

Valentine's Day

Think outside the chocolate box for the pet lover in your life this year. P. 2

Girls Hockey

The Bulldogs earned the #3 seed for this year's Section 2A Tournament. P. 7



Girls Basketball

The Giants snapped its losing streak with a 35-32 victory over the Wolverines on Friday. P. 8



The Henderson Independent

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

LS-H announces Snow Week candidates

Le Sueur-Henderson announced this year's Snow Week candidates on Monday afternoon. They include (back row) Stanley Brown, Mason Reinhardt, Dylan Novak, David Gupton and Zach Sullivan; and (front row) Darbi Dunning, Gracie Buesgens, Mia Schwarz, Lucy Kleschult and Caroline Tuck. The coronation will be held on Monday, Feb. 14 at 2:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Next week's Dress Up Days include Red, White and Blue Day on Monday; Construction Day on Tuesday; Adam Sandler Day on Wednesday; and Country vs. Country Club on Thursday. There is no school on Friday, Feb. 18.

One Act Play finishes third



PHOTO BY RACHEL MILLER

Le Sueur-Henderson One Act Play students brought the passion and drama of "The 146 Point Flame" to the Section 2A stage on Saturday in Wells. Director Mikhayla Clausen had no criticism of her students' performance, as she felt they delivered their best. LS-H wound up finishing third out of the six section finalists, behind Champion Belle Plaine and second place Mountain Lake.

In the above photo taken during the One Act Play Festival at LS-H earlier in the season, immigrants Lena (Ariel Ingles, left) and Yetta (Gabby Davidson) share a flashback when their father (Austin Kleinschmidt) teaches them English.



The above graphic shows the proposed Henderson trail system, complete with pedestrian/bike crossings (stars). The red line shows the paved regional trail, green is paved local trails, and blue is pedestrian improvements.

Proposed Henderson trail gets green light

By Beth Cornish
Independent staff

During a workshop meeting last week, the Sibley County Commissioners gave the Public Works Director, Tim Becker, and Bolton & Menk, the engineers/project managers, the green light to continue the bidding process, and to apply for permits and easements for County Road 6 north of Henderson to County Road 5 at Blakeley, including the new off-road biking/hiking trail to run along, but separate from, the Scenic Byway.

Bobbie Harder, County Commissioner for District 1 said, "The workshop went very well and was very informative. I hope that lots of people turn out for the public meeting to learn about the trail and participate in the survey. The county board approved a resolution on Tuesday, Feb. 8 regarding a county match for the DNR grant."

PUBLIC MEETING

The Task Force will be hosting a public meeting on Feb. 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level at the Henderson Public Library, 110 S. 6th Street. This is a great opportunity for local residents to see the proposed trail maps up close, including the future links to High Island Park, Rush River County Park, the Ney Nature Center and west State Highway 19. This plan puts Henderson at the hub

of a trail system and brings the possibility of more visitors to the city and parks, as well as increased tax dollars, that would in turn fund more park and trail development.

There will also be a community survey link available at the meeting.

BACKGROUND

The Scenic Byway Trail Task Force and the city of Henderson are working with Sibley County to attain Regional Trail designation and development, including trail design and construction, facilities, signage and parking. The city has contracted with SEH, Inc. for assistance in a new north entrance design to include a trail head and park. These are also an opportunity to designate this trail as the "Henderson Hummingbird Trail" which coincides with the public perception of Henderson as the Hummingbird Capital of America due in large part to the Henderson Hummingbird Garden and the one-of-a-kind annual Henderson Hummingbird Hurray.

Becker stated, "Sibley County plans to reconstruct CSAH 6 in 2023 and 2024 from the City of Henderson to CSAH 5/6 intersection. The project includes raising the road above the 50 year flood elevation, and adding an on-road bike lane. The county is looking at options to construct an off-road trail at the toe of the slope."

Funding for this plan comes

from the county and the State Legislature 2020 Bonding. Bolton and Menk are representing the county as both lead engineers and project managers. The county's portion of the project costs includes the engineering, surveying, easements and part of the trail base.

