutherland of Kensington.

▶ The following students were named to the dean's list at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, Minnesota, for earning a GPA of at least 3.5: Shay Endres, Jared Wallin, and Nicole Witt of Alexandria; and Avery Jorgenson, Autumn Sander, Jessica Stai, and Michele Stai of Glenwood.

▶ The following students were named to the Fall 2021 dean's list at North Dakota State University in Fargo for earning a GPA of at least 3.5: **Alexandria:** Andrew Anderson, business administration; Brock Anderson, business administration; Luke Anderson, finance; Peter J. Buggert, psychology; Jackson Christensen-Frandsen, finance; Taelor Dummer, human development and family science;

Erika Etter, nursing; Kyle Feldhake, political science; Lucas Harstad, mechanical engineering; Alexis M. Heckert, criminal justice; Amos D. Hedstrom, mechanical engineering; Malachi Hedstrom, mechanical engineering; Parker A. Jabas, finance; Ella C. Johnston, agricultural economics; Brandon T. Kamphake, mechanical engineering; Katie Kent, architecture; Adam G. Klepetka, English; Nathan J. Klimek, mechanical engineering; Madison M. Knoblauch, management communication; Rachel A. Kokett, medical laboratory science; Tony A. Maanum, pharmacy; Joshua D. Molden, computer science; Jeffrey R. Mueller, pharmacy; Will D. Odland, industrial engineering and management; Kelby Peterson, sport management; Michael J. Pittman, electrical engineering; Aliah M. Roers, marketing; Tate D. Runge, architecture; Abigail Sater, psychology; Colton Schabel, industrial engineering and management; Brendan O. Skarpness, accounting; Carter D. Stockert, physical education; Kaylee Svec,

management; Ryan S. Swanberg, civil engineering; Katelyn P. Turnquist, accounting; Kaylee Weigel, microbiology; McKenzie Weigel, microbiology; Paul D. Werder, university studies; Laura A. Wilmesmeier, nursing; John Wimmer, management. **Brandon:** Kaylee Bitzan, nursing. **Carlos:** Madison Floden, biochemistry and molecular biology and Travis O. Yohnke, animal science. **Evansville:** Michaela H. Englund, respiratory care; Gaven D. Jacobson, agribusiness; Kali J. Johnson, agricultural economics; Allie E. Satterlie, business administration; Haddey Zastrow, architecture. **Farwell:** Kate L. Wrolson, agricultural and biosystems engineering. **Garfield:** Elijah Holthaus, mechanical engineering; Ryla Johnson, human development and family science; Katlyn Rydberg, environmental design. **Glenwood:** Jack Blevins, horticulture; Ella Holtberg, hospitality and tourism management; Mason Mcginty, undeclared; Evan G. Palmer, finance. **Kensington:** Connor M. Nadgwick, computer engineering; Izzy Woodle, finance. **Miltona:** Mitchell D. Kalpin, agribusiness and Seth G. Rumohr, crop and weed sciences. **Nelson:** Jarret J. Seela, biological sciences. **Osakis:** Kellen Anderson, computer engineering; Joslyn Swenson, interior design; Alyssa Wallace, nursing; Jacob M. Wielenberg, architecture. **Parkers Prairie:** Macy K. Jakubiec, nursing; Aiden Larson, finance; Madeline Schroeder, biological sciences education; Riley A. Thoennes, finance

▶ Two local students were named to St. Cloud State University's Fall 2021 dean's list for earning a GPA of at least 3.75. They are Samantha Gilbertson of Farwell, social work, and Juliana Olliff of Hoffman, nursing.

▶ Cody Springer of Parkers Prairie was named to the dean's list at Northwest Technical College in Bemidji, Minnesota for Fall 2021 for earning a GPA of at least 3.5. Springer is studying engineering technology and electrical construction.

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**Answer:** The "open bottle law" stating "possession" means either that the person had actual possession of the bottle or receptacle or that the person consciously exercised control over the bottle or receptacle.

From my experience and common sense, it's pretty obvious if bottles, cans or other containers in a box

or bag are intended for recycling and are not a violation. If a person says they were planning to recycle the half empty can of beer sitting in the center console once they finish it - that's a different story.

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# A Salute to Academic Excellence

Through school clubs and activities, high school students get a chance to deepen knowledge and acquire skills that can benefit them for the rest of their lives. For six weeks, the Echo Press and sponsoring businesses will introduce you to these students and activities at Alexandria Area High School. In the seventh week, the Echo Press and sponsoring businesses will introduce you to these students and activities at Kalon Prep Academy and New Testament Christian School. This is Week Three.

## Student Council

The Alexandria Area High School Student Council meets about every two weeks.

According to the council’s advisor, Gretta Brunelle, this year’s Student Council is trying to do an event each month.

Last September, they focused on Homecoming. In October, the council held a fundraiser for breast cancer as October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The students raised more than \$200, which they donated to Alomere Health.

In November, the fundraiser was all about donating food with all donations going to the school’s in-house food shelf, The Shelf.

In December, the Student Council held a toy drive for Jingle Bells. As of the publication deadline, the students were working on plans for the rest of the year.

“Our Student Council is made up of 40 students who have all been working incredibly hard to help all students feel more united and a part of their school,” said Brunelle. “One of the tasks we are working on is displaying all the members of each activities team in our school during sports season. We have a ton of activities that not everyone knows about or who is on the teams.”

In addition, Brunelle said that the students are continuing to work on their outreach and would love to partner with more community members to be more involved.

She said people in the community can either reach out to a member of the council or to her by emailing gbrunelle@alexschools.org.



The Alexandria Area High School Student Council gathered for a photo.

Contributed photo

### STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

- |                                     |                     |                     |                    |                  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Brittany Lanus – president          | Emily Barten        | Madeline Hochhalter | Selby Olson        | Allison Trombley |
| Erika Zick – vice president         | Morgan Brevik       | Madalyn Husfeldt    | Brooke Overland    | Erika Wentworth  |
| Benjamin Borden – secretary         | Brynn Cross         | Sydney Jacobson     | Lindsey Rauk       | Emily Witte      |
| Myles Sansted – treasurer           | Alexa Eggebraaten   | Dania Jaque         | Olivia Reilly      | Greta Zenner     |
| Aisling O’Connor – media specialist | Autumn Ehlert       | Morgan Jones        | Isabella Rodriguez |                  |
| Peter Sansted – executive           | Lauren Fiecke       | Abigail Kor         | Ellen Sansted      |                  |
| Carson Froke – executive            | Zachary Frederiksen | Ella Larson         | Meredith Sundby    |                  |
| Emma Hochhalter – executive         | Emmalene Gylsen     | Julia Nelson        | Katelyn Thiery     |                  |
| Teresa Bitzan – executive           |                     |                     |                    |                  |

## Key Club

Key Club is an international, student-led organization that provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership. It is a growing organization with a global reach, said Mary Kriese, Alexandria Area High School Key Club advisor.

“With thousands of clubs in more than 38 countries, the impact of Key Club can be felt around the world,” she said.

Key Club members learn how to lead through service and volunteerism. Kriese said they are making a positive impact on their school and community.

Working with partners such as Unicef, Key Club has been part of the fight against eradicating iodine deficiency disorders and the current global project of eliminating maternal and neonatal tetanus.

Locally, the AAHS Key Club hosts a blood drive with the American Red Cross twice a year in an effort to provide life saving blood to those in need as well as create life-long donors, noted Kriese.

The club also hosts the “Tim Tebow Night to Shine,” which she said is an unforgettable prom night experience for people with special needs.

Other local projects include Random Acts of Kindness, Pancake Feed and Awake the Grapes, just to name a few.

Students in Key Club meet semi-weekly in the morning before school at the high school’s Media Center.



The Key Club sponsors two blood drives each year – one in the spring and one in the fall. There are about 30 donors at each drive. The ultimate goal for the organization is to make life-long donors. As this is a student-led drive, the students do all the advertising, help donors to sign up and then run the drive the day of the event.

Contributed photo


### KEY CLUB MEMBERS

- Brooke Anderson  
Sophia Anderson  
Emily Barten  
Truett Berglund  
Eli Biggers  
Sydney Bock  
Olivia Brault  
Brady Burss  
Michael Christiansen  
Ramsey Copeland  
Jeremiah Denke  
Alexa Eggebraaten  
Izabella Kent  
Olivia Knapper  
Coltan Koehn  
Jared Koehn  
Bryce Pilgrim  
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A Salute to Academic Excellence continued...

## National Honor Society

The National Honor Society is a nationwide organization with a local Alexandria chapter.

Students apply and are inducted at the end of their junior year based on their academic record and commitment to service, character and leadership, according to Shelby Dvergsten, the group's advisor.

The group meets once a month. She said the National Honor Society is a service organization that plans events and also assists with existing school and community events.

Each year, four students run for, and then are voted into, positions on the National Honor Society student board.

These students, said Dvergsten, are each responsible for meeting directly with a small group of members.

Last October, the society was able to once again do its annual Trick-or-Treat for the Food Shelf event.

"Coming back to it this school year, the students were able to collect 1,407 pounds of food from the many generous community donations," said Dvergsten.

She also noted that this year's group of students has been very on top of their hours and are eager to help with new projects.



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY STUDENTS								
Grady Anderson	Aleah Dokter	Isabella Hagen	Kylee James	Lauren Krebs	Jordan O'Kane	Peter Sansted	McKenna Tabery	Nicolas Welle
Maggie Anderson	Dayton Downing	Ella Halvorson	Ilana Jensen	Brittany Lanus	Payton Olson	Erik Schabel	Callie Taveirne	Erika Wentworth
Brycen Berg	Jeryn Drewes	Nate Hammerback	Hailey Jeseritz	Cora Larson	Elise Patience	Gabriel Schneider	Mackenzie Thang	Matthew Wieberdink
Eli Biggers	Katlyn Eggert	Erik Hedstrom	Isabella Johnson	Brennan Lattimer	Taeren Peterson	Kaileigh Schneider	Jack Theien	Julia Wilmesmeier
Addison Boesl	Lauren Englund	Grace Hedstrom	Sidney Johnson	Matthew Mayer	Teagan Pfeffer	Isabella Schweich	Lillian Thul	Elizabeth Winter
Eleanor Bogart	Ailynn Fettig	Madison Heid	Bjorn Karlstad	Anna Meehan	Perla Ramirez	Ava Simonson	Zachary Timm	Nicolas Witt
Benjamin Borden	Caileigh Ford	Jonathan Hennen	Trista Kees	Anna Melby	Ellie Rauk	Morgan Stangler	Kaci Trosvig	Carlie Wolf
Olivia Brault	Carson Froke	William Heydt	Hailie Kent	Aleah Miller	Lauren Rebrovich	Aidan Staples	Gracie Uhde	Elizabeth Workman
Tyler Bright	Hattie Galloway	Zander Homelvig	Nathan Knoll	Hayden Morgan	Colin Reilly	Gabriella Staples	Greta Urke	Greta Zenner
Heidi Carstensen	Dakota Giese	Marissa Hopper	Coltan Koehn	Pieter Mulder	Jeffrey Rodewald	Brookelyn Stender	Hakyma Von Bargaen	Erika Zick
Trista Craig	Turner Haar	Anthony Hoyt	Benjamin Koep	Wyatt Odland	Myles Sansted	Alexis Swendsrud	M'Kelle Wagner	

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# Love for Jack comes from near and far



Contributed photo by Heather Scott Photography

The Alexandria boys and girls hockey teams circle around Jack Albert's family to show their support during a fundraiser for the Albert family at the Runestone Community Center in Alexandria on Feb. 8, 2022. Jack Albert, 10, is currently receiving inpatient care at the Children's Hospital in Minneapolis after he was diagnosed with Stage IV Burkitt lymphoma on Jan. 24, 2022.