This is an amazing opportunity to build a safe walking/biking path through the Minnesota River Valley, located a safe distance from the roadway. The current configuration is only a narrow shoulder on the roadway that is virtually unusable for recreation due to traffic volume of about 1,200 motor vehicles per day, including gravel trucks hauling from three aggregate mining operations in the river valley. The only allowable vehicle access on the new off-road trail will be for snowmobiles in season. A catalyst for this project is the huge cost savings involved from including this trail with the reconstruction of the highway.

The project is moving along according to schedule. The easement process is about 30 percent completed and the project is on budget.





Valentine's Day gift ideas for animal lovers

A stuffed teddy bear, a heart-shaped box of chocolate and a bouquet of red roses have long been staples of Valentine's Day giving. While these can make fine gifts, this year those who want to shake things up a bit can offer alternatives that cater to their loved one's ideals. In lieu of stuffed animals, these community- and conservation-inspired ideas may be well received.

ADOPT AN ANIMAL

Collecting stuffed animals may be a replacement for wanting a pet of one's own. If the conditions for getting a pet are favorable, meaning recipients have the money, space and time to properly care for a pet, then couples can extend their love to a companion animal. This is

one gift that shouldn't be a surprise, as it is a commitment that requires both people to be on board. Visit animal shelters together to choose your pet.

SUPPORT A CONSERVATION GROUP

If animal adoption is not the right step at this time, offer a romantic partner a stake in the welfare of an animal facing endangered or critical status through symbolic adoption. Various organizations enable people to make donations toward the conservation of animals in the wild. Support large cats, birds of prey, and others through a charity such as the World Wildlife Fund, National Wildlife Federation and Defenders of Wildlife.

TAKE A TRIP

Visit animals in the wild by planning a trip to a national park

in North America or other areas around the world. If schedules or finances prohibit a trip at this time, purchase entry tickets to a conservation center or nearby zoo that specializes in certain breeds of animals. Even local wildlife rehabilitation hospitals may offer tours or enable people to foster injured or orphaned animals.

PLAN A DAY AROUND WILDLIFE

Make this Valentine's Day memorable with an entire day immersed in nature and wildlife. Plan a hike through a nature preserve; pack a picnic to enjoy midday. Make a donation in a spouse or partner's honor at a park that he or she holds dear. Consider sponsorship with a plaque on a bench or fund educational classes at a learning center. The

recipient will enjoy seeing his or her name displayed.

DONATE TOYS

In lieu of gifting a stuffed animal to a romantic partner, consider purchasing stuffed animals or toys and donating to a favorite charity, like a humane society or pet rescue in his or her honor. Deliver those items in person and spread a little extra love on Valentine's Day.

Animal lovers may appreciate Valentine's Day gifts that highlight their passion for domesticated pets and wildlife.

Skip the stuffed animal for your sweetie; the animal lover in your life might enjoy a visit to the Minnesota Zoo or a donation to a humane society this Valentine's Day!



Italian seasonings and ingredients are on display in this recipe for "Hearty Tuscan Soup."

A Valentine's dinner to warm you up

Treating that special someone in your life to a delicious meal can be done any time of the year, but is especially poignant and romantic on Valentine's Day. Even though plenty of people may be tempted to dish up gourmet fare, comfort foods can be equally appealing, especially on a cold February day.

Soup can be both filling, tasty and customized with individuals' favorite flavors. Italian seasonings and ingredients are on display in this recipe for "Hearty Tuscan Soup" from "Season's Best: Fast, Fun & Fabulous" by The Pampered Chef™ Test Kitchens. Try it for a satisfying Valentine's meal for two or more.

HEARTY TUSCAN SOUP

Serves 8

- 2 15-ounce cans reduced-sodium pinto beans
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 8 ounces Italian turkey sausage (about 2 links), casings removed
- 1 large onion
- 1 medium sweet potato, peeled
- 4 garlic cloves
- 4 cups unsalted chicken stock or chicken broth
- 1 14.5-ounce can fire-roasted diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 tablespoon Pampered Chef™ Rosemary Herb Seasoning Mix
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper

- 1 package fresh baby spinach leaves, washed and dried
- 16 melba toast rounds
- 3 tablespoons shredded Italian cheese blend

DIRECTIONS

1. Drain and rinse pinto beans in a small colander. Transfer half of the beans to a food processor; process until almost smooth. Set aside both whole and mashed beans.
2. Heat oil in a Dutch oven over medium heat 3 to 5 minutes or until simmering. Cook sausage 4 to 6 minutes or until no longer pink, breaking into crumbles.
3. Wedge onion, then chop. Cut sweet potato into chunks, then coarsely chop. Add onion, sweet potato and garlic to Dutch oven; cook and stir 5 to 6 minutes or until onion is softened.
4. Stir all beans, chicken stock, tomatoes, seasoning mix, and pepper into Dutch oven. Cover; bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium; simmer, covered, 10 minutes.
5. Preheat broiler. Remove Dutch oven from heat; add spinach. Cover; let stand 2 to 3 minutes or until spinach is wilted. Top soup with melba rounds; sprinkle with cheese.
6. Place Dutch oven 2 to 4 inches from heating element. Broil 2 to 4 minutes or until croutons and cheese are lightly browned. Ladle soup and croutons into bowls.



Origins of the heart-shaped chocolate box

Hearts abound on Feb. 14, and few symbols (and gifts) are more widely associated with a holiday than heart-shaped boxes of chocolate are with Valentine's Day.

Chocolates became trendy in the mid-19th century when the first chocolate bar was made by British company J.S. Fry & Sons by combining cacao powder with sugar and cacao butter to make a rich, melt-in-your-mouth treat that was markedly different than the gritty and greasy drinking chocolate that was losing popularity in Europe. Within a few years, competitor Cadbury introduced the first box of chocolates. It was called the "Fancy Box" and it didn't take long to become wildly popular.

The marriage of chocolate and heart-shaped boxes seemed a natural progression, but the National Valentine Collectors Association says

that heart-shaped boxes actually predate chocolate boxes. Various heart-shaped vessels, including "betrothal pendants" and silver boxes in the shape of hearts, were popularized a century earlier. There even were heart-shaped porcelain boxes as well as ones for sewing.

Having already introduced a chocolate box, Richard Cadbury marketed the first Valentine's Day box in 1861. It was filled with delicious chocolates, and later could be saved as a keepsake to store special notes or other mementos, according to the North American Packaging Association. Furthermore, the gift fit with Victorian sensibilities in that it was demurely suggestive, NPR reports. Its introduction coincided perfectly with Valentine's Day, which also soared in popularity around the same time.

Giving chocolate on Valentine's Day also proved popu-



lar in North America. The American chocolate company Hershey's introduced its Hershey's Kisses in 1907, and in 1912 the Whitman's Sampler arrived. In the 1920s, Russell Stover unveiled their own heart-shaped boxes, which today still include the "Red Foil Heart" and the "Secret Lace Heart." Russell Stover has

since become the No. 1 boxed chocolate brand in the United States.

Today, more than 36 million heart-shaped boxes holding 58 million pounds of chocolate are sold each year, reports the education resource Soft-Schools. They have become a quintessential symbol of Valentine's Day celebrations.

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Happy Valentine's Day!



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OBITUARIES

Richard "Dick" Bigaouette - 85

Richard William Bigaouette, age 85, of Norwood Young America passed away Friday, January 21, 2022 at Good Samaritan Arlington.

Funeral service will be held on Saturday, February 19 at 11 a.m. at Emanuel Lutheran Church (18175 County Road 50) in Hamburg with Rev. Ron Mathison as officiant. Visitation will be held at the church one hour prior to the service. Final resting will be at the Mau Cemetery in Norwood Young America.

Richard was born on July 31, 1936 in Faxon Township, Sibley County to Sylvester and Clara (Barlage) Bigaouette. He was baptized as an infant and later confirmed his faith at Saints Peter & Paul Church, Belle Plaine and again as an adult at Emanuel Lutheran Church, Hamburg.

On October 15, 1960 he was united into marriage with Ardene Oelfke at Emanuel Lutheran Church, Hamburg. This union was blessed with 8 children.

Richard, known to family and friends as Dick, grew up enjoying farming and had a special place in his heart for horses. After completing the 7th grade, Dick worked and lived with siblings on their farms and as he grew older, also helped local Green Isle farmers.

After marrying Ardene, Dick worked for Skelly's gas



station in Green Isle and then farmed for Milton and Helen Engelmann. The majority of Dick's working years were with Wm Mueller & Sons where he worked from 1966 thru 2003 plowing snow, crushing gravel and welding in the shop, among other duties.