## Community rallies around 10-year-old's battle with cancer

By Eric Morken  
Alexandria Echo Press

**Alexandria**  
Under normal circumstances, Alexandria 10-year-old Jack Albert would have been on the ice at the Runestone Community Center on the night of Feb. 8, 2022 when the Cardinals hockey team hosted St. Cloud in a Central Lakes Conference matchup. That was the plan. Each home game, Alexandria's varsity team has youth players lead them out on the ice as flag bearers. It's a fun moment to take center stage, and Jack was signed up to take his turn that night. Instead, he and his mother, Kim, watched a live stream from a hospital room in

"He's so strong. There's the chemo, this poison, going into his veins and he's just singing and playing the guitar and talking to his buddies. He's doing amazing, and he's just so positive."

KIM ALBERT, JACK ALBERT'S MOTHER

Minneapolis as all of Jack's teammates led the Cardinals onto the ice with his No. 22 jersey. "It was very emotional," Kim said. "His team is just a really special group of kids, and the varsity kids too. The whole Alexandria hockey community is amazing. Just so supportive." The purpose of that night, as the Cardinals hosted a fundraiser



Contributed photo

The Albert family, Kim, Joe, Jack, 10, and Victoria, 12, during a photo taken on Christmas Day, 2021.

that raised more than \$10,000 for the Alberts during a boys and girls hockey doubleheader, was to show Jack how much he meant to them. On Jan. 24, Jack was diagnosed with Stage IV

Burkitt lymphoma. He is receiving inpatient care at the Children's Hospital in Minneapolis where he recently started what will be six

**JACK:** Page 12

## GYMNASTICS



Eric Morken / Alexandria Echo Press

Alexandria senior Ailynn Fettig laughs with her teammates during a meet against Willmar in Alexandria on Dec. 2, 2021. Fettig had a lot to smile about from the Section 8AA meet in St. Cloud on Feb. 12, 2022 as she finished third in the all-around scores to qualify for the state meet on Feb. 19 in St. Paul.

## Fettig steps up on the big stage

**Senior qualifies for state in all around**

By Eric Morken  
Alexandria Echo Press

ST. CLOUD — Alexandria's Ailynn Fettig just missed making a state gymnastics meet on the bars as a junior last winter. Given a second chance as a senior, she stepped up with her best overall performance of the year on Saturday in St. Cloud.

Fettig scored a season-best 36.325 at the Section 8AA championship to qualify for the Class AA state meet in the all around. The Cardinals finished seventh as a team in the eight-program field after scoring a 134.375. "It's a really special thing," Fettig said. "State has always been a big goal for me, and having that initial disappointment from last year just drove me harder this season. It will be awesome. Competing with all the other girls from my section, and just being able to not only focus on one event but focus on all four of them is really special."

Taylor Schaefer of St. Cloud Tech led the Tigers to a team championship (147.325) as she finished first in the all-around scores with

a 38.200. Lauren Berg of Bemidji was second at 36.975 as the Lumberjacks took second with a team score of 142.300. Catelyn Zack (36.175) of Tech and Madysen Schmidt (36.050) of Bemidji rounded out the top five all-arounders.

Fettig was keeping an eye on how some of her competition was doing in each event, but she did not know she had finished with that top-three qualifying score until her name was announced.

"There were lots of tears of joy," she said.

It's an accomplishment that Fettig has been working toward for years.

"My parents put me in the tiny tot classes when I was about 3-years old," Fettig said. "Ever since then, it's just kind of stuck with me. I love the determination and drive that gymnastics puts in you because you're always out there to be better than you were the day before. Over my entire life, I've been training in the gym. I have trained off-season and in season, and most of my life has been growing up in the gym. Being there has made me the person that I am today."

Fettig was 11th on the vault (9.2), right behind

**STAGE:** Page 12

## NORDIC SKIING

# Jaelyn Miller races to state

**Girls fifth, boys seventh at Section 8A meet**

By Eric Morken  
Alexandria Echo Press

CALLAWAY — The Alexandria Nordic ski teams competed over the course of two days at the Section 8A meet at Maplelag Resort near Callaway with spots at the state meet in Biwabik up for grabs. Sophomore Jaelyn Miller grabbed one of those spots and will race at state for the second time in her career.

This year's section meet had athletes racing the 5-kilometer classic race on Feb. 8 before the 5.6-kilometer sprint relay and 4.8-kilometer freestyle races took place on Feb. 9.

The Alexandria boys finished

seventh as a team with 312 points, while the girls took fifth place with 351 points. Brainerd, with 384 points, and Bemidji (382) took the top two spots in the girls' team standings in the 12-program field. Little Falls (381) won the boys section title, with Brainerd (375) finishing second.

Miller was the top underclassmen in the entire pursuit as she finished third overall in a total time of 34:24.6. Brainerd senior Liliana Schaeffer won the pursuit championship in 33:07.3, and Bemidji senior Mary Beth Mathews was second in 34:08.6.

"A big part of Jaelyn's success has been that she is a part of a family that truly lives an active lifestyle," Alexandria head coach Jeremy Rapp said. "Being the fourth in succession of hav-

ing three older sisters who are also great endurance athletes, she has been around an environment her whole life that has fueled her success for a sport like this. Additionally, she has been around skiers on the team, both past and present, that have shown the way on how to train and excel at this sport. She has taken ownership of her own path to do well."

Miller raced the classic portion of the pursuit in 17:43.2 and the freestyle in 16:41.4. Freshman Mackenzie Jurchenko was Alexandria's next best finisher in the girls' race with a 12th-place finish in 35:42.1 (18:46.7 classic, 16:55.4 freestyle).

Freshmen Bobbi Nichols (24th, 37:06.8; 19:13.2 classic, 17:53.6

**RACES:** Page 12



Jared Rubado / Forum News Service

Alexandria sophomore Jaelyn Miller skis to a state-qualifying third-place finish at the Section 8 meet at Maplelag Resort on Feb. 9, 2022. Miller raced the classic portion of the pursuit in 17:43.2 and the freestyle in 16:41.4 to finish with a total time of 34:24.6.

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GIRLS HOCKEY

# Cardinals brush aside penalties in playoff opener

**By Eric Morken**  
Alexandria Echo Press

Playoff games are about surviving and advancing, and that's what the Alexandria girls hockey team did in the Section 8AA quarterfinals on Saturday night. The second-seeded Cardinals (14-10-1) locked up in a penalty-filled playoff opener against seventh-seeded Buffalo-Maple Lake (5-19-2). A total of 19 penalties were called, eight on Buffalo and 11 on Alexandria. The Cardinals still outshot the Bison 48-20. Many of those came in the opening period when they held a 27-5 shot advantage, but a first-period goal from freshman Kennedy Ellingson was all the Cardinals had to show for it through two frames. The Cardinals added two more in the third to move on with a 3-0 win. Alexandria hosted third-seeded Brainerd-Little Falls on Tuesday night in the section semifinals. Visit

www.echopress.com for immediate results from that game or see Friday's print issue. "We dominated the first period," Alexandria head coach Molly Arola said after Saturday's win. "I don't think we've put up 27 shots in one period, let alone the first period before. It was just one of those games where things were going to get called. It is what it is. It was a crazy, chaotic, messy game, but we played well through it all. That's what we're really proud of with these girls is they fought through all that stuff and found a way to win." Alexandria got the insurance goal it was looking for less than two minutes into the third period. Buffalo's senior goaltender Maddie Mootz came out of the net to try to clear the puck. She misplayed it with Alexandria junior Ella Westlund rushing the net aggressively. When the puck bounced off Mootz's stick and got behind her, Westlund was there to bury an open-net opportunity. Kylie Lattimer and Peyton Boesl were awarded assists on the play as the Cardinals got the 2-0 lead. "That was huge," Arola said. "That was what we needed just to give us a little bit of relief. We were just peppering and peppering and finally to get one through again. That was a really nice play by Westy, and our defense, I think it was Kylie Lattimer, put it up the boards for her to skate and hunt it down. That was a great play." The Bison's best shot at scoring might have been midway through the first period on an Alexandria power play. Junior forward Raegan Wurm knocked a puck out of midair with her stick deep in Alexandria's defensive zone to create a turnover. Wurm gathered the puck and had an immediate offensive chance, but Cardinals' senior goaltender Hailee Bailey made the save to keep it a scoreless game. "It was a big save, and she had a big save in the middle of the third,"



Eric Morken / Alexandria Echo Press

The Alexandria girls hockey team celebrates a first-period goal from freshman forward Kennedy Ellingson, 3, during the Cardinals' Section 8AA quarterfinal game against Buffalo-Maple Lake on Feb. 12, 2022. The Cardinals won the game 3-0 to move on to the semifinals on Tuesday night at 7 where they will host third-seeded Brainerd-Little Falls. Arola said. "She did what she needed to do, and I thought our defensive zone was better than what is has been lately. That was good. There's still some things we have to clean up, but for the most part, we didn't give them too many quality scoring chances." Bailey had the 20-save shutout, and she had to be good because Mootz was on her game for the Bison. Mootz was getting pressured in front of the net all night, but she stopped 36 shots through two periods and finished with 45 saves in the game. "We definitely came out buzzing right away, and we kind of let them come back a little bit as

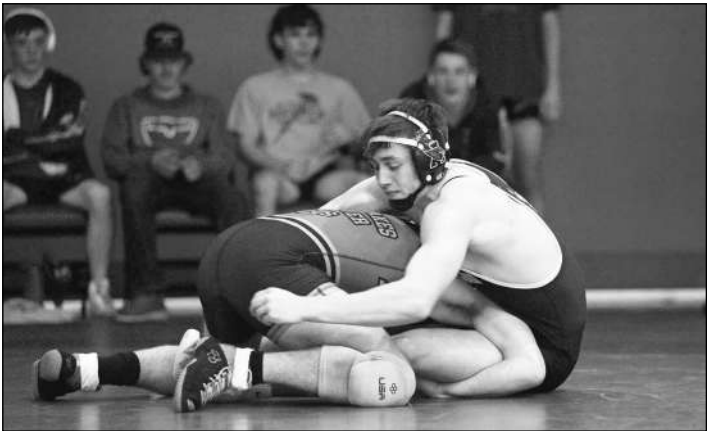
the game progressed," Bailey said. "But their goalie played great. Otherwise, I think the score would have been a lot different. She's a big goalie, so she covers up a lot of the net. She definitely helped her team keep it close." Kennedy Ellingson's first-period goal came on a scrum in front of the net after a puck got loose near the crease as Mootz found herself out of position. Ellingson hopped on a chance at an open net as she poked it in for a big goal after the Cardinals had come up empty on multiple chances to that point. Assists went to seniors Lauren Rebrovich and Riley Nyberg. Getting shots on goal and bodies in front of the net was the game plan all night for Alexandria. It eventually paid off again when freshman Julia Doherty shot home a rebound through traffic to make it a three-goal game with less than two minutes left. Email sports and outdoor editor Eric Morken at emorken@echopress.com.

WRESTLING ROUNDUP

# Cards, Knights take top two seeds into postseason

**By Eric Morken**  
Alexandria Echo Press

The Alexandria wrestling team wrapped up its regular season with a match against one of the top Class AAA teams in the state on Saturday. The event was supposed to be a triangular with Willmar and Sauk Rapids-Rice. Weather postponed that last Thursday and Friday, and Sauk Rapids could not make the trip to Alexandria on Saturday morning. That made it a dual between Central Lakes Conference rivals as Willmar (23-7) beat Alexandria (14-10) by a 50-25 final. "Willmar has a formidable team and is currently ranked 8th in state for Class AAA," Alexandria head coach Aldon Struchen said. "Without being able to practice Thursday and Friday and some of our wrestlers still banged up, we couldn't field our strongest lineup, but it was a good test for us and a lot of good takeaways from the dual." Mason Teaser was honored before the match as the Cardinals' lone senior. He then went out and put on a good show. "He had the match of the dual, defeating a very strong and talented wrestler at 170 pounds," Struchen said. "Mason got the first take-down and dominated much of the match, then hung on in the closing seconds to secure his 6-4 win. "Mason McGrane shut out his opponent 8-0 at 120 pounds. Blaze Nelson got a pin at 145. Jackson Saffert received a forfeit at 182, and our closer, David Rauscher, got our fans on their feet by pinning his opponent at 285 to cap off the dual." Alexandria turned its attention to the Section 8AA tournament where the Cardinals earned the No. 2 seed in the east portion of the bracket. They hosted their quarterfinals match on Tuesday night. Third-seeded Perham and sixth-seeded Sauk Centre-Melrose wrestled first at AAHS that night before the winner of that match wrestled Alexandria right after that. The winner of the quarterfinals match moves on to Detroit Lakes on Feb. 18. Waiting there will be the winner of No. 1-seeded Pequot Lakes-Pine River-Backus and either fourth-seeded Albany or fifth-seeded Park Rapids. The semifinals that day will be wrestled at 6 p.m. before the two winners move on to wrestle in the champi-



Eric Morken / Alexandria Echo Press

Alexandria's Mason Teaser, right, wrestles in a match against Pequot Lakes on Dec. 14, 2021. Teaser won a 6-4 decision at 170 pounds against Willmar on Feb. 12 as he was honored before the match as the Cardinals' lone senior. onship at 7:30. Thief River Falls is the No. 1 seed in the West half of the bracket, while Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton is second. Detroit Lakes is third, Fergus Falls is fourth, United Clay Becker-LPA-Hawley is fifth, and Roseau rounds out the field as the No. 6 seed. The tournament moves to New York Mills for the semifinals and finals on Feb. 18. The semis will be wrestled at 6 p.m. before the championship match at 7:30. Bertha-Hewitt-Verndale-Parkers Prairie is the No. 2 seed in the bracket, while Border West is third and New York Mills is fourth. Osakis is the No. 5 seed and will wrestle at New York Mills in the quarterfinals on Feb. 15. Ottertail Central is the No. 6 seed. Pelican Rapids is seventh. Osakis sweeps in Ortonville

## Knights win Morris tournament ahead of postseason

The West Central Area-Ashby-Brandon-Evansville wrestling team won the Dr. Busian Tiger Invitational on Saturday by edging the host school, Morris Area-Hancock Area-Chokio-Alberta. The Knights finished with 220 team points, while Morris Area was close behind with 217.5 in the 8-team field. WCA-A-B-E got three first-place finishes from Anthony Sykora (35-5) at 170, Beau Robinson (25-11) at 182, and Colton Lindquist (33-7) at 220. Lindquist's teammate, Tyler Stone (19-7), finished right behind him at 220 pounds in second place. The Knights had a bunch of runner-up finishes as Hunter Gruchow (132, 34-10), Reubens Swanson (145, 36-5), Ashton Danner (160, 24-8) and Will Rustan (195, 25-14) all came in second in their weight classes. Adam Lohse (120, 31-10) and Solomon Wales (138, 30-10) were third. Owen Gruchow (106, 14-8), Carter Lohse (113, 21-14) and Justin Blascyk (285, 24-15) were fourth, and Mason Richter (126, 8-16) rounded out the Knights' top-six finishers by taking fifth. The Knights moved to the Section 6A team tournament where they are the No. 1 seed. They hosted 8th-seeded Wadena-Deer Creek in Barrett on Feb. 15.

The tournament moves to New York Mills for the semifinals and finals on Feb. 18. The semis will be wrestled at 6 p.m. before the championship match at 7:30. Bertha-Hewitt-Verndale-Parkers Prairie is the No. 2 seed in the bracket, while Border West is third and New York Mills is fourth. Osakis is the No. 5 seed and will wrestle at New York Mills in the quarterfinals on Feb. 15. Ottertail Central is the No. 6 seed. Pelican Rapids is seventh. Osakis sweeps in Ortonville Osakis (7-18) swept a triangular in Ortonville last Thursday with the Silverstreaks beating the host Trojans 60-18 and winning a 44-33 match against Wabasso. Osakis got pins from Lukas Duchene (132, 5:35), Gaven Cimbura (145, 0:36), Kale Drevlow (152, 0:27) and Kaleb Helberg (182, 2:26) against Wabasso. Jacob Taplin (120) and Conner Koep (285) also picked up six points each for the team with forfeit wins, while Christian Nathe (126, 12-4) and Tyson Hagedon (160, 11-1) added bonus points with major-decision wins. The Silverstreaks ran away from Ortonville with the Trojans not able to fill a bunch of their lineup. Taplin, Drevlow, Carsten Jacobson, Hagedon, Preston Kunkel, and Koep all had forfeit wins for the Silverstreaks. Reggie George got things going with a 7-5 decision win at 106. Simon Jacobson (113, 1:45), Hunter Sell (138, 0:16) and Cimbura (145, 3:24) had pins, while Nathe won an 11-6 match at 126 pounds. Email sports and outdoor editor Eric Morken at emorken@echopress.com.

SWIM AND DIVE

# Welle has record-setting day at CLC championship

## Cards finish third as a team

**By Eric Morken**  
Alexandria Echo Press

ST. CLOUD — Saturday's Central Lakes Conference championship swimming and diving meet figured to be a three-team race for the title between Alexandria, Brainerd and Sartell-St. Stephen, and it was Brainerd that won that race at St. Cloud Tech High School on Saturday. The Warriors finished with 488 team points. That bested Sartell-St. Stephen in second (422) as the Cardinals finished third with 394 points. Alexandria had beaten both Brainerd and Sartell in head-to-head meets earlier this season. "While Alexandria won six of nine individual events, Brainerd won both relays that Alexandria had beaten them in earlier in the season," Alexandria head coach Kathy Walker said. "Needing the second, third and fourth swimmers to move up to score points, (we) could not meet the challenge." The Cardinals still came home with a bunch of All-CLC honors, led by a record-setting day from senior Nicolas Welle. Welle set new CLC championship records in the 50 freestyle (previous record set in 2004 by Jason Timmer) and 100 butterfly (record set in 1985 by Cam Olk) as he won both events. Welle's record time in the 50 free is



Welle

21:32, and his new mark in the 100 butterfly is 51.46. That time in the butterfly also beat his own school record. Fellow senior Anthony Hoyt also won two CLC titles. His came in the 200 freestyle (1:47.70) and 500 freestyle (4:53.24). Logan Tung added a championship in the 100 breaststroke (1:00.84), and Carter Holm took the title in the 100 freestyle (47.82). Other All-CLC performances came from the 200-medley relay team of Eric Peterson, Tung, Welle and Holm as they finished second (1:38.45). Tung was third in the 200 IM (2:06.49), Eric Peterson was runner-up in the 100 backstroke (57.86), and Holm added a third-place finish in the 50 freestyle (21.88). The 200 freestyle relay team of Welle, Erik Reineke, Tung and Holm finished second (1:28.91). Honorable-mention All-CLC performances came from Kyler Kavanagh (diving, 4th, 340.15), Caden Kavanagh (diving, 5th, 336.95), Peterson (100 butterfly, 6th, 58.27), Cooper Running (500 freestyle, 5th, 5:20.67), and the 400 freestyle relay team of Peterson, Running, Reineke and Hoyt (3rd, 3:27.53). Alexandria now turns its attention to the Section 5A meet. Prelims are set for Feb. 25 before the finals on Feb. 26 at Discovery Middle School pool in Alexandria. The finals start at 2 p.m. on Feb. 26. CLC CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM SCORES - 1. Brainerd - 488; 2. Sartell - 422; 3. Alexandria - 394; 4. Sauk Rapids-Rice - 292; 5. St. Cloud Apollo - 249; 6. St. Cloud Tech/Cathedral/Rocori - 223; 7. Willmar - 173; 8. Fergus Falls - 60. Email sports and outdoor editor Eric Morken at emorken@echopress.com.

BOYS HOCKEY

# Cards finish off Northern Lakes with big third period

**By Eric Morken**  
Alexandria Echo Press

ALEXANDRIA — The Alexandria boys hockey team used a three-goal third period to put away Northern Lakes in a 6-4 game on Saturday afternoon. The Lightning (13-9) are right behind the Cardinals (14-6-1) as the No. 3 seed in the Section 6A standings through the QRF on Minnesota-scores.net. Alexandria outshot Northern Lakes 37-28. Pieter Mulder and Josiah Gronholz both took advantage of power-play opportunities in the third to get goals that broke what was a 4-4 tie. Henry Ramstorf and Tyler Kludt assisted on Mulder's goal that made it 5-4. It was a back-and-forth game up until that point. Gronholz got his first of two goals on the night a little more than six minutes into the first period off assists from Brycen Berg and Mason Loch. Isaac Peterson tied it for

Northern Lakes, and Tyler Seeling gave the Lightning a 2-1 lead early in the second period. Berg got a goal of his own to tie the game back up, and Leo Kompelien made it a 3-2 Alexandria lead. But Seeling got his second goal later in the second period to send the game to the third tied at 3-3. Kludt struck first in the third to make it a 4-3 Cardinals' lead. Zach Ehnstrom scored on a power play for the Lightning a couple minutes later, but that set the stage for Mulder's game-winner at 12:26 of the period. Gronholz finished with four points after adding two assists to his two goals. Ramstorf and Berg also had two assists, while Tripp Shatek and Mulder added an assist as well. Senior Teagan Pfeffer got the win in net for Alexandria with 24 saves. Email sports and outdoor editor Eric Morken at emorken@echopress.com.



GIRLS BASKETBALL

# Panthers storm back against B-E

**By Eric Morken**  
Alexandria Echo Press

EVANSVILLE — The Brandon-Evansville and Parkers Prairie girls basketball teams have played a lot of big games against each other over the years as conference and section rivals, and Monday’s matchup likely had some playoff implications as well.

Parkers Prairie won a low-scoring game against Brandon-Evansville on Jan. 11, and the Panthers (9-8) likely secured a better seed than the Chargers (9-11) by storming back from eight down in the final minutes of the rematch to win 59-55 in overtime at Evansville.

“This group of girls I have right now, that’s kind of been their thing the whole year,” Parkers Prairie head coach John Noga said. “They just keep playing hard.”

Brandon-Evansville

led 49-41 with almost two minutes left in regulation. Panthers’ junior guard Cora Johnson hit two quick threes to make it a 49-47 game.

“A couple practices ago, I finally said to her, ‘You need to shoot more,’” Noga said. “She had our overall best shooting percentage. She hadn’t taken the most shots, but she’s a very good shooter.”

Johnson got fouled on her second made three and had a chance at a 4-point play. She missed the free throw, but senior Lydia Guenther got the offensive rebound and was fouled. Guenther made one of two free throws to make it a 49-48 deficit.

The Panthers forced a Chargers’ turnover on the next possession. Junior Kad Wehking then hit a three to give Parkers Prairie a 51-49 lead. Brandon-Evansville

it on a Kaytlyn Pattrin layup off an offensive rebound, but the Panthers outscored the Chargers 8-4 in overtime.