Dick never gave up the love of farming, helping out at the Engelmann farm as much as he could and at other farms with friends and family. Dick enjoyed fishing and hunting with his family and in later years of life, he and his friend Butch would spend hours together in Butch's boat fishing local lakes. Another favorite thing to do of Dick's was joining his brother Francis at parades and functions and driving teams of horses hitched to wagons. When he wasn't working or helping others, Dick was driving the family around the countryside or playing cards or watching local baseball

games.

After retiring, Dick and Ardene would begin their day with breakfast at Hillcrest or Bumps and then drives through the countryside to see how the farmers were doing with field work. With a brief stop at home, they would be back in the car for drives along the river bottoms looking for wildlife on the ground and in the air. Dick finished his walk in life with the support of a wonderful hospice team, the care of those in the facilities he lived in and the love of his family. He will be remembered by each of us in our own special way.

Richard is survived by children: Becky Feltmann, Rhonda (Bradley) Powers, Bonnie (Troy) Werth, Todd Bigaouette, Terri (Gregg) Worm, Dawn (Justin) Dworak, Chad Bigaouette and fiancé Tina; 13 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren; sisters, Myrtle Buesgens, Irene Castor and Ethel (Andy) Hervin; sister-in-law, Beverlee Schultz; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, John Bigaouette; son-in-law, Scott Feltmann; siblings and spouses Marie (Irving) Brazil, Francis (1st wife Kathryn and second wife Florence), Josephine (Eddie) Deutsch, Elroy Buesgens, Ray (Fran), Tom (Georgia), Bud Castor, and Jerry (Donna); and sister-in-law and spouse Deanna (Henry) Proehl.

Malcolm "Robert" Schleeve - 91

Malcolm "Robert" Schleeve, age 91, of Le Sueur died on January 31, 2022 at his home.

Memorial services will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 2 p.m. at Zion United Church of Christ in Le Sueur. Military rites will be provided in the parking lot of the church after the conclusion of the church service. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at the church. A time of fellowship, coffee and sweets will be served in the church social hall following the service. Interment will be in the Hillside Cemetery, near the Schleeve family farm at a later date. Masks are suggested.

Bob was born on August 18, 1930 in Sharon Township to William and Esther (Ruehl) Schleeve. He graduated from Cleveland Public School in 1948 and worked on the family farm. He was inducted into the



U. S. Army in 1951 and served in occupation forces in Germany for 15 months and was honorably discharged in 1953.

He married Edith Marquardt on July 31, 1955 in Henderson, Minnesota. Bob farmed in Sharon Township until 1991 and retired to Le Sueur. He was a long-time member of Pioneer Power Association, where he operated the blacksmith shop

for 28 years. He enjoyed hunting, playing golf, working with the grounds crew at the Le Sueur Country Club, dancing, wood working and time spent with family and friends. He was a member of the V.F.W., The American Legion and served on the Le Sueur Honor Guard for many years. Bob had been active in the PTA and served the Zion United Church of Christ on the church council and sang in the choir.

Robert is survived by his children, Paul (Bobbie) Schleeve of Le Sueur and Ranae Schleeve of Minneapolis; 3 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren, and a sister, Avis Sebastian of Washington state.

He was preceded in death by his wife Edith in 2020, brother Willis Schleeve, and a sister, Iomie McCabe.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Centennial Lutheran Church
701 Locust St., Henderson
Pastor Dennis McManus, vacancy pastor;
Cell: (320) 808-0624
Sundays - 9 a.m. Worship

Church of St. Joseph
213 S. 6th St., Henderson
Msgr. Eugene Lozinski •
507-248-3550
Sunday Mass - 9 a.m.
Tuesday morning service, 8:30 a.m.