Wehking had six points in the extra session. She finished with 18 points after knocking down four of Parkers Prairie’s seven threes.

“Offensively, she is the one girl who is always looking to score, which is great,” Noga said. “You always need a kid like that that’s not afraid in big moments or throughout the whole game. She’ll shoot, she’ll drive to the basket.”

The Panthers are positioned well to host a playoff game with the regular-season sweep of Brandon-Evansville giving them the tiebreaker in the chase for the fourth seed. Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg (9-12) may also be within reach for the third seed in the 6A-South.

Five different players scored at least seven points for the Chargers. Senior center Kiley Lund had 11, while Pattrin had 10 points and a team-high 6 rebounds. It was a much better offensive performance after a 67-23 loss to Hancock (20-1) on Saturday.

“Hancock makes everyone look bad offensively, but we have been playing a lot better offensively,” B-E head coach Zach Traphagen said. “The ball is moving around a lot better. We have girls who are shooting with more confidence. We’ve always attacked the basket well.”

Traphagen liked the effort his team gave on Monday, but said the Chargers need to take lessons from the loss and play with better composure. They had three more chances to bounce back this week with games at Wheaton (16-



Eric Morken / Alexandria Echo Press

Parkers Prairie junior Avery Benzinger, left, and Brandon-Evansville sophomore Skylar Bitzan dive after a loose ball during an overtime win for the Panthers on Monday.

3) on Tuesday, Ashby (1-16) on Thursday and then home against Park Christian (5-15) on Friday night at 7:15.

“You got to learn from it,” Traphagen said. “Then you forget about that pain you felt, go out there and play fearless, with more effort than the other team. If we can do that, we will be just fine.”

BRANDON-EVANSVILLE 21 30 4 - 55  
PARKERS PRAIRIE 20 31 9 - 59  
B-E - Grace Otto - 1 rebound, 1 steal; Sophie Koep - 1 point, 4 assists, 1 block, 2 rebounds; Olivia Otto - 9 points, 1 assist, 4 rebounds, 1 steal; Sydney Schaefer - 3 points, 1 assist; Kaytlyn Pattrin - 10 points, 1 assist, 6 rebounds, 3 steals; EmmaLee Brethorst - 5 points, 1 rebound, 1 steal; Skylar Bitzan - 1 block; Hadley Baune - 7 points, 1 assist, 3 rebounds, 3 steals; Kiley Lund - 11 points, 4 rebounds, 2 steals  
PARKERS PRAIRIE SCORING - Cora Johnson - 12; Lydia Guenther - 13; Kad Wehking - 18; Avery Benzinger - 9; Abigail Ruckheim - 5; Ellie Koep - 2

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## RACES

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freestyle) and Kasey Soderholm (27th, 37:58.4; 20:00.2 classic, 17:58.2 freestyle) also raced the pursuit, and senior Lauren Englund did the same and finished 25th in 37:13 (19:22.5 classic, 17:50.5 freestyle).

The two-person team of Lauren Huber and Dulce Bakker skied the relay for Alexandria. They were third in the preliminary round with a time of 20:02.6 before finishing fifth in the finals in 19:32.7.

“We would like to express our gratitude to our three seniors — Dulce Bakker, Lauren Englund, and Matthew Johnson — for the years of dedication and contribution in which we will always be grateful for,” Rapp said.

Johnson wrapped up his Alexandria career by taking 50th in the boys pursuit race with a total time of 47:36.3 (30:03.6 classic, 17:32.7 freestyle).

Junior Ryker Bosek led the Alexandria boys with a 13th-place finish in the pursuit. He came across in a total time of 30:52.1 after skiing the classic portion in 16:12.5 and the freestyle in 14:39.6. Junior Connor Grant of Little Falls won the pursuit title in 28:05 (14:40.3 classic, 13:24.7 freestyle), and junior Zaine Braaten of Moorhead was second in 28:13.1 (14:46.2 classic, 13:26.9 freestyle).

Alexandria junior Spenser Chinn raced to a 26th-place finish in 34:42.4 (18:11.1 classic, 16:31.3). Sophomore Cyler Coauette (33rd, 36:04.6; 18:35.6 classic, 17:29 freestyle) and freshman Colton Converse (40th, 38:30.1; 20:14.1 classic, 18:16 freestyle) rounded out the Cardinals’ lineup in the pursuit.

The Alexandria duo of Maxwell Chinn and Luke Walsh qualified for the relay finals with a time of 19:31.2 in the prelims. They were seventh in the finals with a time of 19:29.4.

The state meet at Giants Ridge in Biwabik is set for Feb. 16 and 17. The girls’ 5K classic race will take place at 3 p.m. on Feb. 16 before the 5K freestyle runs at that same time on Feb. 17.

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## STAGE

From Page 10

her teammate, Sara Eddy (ninth, 9.275). Fettig added a 10th-place finish on the beam (8.950), a six-place finish on the bars (8.850) and then a fifth-place finish on the floor (9.325) to wrap up her day.

“I had felt pretty solid about all of my events throughout that entire meet, and just really proud of what I had put out there,” she said. “Floor just kind of sealed that good feeling within me that I did do a good job today. Then it really didn’t matter about the scores or where I placed because

I knew that I went out there and put my best foot forward.”

There were certainly mixed feelings heading into the meet. Nerves were at play knowing this was the opportunity she had worked so hard for, but she brushed that aside to enjoy the experience.

“This entire season, state has always been my big goal,” Fettig said. “There’s a lot of pressure when it’s your last year, so throughout the season I just tried to remind myself that gymnastics is more than just one performance, one meet. Instead of maybe this could be my last meet ever, I tried focusing on, ‘Wow, I get to have this

experience with my team doing the sport that I love.”

The state team gymnastics meet is scheduled for Feb. 18 at the Roy Wilkins Auditorium in St. Paul.

Fettig will take in her last high school competition on the biggest stage in the state when she competes in the individual meet on Feb. 19. The Class AA meet begins at 11 a.m.

“I have been wanting to try out a couple new skills,” Fettig said. “I just played it a little bit safe at sections to make sure that all of my routines were super clean and I had the best chance of making it to state. We always say sections is the hard-

est part because once you’re at state, you’ve made it. I’m really just going to have fun there and enjoy the experience.”

SECTION 8AA CHAMPIONSHIP  
TEAM SCORES - 1. St. Cloud Tech - 147.325; 2. Bemidji - 142.300; 3. Brainerd - 142.150; 4. Monticello - 141.500; 5. Sartell-St. Stephen - 140.875; 6. Sauk Rapids-Rice - 135.550; 7. Alexandria - 134.375; 8. Moorhead - 121.725  
ALEXANDRIA - All-Around - Ailynn Fettig - third, 36.325  
VAULT - Sara Eddy - ninth, 9.275; Ailynn Fettig - 11th, 9.2; Loren Buggert - 24th, 8.850; Izzy Kent - 25th, 8.850; Jamie Aldis - 39th, 8.20  
BARS - Ailynn Fettig - sixth, 8.850; Addison Twa - 20th, 8.225; Addison Fettig - 32nd, 7.375; Buggert - 34th, 7.300; Kent - 35th, 7.150  
BEAM - Ailynn Fettig - 10th, 8.950; Hailie Kent - 25th, 8.300; Twa - 28th, 7.875; Eddy - 29th, 7.850; Buggert - 34th, 7.425  
FLOOR - Ailynn Fettig - fifth, 9.325; Eddy - 30th, 8.150; Dylan Witt - 32nd, 8.100; Addison Fettig - 35th, 7.900; Twa - 37th, 7.850  
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## JACK

From Page 10

cycles of chemotherapy treatments that will take place over the course of six months.

It’s the fight of his young life, but Jack’s father, Joe, said doctors are optimistic.

“They’re very optimistic, and we are too,” Joe said. “The cancer he has is a really aggressive kind, and so the chemo is also really aggressive. He’s got a tremendous fight to get through this, but we fully believe and are optimistic that he can.”

### Alexandria quickly becomes home

It took very little time for the Alberts — Joe, Kim, Jack and his 12-year-old sister, Victoria — to integrate themselves into the Alexandria community.

They moved here from Bloomington in the spring of 2021 after previously spending as much time as they could in Alexandria at a cabin that has been in the family for years.

Kim and Joe were both able to work remotely after the COVID-19 pandemic hit, and it was always the plan to move to the lakes area if it was ever possible.

A big part of that draw was because of Jack. Jack loves hockey in the winter. He loves baseball in the spring and summer, and he loves fishing any chance he can get.

“We bass fish all the time during the summer,” Joe said. “When we first moved up here, Jack wanted to go fishing every day no matter what it was, if it was 30 mile-per-hour winds and 40 degrees. It was like, ‘Hey, bud, we live up here now. We can take a day off.’”

The Alberts made fast friends in Alexandria. Joe coached baseball. Kim volunteered within the hockey program, and the family got involved in their church at Calvary Lutheran. Jack and Victoria’s involvement in activities led to even more friendships.

“We’ve only been here nine months, but we love it so hard,” Kim said. “We’ve thrown ourselves into the community.”

**Hard to put into words**

Jack now has an entire community pulling for him.

After the cancer diagnosis, Joe and Kim created a Facebook page called “Albert Strong” to

### ALEXANDRIA BLIZZARD BENEFIT FOR JACK

The Alexandria Blizzard hockey team is hosting a benefit for Jack Albert and his family during their game against Mason City on Feb. 20 at 5 p.m.

That matchup is Alexandria Area Hockey Association night where all players get in free with their jerseys. Parents, friends and family of players will also get a discounted \$8 ticket where \$2 from all tickets purchased off of that online link will be donated to the Albert family. The Blizzard will also have a signed jersey sale with proceeds going to the Alberts.

share updates on how Jack is doing.

A post from Feb. 13 shared some great news. Jack’s numbers had improved so much that he was allowed to go home for a week before the second round of chemotherapy begins. Jack says, “I’m going home!” in the video before giving a big fist pump.

The Facebook wall is filled with photos and videos the family has received offering him encouragement. Through help getting the word out from a parent in Alexandria’s youth hockey program, Jack’s story has reached some of the biggest names in sports and entertainment.

Former Minnesota Twins star Joe Mauer, hockey great Wayne Gretzky, musician Zac Brown, and professional bass angler Seth Feider of Bloomington are some of the notable names who have sent well wishes through video.

Joe’s siblings created a GoFundMe page for Jack to help the family with expenses that will come over the next several months. People have donated more than \$46,000 as of Feb. 11.

“It’s incredible. Every time we talk about it, you just kind of run out of adjectives to describe it,” Joe said of all the support. “It’s truly meant everything. It’s people that we haven’t known for that long, people we don’t know who are just taking it upon themselves to make us feel not just welcomed, but like family. It’s truly amazing. Humbling is a good word for it too.”

Jack got a video from the high school Alexandria boys hockey team with individual players sending him their encouragement. He watched it over and over again.

“Those are his heroes, so it meant a lot that they would take the time to do that,” Joe said. “They’re kids he’s watched and looked up to.”

Jack’s immune system has been so weak that Joe and Kim were about the only family members who could be with him in the hospital.

Kim left the Twin Cities one

night, to be with Victoria, since Jack was admitted on Jan. 18. Joe goes back and forth between Alexandria and Minneapolis, but knows he cannot make contact with many other people with the pandemic still going on.

That made attending the fundraiser at the hockey doubleheader a little nerve wracking, but Joe wanted to be there to say thank you. After the girls game, Joe, Victoria and other members of the Albert family went out to center ice as both the girls and boys varsity players gathered a wide distance around them in a circle.

“We’re fortunate to be able to play the game, and we just want to play for Jack and remind him that we’re there for him,” Alexandria girls hockey coach Molly Arola said. “We’re always going to be rooting for him no matter what.”

Joe took a microphone and got the chance to voice his appreciation while Kim and Jack watched through a live stream.

“Jack was happy to see his family there, to see the stands filled, to see his team there, and to see both Alexandria boys and girls varsity teams there circling around our family,” Kim said. “That was very symbolic of how they have surrounded us with support and love and prayer throughout this entire ordeal.”

Staff within the Alexandria school system is doing what it can to make things as easy as possible for the Alberts. Victoria, who is staying with her grandparents right now in Carlos, is a 6th-grader at Discovery Middle School.

“The schools have been unbelievable. They’ve wrapped their arms around Victoria,” Kim said. “Her teachers, coaches, principal, social worker. Every week they’re checking in, sometimes daily, saying this is what’s going on. That takes this huge burden off of us because we feel so guilty. She needs us too. She’s 12.”

**‘He is the strongest person I know’**

Jack, a 4th-grader at Woodland Elementary, had already missed some school due

to feeling sick before his cancer diagnosis.

He is now enrolled in the city of Minneapolis Public Schools system so he can meet with a private tutor. They communicate with staff from Woodland to stay on the same page so Jack can jump back into Woodland when he is ready.

Kim said the goal is to get him back with his classmates as soon as possible. First through Google meets, then hopefully in person. Jack will be in the hospital for two months as he goes through the most aggressive chemotherapy sessions.

“Then the next four are a little less aggressive, so we’re hoping during that time we’ll be able to have him at Woodland for a period of time,” Kim said.

Kim and Joe want to do everything to keep Jack feeling like a kid and not a cancer patient.

“That’s what Alexandria has done for us,” Kim said. “Jack’s hockey team checks in with him morning, noon and night. They’re at the games and holding his jersey, they’re skating him through the lineup. They’re calling him before and after. They just talk to him like his friends. They make him feel like Jack and not a cancer patient. That’s needed. They send care packages like you would not believe. It brings him so much joy.”

There are days right now when Jack can barely lift his legs to get out of bed to move his body during physical therapy, but he finds the courage to do it.

“He takes it one step at a time,” Joe said. “He fights through it, and has that positive attitude, fighting spirit. It’s really easy when you’re dealing with this kind of stuff to wonder why or get down in the dumps, but he doesn’t do that.”

Cancer and the chemotherapy treatments have weakened Jack’s body. They have not dampened the spirit that so many people love him for.

“He is the strongest person I know. He’s so strong,” Kim said. “There’s the chemo, this poison, going into his veins and he’s just singing and playing the guitar and talking to his buddies. He’s doing amazing, and he’s just so positive. He’s always upbeat and sunny no matter what. He’s physically and mentally the strongest, most positive person that I know.”

Email sports and outdoor editor Eric Morken at [emorken@echopress.com](mailto:emorken@echopress.com).



Alexandria >>>

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 Employment ads: call 888-514-4473 or email [jobs@jobshq.com](mailto:jobs@jobshq.com)

HELP WANTED AGRICULTURE



**PRO AG FARMERS COOP BRANDON, MN**

Full-Time Agronomist Duties include Sales, Scouting, Seed Treating, Deliveries, etc.

Seasonal Drivers For Spring Fertilizer Deliveries. Deliver to floaters, spreaders, farmdeliveries

Seasonal Load Operator To load tower and dump trucks at Fertilizer Plant.

**Wages DOE. Full-time includes FULL Benefits.**

Send resume to [jim.vonwahlde@proagfarmers.com](mailto:jim.vonwahlde@proagfarmers.com) or call 320-524-2286 for info.

HELP WANTED CLEANING AND JANITORIAL

**Part Time Custodian Brandon-Evansville Schools Immediate Opening**

This person will be responsible for Janitorial duties at the Evansville Campus. Hours would be weekdays from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Monday through Friday. This position will be open until filled. Send applications in care of Don Peschel, Superintendent, to email [dpeschel@b-e.k12.mn.us](mailto:dpeschel@b-e.k12.mn.us) or drop off the application materials in either office in Brandon, or Evansville. If you have any questions contact Mr. Peschel at (320) 834-4084 Ext 6107



HELP WANTED EDUCATION

Long Prairie-Grey Eagle School District has an opening for a

**Full Time Secondary Math Teacher**

Start Date: March 21, 2022

**Qualifications:** MN Mathematics Teacher License Grade 7-12.

If you are interested in an opportunity to help our students succeed, please apply online at [www.lpge.org](http://www.lpge.org) (Select Employment Opportunities on the home page). For more information contact Barton Rud, LPGE Secondary Principal at 320-732-2194 ext 1013.

HELP WANTED GENERAL

**Galeon of Osakis**

**We are Hiring the following positions**

**Day & PM CNAs - FT Resident Assistants - FT, Day Shifts**

Training provided. Excellent benefits package that includes: health, dental & vision ins., PTO, holiday pay, life ins., retirement plan & gym/pool membership.

**For descriptions & to fill out app visit [galeonmn.com](http://galeonmn.com) or apply in person at 410 W. Main St. 320-859-2142**

HELP WANTED GENERAL



**\$200 or \$500 Sign on Bonus**

Become an independent Contract Carrier for the

**Lakeland Shopping Guide**

Currently we have walking routes available in:

- Alexandria
- Carlos
- Lowry
- Miltona

Take 1 walking route and receive a \$200 Sign on Bonus! or Take 2 walking routes & we'll make it \$500!

**Call Lynn at (320)763-1218 for more information**

HELP WANTED OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATION



**Office Support Specialist**

**\$16.98 Hourly**

**80% to 100% of Full Time with Benefits!**

**Generally, M-F, 8-4:30 Occasional evening and weekend hours.**

Provide customer service, receptionist services, and assist with the administration of the Douglas County Extension and Land and Resources Departments.

Visit: <https://www.co.douglas.mn.us/employment-opportunities> for more details and to apply!

This job closes at **4 p.m. on 2/16/2022.**

HELP WANTED GENERAL



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**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.**

*...make it second nature!*

HELP WANTED GENERAL



**AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST**

Forum Communications Company is looking for an Audience Engagement Specialist to collaborate with newsrooms and product teams to grow audience reach within the historical true crime genre.

**RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:**

- Curate stories, photos and videos from across the company's multi-state news network to present in an engaging, reader-friendly format.
- Identify new audience channels and opportunities for our content and help manage experiments in these areas.
- Work closely with our true crime editor and reporters to help manage editorial calendar
- Assist in updating news websites and social media accounts with breaking news and daily updates, as needed.

**EXPERIENCE:**

- Bachelor's degree in mass communication, marketing or a related field.
- Two or more years of media or social media management experience is ideal.
- Basic experience with content management systems and social media strategy.



**For more details and to apply go to: [www.forumcomm.com/careers](http://www.forumcomm.com/careers)**

EOE

HELP WANTED GENERAL



**\$500 NEW HIRE BONUS PROGRESSIVE LIVING SOLUTIONS**

Progressive Living Solutions is a local Alexandria residential adult group home provider supporting high functioning adults with mental illness and other disabilities. Looking for kind and nurturing caregivers to assist us in our fun and laid-back social environment, by providing supervision and other supports to our residents. No physical cares or restraining actions required. Our residents are kind individuals and there are no threats of physical injury while on shift. **Offering a competitive hourly wage, paid training, annual bonus, and a \$500.00 new hire bonus. Recent wage increases!**

**Hiring immediately for Full Time & Part Time positions! PM Direct Support Professionals 3:00pm - 10:15pm and Awake Overnight Direct Support Professionals 10:00pm - 7:30am with rotating weekends.**

Please call to discuss these opportunities! (320) 759-5730 or apply online at [www.PLSMN.net/Jobs](http://www.PLSMN.net/Jobs)

HELP WANTED GENERAL



**D Michael B's**

D Michael B's is now accepting applications full and part-time for the following positions:

- Supervisors
- Servers/Bar
- Kitchen
- Prep
- Dishwashers
- Bussers

Must be able to work nights & weekends.

**Apply within at D Michael B's at the Viking Plaza Mall in Alexandria, MN. Ask for Brad (320) 762-2697**

HELP WANTED GENERAL



**WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA Communities Action**

**Head Start Assistant Teacher/Aide - Elbow Lake, Alexandria & Morris**

West Central MN Communities Action is hiring Head Start Assistant Teachers/Aides in their Elbow Lake, Alexandria and Morris preschool classrooms to promote children's school readiness, support the lead teacher in lesson planning, perform daily classroom responsibilities and assist with strengthening family engagement.

The Head Start Assistant Teacher/Aide position is a seasonal, full-time position with an excellent benefits package including medical insurance, life insurance, retirement, paid time off and paid holidays. Starting pay is \$13.77-\$15.89 per hour, depending upon qualifications.

**APPLY TODAY at [www.wcmca.org](http://www.wcmca.org) or for more information contact Taanna Henningsen, 218-685-7057**

Position is open until filled

An Equal Opportunity

HELP WANTED GENERAL



**PrimeWest HEALTH**

PrimeWest Health is a partnership of 24 rural Minnesota counties providing innovative health coverage programs, including to residents who qualify for Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP). We are recruiting an energetic, self-directed employee for the following position in the Alexandria location:

- **Behavioral Health Manager**

Visit our website at <https://www.primewest.org/careers> for a complete job description and information about how to submit a resume. EOE

HELP WANTED GENERAL



**WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA Communities Action**

**Weatherization Housing Advocate**

West Central MN Communities Action in Elbow Lake, MN is currently expanding their Weatherization program team and is hiring a full-time Housing Advocate, starting at \$21.00/hour.

The Housing Advocate is responsible to assess energy efficiency and health and safety conditions in clients' homes, prescribe cost-effective remedies and assist in all day-to-day operational activities that include a variety of clerical, computer, and selected direct client/contractor activities.

If you are looking for a gratifying career with competitive wages and an excellent benefit package; including paid time off, holidays, retirement with match, medical and life insurance, **Apply Today at [www.wcmca.org](http://www.wcmca.org) or call Taanna Henningsen, 218-685-7057 for more information.**

An Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



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Grow with the leading inclined elevator manufacturer. Manage and perform inclined elevator inspections and service. Knowledge of general mechanics and low-voltage electrical systems required. Extensive travel. Full-time. Marine Innovations 888/334-4666 [info@marineinnovations.com](mailto:info@marineinnovations.com)

THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (MDA)

is hiring temp Forest Pest Surveyors (Agric Technicians) for the 2022 Gypsy Moth (Lymantria dispar) Trapping Survey. View job post (Job I.D. 52276) & apply online through March 1st at: <https://mn.gov/mmb/careers>. MDA is an equal opportunity employer & provider. Questions: 651/201-6692 or [natasha.northrop@state.mn.us](mailto:natasha.northrop@state.mn.us)

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

WANTED TO BUY OR TRADE FREON WANTED:

We pay \$\$ for old refrigerants: R11, R12, R113 & more! Certified Professionals. Call 312/586-9371 or visit [RefrigerantFinders.com](http://RefrigerantFinders.com) Te pagamos por tu refrigerante!

MISCELLANEOUS

**DONATE YOUR CAR**

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

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

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

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!

THE COVID CRISIS

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

THE GENERAC PWRCELL

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

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of managing medications. Hero sorts and dispenses meds, sends alerts at dose times and handles prescription refill and delivery for you. Starting at \$24.99/month. No initiation fee. 90-day risk-free trial! Call 844/255-4489



### HELP WANTED TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

### HENRY'S FOODS

**Up to \$25,000  
Sign-On Bonus!**

### Class A CDL Driver to be based out of Alexandria!

- WE OFFER:**
- \$22 per hour
  - Year round employment
  - Four or five day schedules available
  - Occasional overnight shifts include per diem
  - Well maintained fleet
  - Uniforms and seasonal outerwear provided
  - Family owned; operating with family values

**Excellent benefits pkg. includes: health insurance, life insurance, 401k plan, paid vacation time, paid sick time & paid holidays!**

**Must have valid Class A CDL & current Health Card.**

**Apply online at:  
henryfoods.com  
or send completed application to: Henry's Foods, Inc., Attn: HR,  
PO Box 1057,  
Alexandria, MN 56308**

**Thinking about a new JOB?**

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jobs**HQ**

### DEALS & STEALS

**WE BUY:** Coin collections, accumulations, bullion, mint & proof sets, currency, tokens, etc. Will travel & pay cash. 55 yrs experience. No deal is too big! (612) 986-2566

**For Sale:** Eskimo 8 inch gas ice auger. Very good condition. Sharp blades. \$325 new, asking \$145 or best offer. (320) 239-9876

**For Sale:** Hoover Powerdash Pet Carpet Cleaner with Heat Force for faster drying, Model #FH50710. Clean, runs great. \$30.00 (320) 763-2417

**Wanted:** Donations of Bibles, devotionals, & faith-based books, CDs, DVDs, etc. for men, women and children. (320) 491-7107

**For Sale:** 3/8 inch plywood, used, all in good condition, many sized pieces. \$3 - \$6 each sheet. (320) 491-1887

**For Sale:** A collection of 22 vinyl "Ray Conniff" LP records, in very good condition. \$95.00. (320) 763-5347

**For Sale:** Sony CD & Audio cassette player with radio, 2 speakers & remote. Works perfect. \$50.00 (320) 219-0928

**Wanted:** Old cars or pickups from the 50's, 60's or 70's, parked in your woods, sheds or weeds. (218) 640-3807

**Wanted:** Old fishing lures, reels and miscellaneous fishing items. Paying fair price. NFLCC member. (218) 969-8561

**Wanted:** Donations of men's dress shirts, neckties and suits - any size. (320) 491-7107

**Wanted:** Rock saw and rock polisher for making Cabochons. (320) 491-1887

### FIREWOOD

**DRY OAK FIREWOOD** - Guarantee To Burn, Bug Free. 3x7x16 \$150. Free Delivery and stacking. Cooking Wood Available. (320) 285-2645/292-8993

### OUTDOORS

**Wanting To Purchase: Hunting Land Within 25 Miles Of Alexandria. Call Daryl 612-749-2459**

### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**Wiltoka Apartments**  
536 & 538 Willow Dr,  
Alexandria, MN  
Nice 2 bedroom apt \$690  
Nice 3 bedroom apt \$800  
Rent includes heat, water/sewer, lawn care/snow removal.  
Section 42 Property/  
Income limits in Place  
Call Lori, 320-762-3074

### OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

**For Rent:** 1500 square feet of office or retail space at 209 6th Ave E, Alexandria. \$900/month 320-766-7321 or 320-763-6518

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

YOUR GUIDE TO GREAT SERVICES!

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► CARPET CLEANING ► HOUSEKEEPING ► MECHANIC ► ELECTRICAL ► AND MORE!

### HEATING/ AIR CONDITIONING

CENTRAL BOILER Outdoor Wood & Pellet furnaces. Sales, Service, Parts & Year round Installation. ALL in One Outdoor Furnace Covering Alexandria & Surrounding Areas. 218-346-6705 Free Onsite Estimates

### MOTORS

▶▶▶ Call: 320-763-1201 or Email: [classifieds@echopress.com](mailto:classifieds@echopress.com)

### HOMES FOR SALE

**3959 Geneva Golf Club Dr NE, Alexandria, MN**  
2/20/22 - OPEN HOUSE - SUNDAY 12:00 - 3:00 PM  
Gorgeous 3 BR, 2 BA, situated on the 5th hole of the Geneva Golf Course. Open fir plan, custom upgrades, MBR w/walk-in tile shower, fire-place and wet bar in FR and beautiful concrete patio w/wood-burning fireplace. 3 car garage, 2456 sq. ft., \$550,000.  
Call (479) 466-9459

### BUSINESSES FOR SALE

**Business For Sale:**

Well established family restaurant in Willmar, MN.

Staffed and running! \$175k.

For more information  
Contact Todd  
toddhscbrokers.com  
612-867-6667.

### AGRICULTURE MISCELLANEOUS

**Wanted:** Tillable Farmland or Hay Ground for 2022 & Beyond. Reputable and Dependable Farmer. Paying Fair Rent. Alexandria and Surround area. 320-808-8336

### WANTED FARMLAND TO RENT

**Wanted**  
Young farmer looking for tillable land for 2022 and beyond. Top notch work.  
Call Landon 320-766-3754.

### PARTS/TIRES/ENGINES

**90 Day Warranty Now Available On Used Auto Parts. Budget Auto Parts. 320-763-4231.**

### VEHICLES WANTED

**Wanted:** Cars and trucks for crushing. Will pick up. Crossstown Auto Parts. 320-762-1011 or 800-658-3431.

### MN LEGALS

#### Ad for Bids

Publish February 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 2022

**Project:**  
**Alexandria Public Schools  
Discovery Middle School  
& Garfield Elementary School  
Cooling System Design  
510 McKay Avenue N  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
303 Sanstead Street E  
Garfield, MN 56332**

**Bids Close:** February 22, 2022 – 2:00 pm local time  
**Bid Location:** Alexandria Public Schools, ISD #206  
District Office  
1410 South McKay Avenue,  
Suite 201  
Alexandria, MN 56308

**Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting:**  
February 8, 2022 – 2:00 pm local time  
Discovery Middle School  
510 McKay Avenue N  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
Garfield Elementary School  
303 Sanstead Street E  
Garfield, MN 56332

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS** - Contractor's sealed proposals for the cooling system designs at Discovery Middle School and Garfield Elementary School, a project including General Construction will be received by the owner, at the above-mentioned time and place in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by KFI Engineers and JLG Architects.

**Bids will be received as follows:**  
**Combined bid including all work.**  
Bids of Contractor's who did not attend mandatory pre-bid meeting will be returned unopened.  
Bids received after deadline will be returned unopened.

Bids will be opened publicly immediately after time of receiving bids. Envelopes containing bids must be sealed, marked in the lower left-hand corner "Discovery Middle School & Garfield Elementary School" and with the name and address of the bidder and the date and hour of the opening and addressed to:  
**Alexandria Public Schools,  
ISD #206  
Trevor Peterson, Business Director  
1410 South McKay Avenue,  
Suite 201  
Alexandria, MN 56308**

Fax'd bids are not acceptable. Each bidder must accompany his proposal with a cashier's check, bid bond or certified check equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of the proposal payable to the owner as guarantee of prompt execution of the contract in accordance with the proposal and contract documents, and that he will furnish bond acceptable to the owner covering performance of the contract.

Copies of the plans, specifications and other contract documents are on file in the following offices and are available for public inspection: KFI Engineers; the Builders Exchanges of Alexandria, Minneapolis and Fargo-Moorhead.

Project documents will be available at <http://www.questcdn.com>. You may download the complete set of digital bidding documents, for \$25 by entering eBidDoc TM on the "Search Projects" page. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952.233.1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in downloading and working with this digital project information.

Bids may not be withdrawn for thirty (30) days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids. The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any irregularities in bids.

Trevor Peterson, Business Director  
Alexandria School District #206  
27766

**Foreclosure Sale**  
Publish February 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022

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

Mortgagor: Kendal A Larson and Sara J Larson, husband and wife as joint tenants

Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Great Northern Financial Group, Inc., its successors and assigns

Dated: June 3, 2005  
Recorded: July 11, 2005  
Douglas County Recorder Document No. 272602

Assigned To: U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS8

Dated: October 21, 2015  
Recorded: December 8, 2015  
Douglas County Recorder Document No. 380527

Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.  
Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: 10026149558331560

Lender or Broker: Great Northern Financial Group, Inc., a Minnesota corporation

Residential Mortgage Servicer: PHH Mortgage Corporation  
Mortgage Originator: Great Northern Financial Group, Inc., a Minnesota corporation

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:** NW 1/4 NE 1/4, Section 1, Township 129, Range 36, Douglas County, Minnesota

This is Abstract Property.  
**TAX PARCEL NO.:** 06.0003.000  
**ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:** 12201 Zimmel Rd NE  
Carlos, MN 56319  
**COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED:** Douglas

**ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE:** \$170,000.00  
**AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE:** \$162,565.25

### MN LEGALS

tact QuestCDN.com at 952.233.1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in downloading and working with this digital project information.

Bids may not be withdrawn for thirty (30) days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids. The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any irregularities in bids.

Trevor Peterson, Business Director  
Alexandria School District #206  
27766

**Foreclosure Sale**  
Publish February 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022

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**ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:** 12201 Zimmel Rd NE  
Carlos, MN 56319  
**COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED:** Douglas

**ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE:** \$170,000.00  
**AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE:** \$162,565.25

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

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

**DATE AND TIME OF SALE:** April 7, 2022, 10:00 AM  
**PLACE OF SALE:** Lobby of Sheriff's Office, 216 Seventh Ave. W., Alexandria, MN

to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within 1 Year from the date of sale said by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns.

**DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY:** The date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under Minnesota Statutes section 580.30 or the property redeemed under Minnesota Statutes section 580.23 is April 7, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then the date to vacate is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

**MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:** NONE

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

Dated: February 9, 2022  
U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS8

Assignee of Mortgagee  
By: HALLIDAY, WATKINS & MANN, P.C.

Attorneys for:  
U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS8

Assignee of Mortgagee  
101 Fifth Street East, Suite 2626  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
651-291-8955  
651-228-1753 (fax)

**THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**  
MN10553 32102

**Foreclosure Sale**  
Publish February 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE**  
**THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.**  
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Mortgagor: Kendal A Larson and Sara J Larson, husband and wife as joint tenants

Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Great Northern Financial Group, Inc., its successors and assigns

Dated: June 3, 2005  
Recorded: July 11, 2005  
Douglas County Recorder Document No. 272602

Assigned To: U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS8

Dated: October 21, 2015  
Recorded: December 8, 2015  
Douglas County Recorder Document No. 380527

Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.  
Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: 10026149558331560

Lender or Broker: Great Northern Financial Group, Inc., a Minnesota corporation

Residential Mortgage Servicer: PHH Mortgage Corporation  
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**AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE:** \$162,565.25

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

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

**DATE AND TIME OF SALE:** April 7, 2022, 10:00 AM  
**PLACE OF SALE:** Lobby of Sheriff's Office, 216 Seventh Ave. W., Alexandria, MN

to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within 1 Year from the date of sale said by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns.

**DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY:** The date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under Minnesota Statutes section 580.30 or the property redeemed under Minnesota Statutes section 580.23 is April 7, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then the date to vacate is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

**MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:** NONE

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

Dated: February 9, 2022  
U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS8

Assignee of Mortgagee  
By: HALLIDAY, WATKINS & MANN, P.C.

Attorneys for:  
U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS8

Assignee of Mortgagee  
101 Fifth Street East, Suite 2626  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
651-291-8955  
651-228-1753 (fax)

**THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**  
MN10553 32102

**Foreclosure Sale**  
Publish February 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2022

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

Mortgagor: Kendal A Larson and Sara J Larson, husband and wife as joint tenants

Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Great Northern Financial Group, Inc., its successors and assigns

Dated: June 3, 2005  
Recorded: July 11, 2005  
Douglas County Recorder Document No. 272602

Assigned To: U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS8

Dated: October 21, 2015  
Recorded: December 8, 2015  
Douglas County Recorder Document No. 380527

Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.  
Transaction Agent Mortgage Identification Number: 10026149558331560

Lender or Broker: Great Northern Financial Group, Inc., a Minnesota corporation

Residential Mortgage Servicer: PHH Mortgage Corporation  
Mortgage Originator: Great Northern Financial Group, Inc., a Minnesota corporation

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:** NW 1/4 NE 1/4, Section 1, Township 129, Range 36, Douglas County, Minnesota

This is Abstract Property.  
**TAX PARCEL NO.:** 06.0003.000  
**ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:** 12201 Zimmel Rd NE  
Carlos, MN 56319  
**COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED:** Douglas

**ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE:** \$170,000.00  
**AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE:** \$162,565.25

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

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

**DATE AND TIME OF SALE:** April 7, 2022, 10:00 AM  
**PLACE OF SALE:** Lobby of Sheriff's Office, 216 Seventh Ave. W., Alexandria, MN

to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within 1 Year from the date of sale said by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns.

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# New hope for the homeless

**By Al Edenloff**  
Alexandria Echo Press

ALEXANDRIA — A new burst of energy is helping the homeless in the Douglas County area.

The effort, which began on Jan. 10 and will continue through April 3, is called “Hope Haven” and is being led by United Way of Douglas and Pope Counties and the West Central Minnesota Communities Action.

The Alexandria Police Department is playing a supportive role, along with more than a dozen organizations, six churches and their members, and several private businesses and volunteers.

Police Chief Scott Kent, United Way Director Jen Jabas and Heather Molesworth with communities action told the Alexandria City Council Monday night that the area has needed a homeless shelter for “many, many years.”

Jabas said that the number of people seeking coats, shelter and food this past October and November doubled or maybe even tripled. With the brutally cold winter settling in, the United Way and communities action realized they had to do something right away, Jabas said.

“Homelessness is real,” she added. “No one should have to go without a home.”

The six local churches are taking turns providing shelter. Those who need it check in between 5:30 and 7 p.m. The program is for those 18 and older.

They receive an evening meal and they dine with church members. They are also provided with a hygiene kit, a cot to sleep on, quilts and pillows. In the morning,



they eat breakfast and receive a sack lunch.

Council members were impressed with the effort and how well it is going.

“It’s amazing how fast you got this off and running,” said Mayor Bobbie Osterberg.

Kent credited Jabas and Molesworth for their “dedication, compassion, empathy” and all the long volunteer hours they put into the effort.

Jabas said it’s been a privilege to work with so many partners, which included the churches, local businesses such as Common Ground, the Douglas County Outreach Food Shelf, Horizon Public Health, the YMCA for providing hot showers, the Community Coalition, and donors and volunteers throughout the area.

“It takes a whole community to wrap your arms around a neighbor in need,” Jabas said.

## Police chief upbeat about hiring officer

The Alexandria City Council authorized the city’s police commission to begin the hiring process for a police officer.

The position, which was included in the police department’s 2022 budget, will bring the department back to staffing levels that it had before COVID-19 hit. The position was not immediately replaced because of the financial uncertainty of the 2021 budget.

The hiring process typically takes about three months but Kent was encouraged by what he saw when the police department attended a job fair at the Alexandria Technical and Community College.

In a memo to the council, he noted, “I am excited to tell you we have some amazing talent in the law enforcement program and several of them had a desire to stay in our community. The timing to start the hiring process to retain the student who wants to serve our community is now.”

In other police department news:

► Kent recognized Jeff James for his 18 years of service on the police commission and the hundreds of hours of volunteer time to the police department and city. “Jeff has been a tremendous supporter of our organization,” Kent said. “He has assisted in every officer’s hiring or promotion process in our department.” James received a plaque for his work. “It’s all about these guys,” James said motioning to the police officers who attended the meeting, “and supporting them in any way I can.”

► An above-ground water line broke inside the police department’s mechanical room in the early morning hours of Jan. 30. Between 1,500 to 2,000 gallons of water flooded half of the building, Kent said. Pumps and boilers were damaged. Kent said the total damage will amount to between \$150,000 and \$200,000 and most of it will be covered through insurance. The chief thanked his staff for their resilience and patience while dealing with the clean-up.

► The council voted to appoint Michele Boston to the police commission. Four candidates applied for the vacant position.

## Adult Teen Challenge seeks annexation

Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge is requesting a small one-acre parcel of its land in

LaGrand Township to be annexed into the city.

The council voted to accept the petition, notify LaGrand Township and Douglas County about the request, and give the annexing ordinance preliminary approval.

The property is located on Shady Lane near Lake Winona.

Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge Centers offer a broad range of services. It provides Christian faith-based, residential care to young people and adults who struggle with life-controlling problems.

The Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge Center plans to build on a 14-acre site at 525 Willow Drive on the north-west shoreline of Lake Winona. It was the home of Dr. William Heegaard and his wife, Josie.

The project consists of five parcels which will be combined, including the parcel in LaGrand Township. The center will include 19 units as well as a chapel, dining hall, kitchen, a half-gym, classrooms, fitness facilities, staff offices, parking, and other accessory uses. About 30 staff members will work at the center.

## Study looks into how welcoming city is

How welcoming is the city of Alexandria?

A new survey will look into that question. The council agreed to authorize up to \$8,500 to conduct a “Welcoming Community Assessment” offered through the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Community Vitality.

The city’s cultural inclusiveness committee will work with the extension center. The committee recently completed a strategic planning session that led members to conclude that in order to be effective in leveraging city resources, the group needs to know about the

approved a resolution to designate no parking on 18th Avenue, between Fillmore and Nokomis Street. The state requires

the city to designate where parking will not be allowed for any project that receives state funds.

Email Editor Al Edenloff at [aedenloff@echopress.com](mailto:aedenloff@echopress.com)



Al Edenloff / Alexandria Echo Press

Alexandria police officers and Chief Scott Kent (far right) gathered to congratulate Jeff James for his 18 years of service to the city’s police commission. James’ family members were also at Monday’s council meeting. James had a hand in hiring more than 24 officers over the years.

current state of the community.

The study will help the committee to focus its efforts, identify key community partners and allow members to clearly define their purpose.

“We believe the outcome of the committee’s work based on the report findings, which includes ongoing coaching, will help us achieve our goal of becoming a more welcoming community” the committee said in a memo to the council.

## Good news for city streets

The municipal aid the city receives from the state will total \$1,287,117 in 2022 – a 13% increase from its allotment last year.

City Engineer Tim Schoonhoven said this is good news for the city because it will help fund state aid projects and the city’s local street overlay projects this summer.

Email Editor Al Edenloff at [aedenloff@echopress.com](mailto:aedenloff@echopress.com)

## PROJECT

From Page 1

more than \$1.5 million. Removing contaminated soil increased from zero to \$327,943, based on a now known contamination site located near 18th Avenue and Broadway.

Storm sewer costs surged from \$271,700 to \$893,468 after more manholes, catch basins, and an underground stormwater chamber were added to comply with the city’s storm sewer ordinance.

Other increases: traffic control went up from \$18,630 to \$275,000; lighting increased from \$84,866 to \$220,404; and landscaping increased from \$69,690 to \$147,195.

All of these amounts are estimates; the actual costs will be determined by the low bid, according to City Engineer Tim Schoonhoven.

Bids are expected to be opened on March 30 and will be brought before the council in April.

The city is still in the process of obtaining right-of-way for the 18th Avenue project. It closed a portion of its Monday meeting to discuss acquiring land from Silver Maple Investments, LLC. A small portion of the northeast corner of the company’s parking lot serves the tenants of the building at 1804 Broadway.

Tenants include O’Reilly Auto Parts, Alex Bearing and Farm Supply, J.G. Hair Care, Alexandria Title Company, Kaleidoscope Business Services, Activecare Chiropractic Clinic and Homegrown Nutrition.

To get the parcel, the city has started eminent domain proceedings in Douglas County District Court. The process has two phases – a “quick take” phase where the court transfers the land to the city after determining that the taking of the land is for a proper public purpose and a “damages” phase where the court determines how much the city must pay for the land, according to City Attorney Tom Jacobson.

In this case, the city, Silver Maple and all of the tenants agreed that the city’s taking is for a public service and the city may acquire the land. On Feb. 8, a judge approved the quick take and ordered the transfer of the land.

“We have always known that the city would have to pay something for this land; the only question was how much,” Jacobson said in a memo to the council.

Jacobson requested the council to go into a closed session to discuss how much the city should pay. This confidential attorney-client conversation is allowed under state law.

In a related action, the council approved a revised engineering agreement for 18th Avenue and Jefferson Street. The total engineering cost is \$744,142, up 39% from the \$556,940 amount last September.

The difference is because the scope of the engineering work increased for three items – contaminated soil, storm sewer and traffic control, Schoonhoven said.

Also, the council

CROSSWORD

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	30
31					32	33				34		
35			36					37	38			
			39				40					
41	42	43			44	45						
46					47					48	49	50
51												
52					53					54		
55					56					57		

ACROSS

1. President's \_\_\_\_ Office

5. Hunger

9. Felon's flight

12. Italian money, once

13. Drive away

14. Hatchet

15. River barriers

16. Period preceding Easter

17. Scramble (for)

18. Haste

20. Final

21. Jacket features

24. Certain poem

26. In flames

27. Former: hyph.

31. Kind of music

32. South American range

34. Uncooked

35. Clad

37. Cream of the crop

39. Pod dweller

40. Springs up

41. Flat bread

44. Goes on and on

46. Grape or orange drink

47. Ice mass, for short

48. So long, in London: 2 wds.

52. Negative linking word

53. Employer

54. Self-images

55. Shady tree

DOWN

1. Out-of-date

2. Passing through

3. Limb

4. Lower

5. The British \_\_\_\_

6. Biblical pronoun

7. Pardon

8. Spicy

9. Molten flow

10. Center of rotation

11. Tournament

19. Satisfy

20. Gave permission to

21. Fat

22. Long way off

23. Duct

25. Dry wilderness

27. Peculiar

28. Pupil site

29. Ship's officer

30. Female sheep

33. Least distant

36. Health haven

38. Pay attention

40. Mad

41. Window glass

42. Worshipped object

43. School session

45. Section

47. Public vehicle

49. Ripen, as cheese

50. Pull or haul

51. Wild donkey

Puzzle Solution

S	M	E	N		A	V	A	S		M	L	E
S	O	G	E		R	E	S	U	S		R	O
A	V	A	T		A	B	E	R		A	D	E
				S	T			R	A	N	T	
S	E	S	I		A	R		A	V	E		
E	T	I	L	E		D	E	S	S	E		
W	A	V			S		N	A	N	D	E	
E	M	E			I	T	E	N	O			
					E	O		S	T	E		
T	S	A		L		D	E	E	S	P		
E	I	A				T	N	E	T		S	W
X	A	V				O	O	H	S		E	R
A	V					H	C	I		T	L	A

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

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 box. You can 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!

TODAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED

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



### FUNERAL

From Page 1

Skills of Swanville; grandchildren, Alexander, Jackson, and Hailey Skillings, Dominic Hendrickson and Tyler Eggert. He is also survived by his siblings, LaDonna (Robert) Neumann of Champlin; Wayne (Sandy) Skillings of Osakis; LaNette (Brian Korteum) Skillings of Eagle Bend; Kurt (Kirsten) Skillings of Freeport.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Skillings, visit the Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home online Tribute Wall.

According to the Alexandria Police Department blotter, a report came in at 3:44 a.m. on Feb 8 of a male who was caught in a machine at 3M.

3M leaders said they enacted emergency response protocols and notified police, the fire department and OSHA. They added that the company was working closely with the authorities as they conducted their investigation.

3M Alexandria manufactures abrasives, adhesives and is involved in “microreplication,” or creating tiny, precisely shaped structures, according to the company’s website.

3M opened its Alexandria abrasives plant in 1967 and moved to its present location at 2115 Broadway the following year. It celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017 and continues to grow as one of the area’s largest industries and employers.

Contact Editor Al Edenloff at [aedenloff@echopress.com](mailto:aedenloff@echopress.com)



The 3M plant in Alexandria is located at 2115 Broadway St. Echo Press file photo

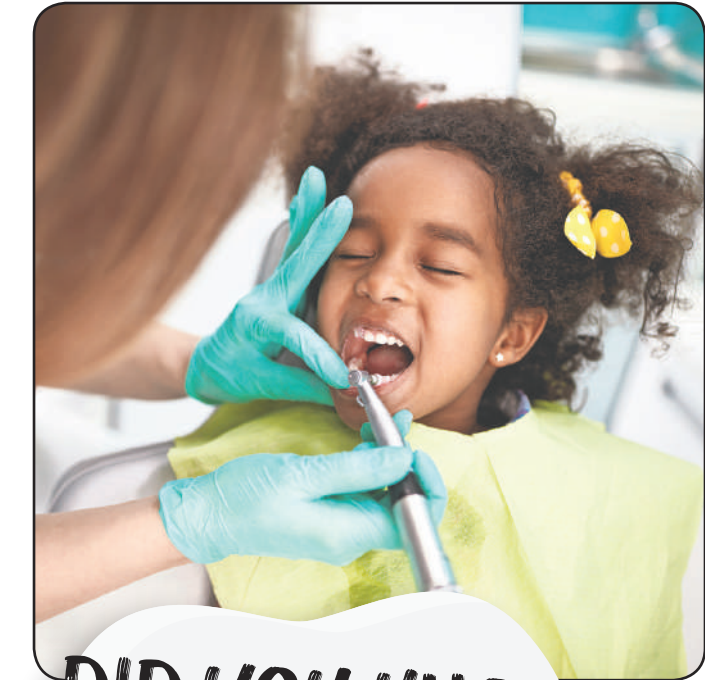
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Forum Community Group

# Consequences of neglecting your children’s dental health



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Cavities in baby teeth must be treated. This is because dental decay is caused by bacteria, which can spread and damage teeth growing below the gumline.

Poor oral hygiene can have serious, long-term effects on your children’s health, and young kids don’t usually have the maturity or dexterity to take care of their own teeth.

Therefore, it falls on parents to help children maintain healthy teeth and gums.

Here’s what could happen if you neglect your kids’ dental health. Your child could develop:

- Gum disease
- Painful cavities
- Sensitive teeth
- Dental abscesses
- Persistent bad breath
- Tooth decay

Dental treatments can be expensive, time consuming and at times, unpleasant. To avoid unwanted trips to the dentist, it’s important to teach your kids good habits and monitor your little ones to ensure they properly brush their teeth.



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Dr. Erick Nolting





INTERVIEW

From Page 1

Frederiksen said the idea is to engage more on social media than using posters and infographics, which may only reach a select few.

“To do that, we figured, OK, let’s get some short-form videos together, asking some community members some questions and hopefully increase retention of followers and engagement,” said Frederiksen.

So far, they have interviewed two out of the three Alexandria DECA presidents and a couple of Echo Press staff members. They plan to interview chamber of commerce members and mayor Bobbie Osterberg.

Each video interview averages a minute and a half, which they post twice a week. They ask residents the following questions:

- Do you enjoy living in Douglas County? Why?
- Do you think about the impact of your money when



Thalen Zimmerman / Alexandria Echo Press  
From left, Zach Frederiksen, 16, Emily Barten, 16, and Madeline Boe.

you spend it at a local business?

- Where do you like to shop around the county?
- What does this community mean to you?

“Our questions really focus on encouraging community pride and strengthening our community,” said Barten.

Beyond posting on social media, the group has presented to their peers at the

high school as well as middle school students.

“Obviously, people older than us have a better understanding of how money circulates in a community, but just trying to make sure that some sort of information is being spread as far as possible down the totem pole and get these ideas in their heads as early as we can so that local business can stay strong,” added

Frederiksen.

The group has a passion for their project as they believe in the importance of buying local and want to see the campaign through the current “dead zone.”

According to Frederiksen, the dead zone is the period of the year in Douglas County where businesses struggle to keep up with expenses due to a lack of spending. It is one of the reasons why Pride of the Lakes was established. This period usually lasts from January to April. This is why they said they plan to continue the campaign after the state competition.

“I am in several different extracurriculars right now, and a lot of them get resources, advice, and outreach by local businesses. So, I’m benefiting directly and indirectly from all these businesses,” said Frederiksen. “I think, by strengthening the local economy, it helps me as a student by making my learning experience richer.

“I think that shopping local is important because it keeps

our local businesses open. They make the county what it is, help support our sense of community, and they support the school system,” said Boe.

“I like knowing my money is going to a good place where I know the owners, or I know someone that knows the owners and that they will do some good things with the money like putting it back into the local economy. Not some rich guy that I’m never going to meet,” said Barten.

They will present their campaign along with a summary of a 20-page paper that illustrates the problems the group identified, solutions they feel will work and how and why they are going about the solution at the DECA State Career Development Conference in Minneapolis at the Hyatt Regency on March 6-8.

The group hopes to get ranked in the top three out of the community awareness section at state to go to internationals in Atlanta, Georgia, which will take place on April 23-26.

Email reporter Thalen Zimmerman at [tzimmerman@echopress.com](mailto:tzimmerman@echopress.com)

# Develop good habits

February is National Children’s Dental Health Month, which is sponsored by the American Dental Association. National Children’s Dental Health first began as just a one-day event and was first observed by the ADA on Feb. 8, 1949. It became a week-long event in 1955 and then in 1981, it was extended to a month-long observance.

National Children’s Dental Health Month is for dental professionals, healthcare providers and educators to promote the benefits of good oral health for children, their caregivers, teachers and many others. Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children to get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums.

- Here are some simple tips for a healthier smile for not only children, but adults as well:
- Brush your teeth twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste.
  - Clean (floss) between your teeth daily.
  - Eat a healthy diet that limits sugary beverages and snacks.
  - See your dentist regularly for prevention and treatment of oral disease.



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# AAA provides advice on how to avoid ice dams

BURNSVILLE — Between the frigid temperatures outside and the heat cranked inside, conditions are ripe for the formation of ice dams. While icicles hanging from the roof may look pretty, they could be a sign of something ugly destroying your house.

“Ice dams can be a serious issue in the Midwest for any home, but especially in homes with poor insulation,” said Meredith Mitts, spokesperson for AAA – The Auto Club Group, in a press release.

Ice dams form when heat inside the house enters the attic and melts snow on the roof. The melted snow drips down your roof and re-freezes when it reaches the colder eaves (the part of the roof that overhangs the wall). This ice accumulation is called an ice dam. As more melted snow travels down the roof, it begins to re-freeze sooner, pushing its way under the shingles. The water then finds holes in the roof decking — between sheets of plywood or around nails — and begins to drip into your attic.

“Once the water is inside your house, it can cause paint to peel, floors to warp, and soggy insulation. If that water is left unattended, it could lead to mold and mildew,” Mitts said. “Additionally, ice dams may cause some damage to the roof by loosening shingles, rotting the wood or tearing off gutters.”

The key to ice dam prevention is to keep your roof the same temperature as your eaves. There are several ways to accomplish this before snow begins accumulating:

- Increase attic ventilation through the use of soffit, gable and ridge vents to help circulate air through the attic, ensuring a consistent temperature.
- Examine your insulation to make sure it’s not blocking the vents and check its depth.
- Prevent heat from escaping into your attic by ensuring all attic ducts are sealed and properly insulated and any exhaust fans lead outdoors, not to the attic.

► Consult a professional if your attic is a living space, you need vents installed or insulation added.

While keeping the bottom couple of feet of the roof and gutters clear of snow can help minimize ice dams, the safer, more effective, and longer lasting solution is to fix the insulation inside the attic. Never get up on your roof to shovel the snow off or try to remove ice dams yourself. If you have major ice dams that have formed, you can call for a professional to come remove them. When choosing which company to hire for the removal, be sure to ask about their methods as chipping or sawing away at the ice can cause damage to the shingles.

“If you have ice dams and notice water damage or leaks coming into your home, contact your insurance provider immediately to review your plan’s coverage and file a claim,” said Derek Michalak, Claims Manager for AAA — The Auto Club Group, in a press release. “Many policies have ice dam coverage, but exclusions could apply.”

“Even if you don’t have damage, it’s a good idea to contact your insurance agent to make sure you fully understand your coverage options,” Michalak said. “This will provide the comfort in knowing you’re prepared for anything Mother Nature throws at you.”

If you’re worried about ice dams or roof coverage, here are some questions to ask your insurance provider:

- Am I covered if I have ice dam damage?
- What is my water damage policy? Would it cover external damages like hail, snow, wind and ice on my roof?
- What does my roof policy include? Is there a different level you would recommend?

Being proactive in understanding your coverage and safely removing snow can help save time, money, and headache down the road.



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ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL

# Alexandria considers changes in taxi ordinance

By **Al Edenloff**  
Alexandria Echo Press

ALEXANDRIA — At its Monday meeting, the Alexandria City Council took preliminary action to change a section of city code dealing with taxicabs.

This will clarify the responsibilities of a taxi cab license holder if an event disqualifies them from having a license.

It states that if any disqualifying circumstances, such as having a felony conviction in the last 10 years or certain other criminal history, such as having three or more traffic code violations in one year, the city has the discretion to suspend or revoke the license. Also, failing to give notice of certain criminal convictions is also grounds for suspending or revoking the license.

Following are other items from the Feb. 14 meeting not covered in other council stories.

**New stormwater member**

The council appointed Lukas Gotto of Alexandria to the city’s stormwater management committee.

He will fill a vacancy left by Jim Scott who stepped down after the Nov. 2021 meeting. The term will expire at the end of 2022.

**Speedway gets beer, wine licenses**

Viking Speedway received an on-sale beer license during their races this spring, summer and fall.

The same conditions as previous years apply – beer may only be sold under the grandstand or by beer runners; sales can’t start more than an hour before the scheduled race time and must end at 9:55 p.m; all containers must be opened at the point of sale; wristbands must be used to designate ages; beer consumption is limited to the grand stand; no alcohol is allowed in the pit area.

The speedway also received a renewal of its wine license for this year. This, combined with its on-sale beer license, will allow the speedway to sell strong beer.

In other license requests, Northdale Oil, doing business as Brothers Market Alexandria, was allowed to transfer its off-sale beer and its tobacco license from Brothers Market, Inc., to Northdale Oil, Inc., which is doing business as Brothers Market Inc. Northdale Oil is acquiring the property on March 1.

**Gambling permit for motorcycle group**

The council approved a one-day, off-site gambling premise permit for American Bikers for Awareness, Training, and Education, known as ABATE, of Minnesota.

This will allow the nonprofit organization to sell raffle tickets on April 23 at the Holiday Inn.

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