St. John - Assumption Parish
26523 - 200th St. Belle Plaine
Msgr. Eugene Lozinski •
507-248-3550
Saturday Evening Service, 5 p.m.
Wednesday morning - 8:30 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church
32234 431st Ave. Gaylord
Pastor Scott Richards
507-248-3550
Sundays: 9:30 - Faith Formation
10:30 - Worship

Creekside Community Church
Christian & Missionary Alliance
114 Shamrock Dr., Arlington
Pastor Tom McCracken
(507) 964-2872
Email: creeksidecma@gmail.com
Video worship at www.creeksidechurchcma.org

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)
229 S. 6th St., Le Sueur,
Church 507-665-3477
Rev. Patrick Feldus
920-918-9949
Sunday Worship, 9 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
38597 State Highway 19, Arlington
Pastor Gary Ruckman (507) 964-2400
stjohnsarlingtonmn.org
9 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study
10 a.m. Sunday Service

New Hope Baptist Church
2020 Marshall Road, Shakopee
Pastor Tim Douglas (952) 403-5146
Visit www.newhopebaptistchurchmn.com for links
to online services

Word of Life Church
890 Kingsway Drive, Le Sueur
Pastor Jason Lang
10 a.m. Sunday in person worship
Online services still available live Sunday at 10 a.m.
on Facebook or Instagram;
www.wordoflifemn.com

Sunrise Church
722 Sunrise Dr., St. Peter
Pastor Mark Thompson
10 a.m. Sunday service live streaming

St. Anne's Church
217 N. 3rd St., Le Sueur
Fr. Chris Shofner
Parish Office: (507) 665-3811
www.stanneschurchlesueur.org
See archspm.org/covid19 for mass and prayer
resources

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
111 S. 6th St., Henderson
Rev. Deb Meyer - (507) 248-3594
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Gaylord Assembly of God
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Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
14226 W. 280th St., Henderson
(507) 665-2932
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United Methodist Church
730 South 6th St., Le Sueur
Pastor Terri Horn
1:30 & 7:30 p.m. broadcast CATV #7
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All services will be livestreamed on Facebook and later available for viewing on www.lesueurumc.org

Jehovah's Witness
Kingdom Hall, South 9th St., Henderson
Go to www.jw.org/en for video to download, or watch online

River Rock Church
PO Box 184, Belle Plaine (952) 873-5453
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Dan Jetto-Worship Pastor
330 S. Market St. in Belle Plaine.
www.riverrockchurch.com
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First Lutheran Church
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live broadcast on our YouTube page

Zion United Church of Christ
240 South Elmwood St., Le Sueur
Rev. Rosemary Rocha, Interim Pastor
Listen to a radio broadcast, 10 a.m., on KCHK 1350
AM or 95.5 FM.
In person worship has resumed at 9 a.m. Sunday.

HENDERSON SENIOR DINING MENU

- Thursday, Feb. 10:** Pork loin, candied yams, broccoli, bread/margarine, dessert, low fat milk
 - Friday, Feb. 11:** Meatloaf, butternut squash, stewed tomatoes, bread/margarine, dessert, low fat milk
 - Monday, Feb. 14:** Tater tot casserole, French cut green beans, warm peaches, cookie, dinner roll with margarine, low fat milk
 - Tuesday, Feb. 15:** Chicken wild rice soup, broccoli, pineapple, cookie, low fat milk
 - Wednesday, Feb. 16:** Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, carrots, bread/margarine, dessert, low fat milk
- Phone number: 1-866-985-8514 (10 a.m. to noon, best time to call)

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Happy Valentine's Day!



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Happy Valentine's Day!



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FROM OUR FILES

130 YEARS AGO
FEB. 12, 1892

The calico apron and necktie party, given under the direction of the Ladies' Aid Society last Friday night, drew a huge attendance and was a happy success. A merry bevy of young people came down the vale from Le Sueur for the occasion. The ladies netted nearly \$40.

Our Arlington contemporary, to get a scoop on the other county papers, last week told its readers for a certainty that the O'Neil motion for a new trial had been denied, when in fact such a motion had not been heard at all. They are dieting on crow at the Enterprise office this week.

On Tuesday this week, Judge Caldwell convened the adjourned term of the district court to hear the motion for a new trial in the case of James O'Neil. Both sides made statements and the judge then took the matter under advisement until tomorrow, when he will, as he said, "if the motion is granted, make arrangements for a new trial, or, if denied, sentence the prisoner."

120 YEARS AGO
FEB. 14, 1902

Tapper, the man who murdered Rosa Mixa at Carver last year, will expiate his crime in the gallows at Chaska next Tuesday.

Henry Zeiber, of Kelso, was in town Monday and looked over the courthouse. He concluded that the building is good for 10 years more at least, and he will therefore have nothing to do with Gaylord's petition. Karl Schauer, Henry Von Berg and Eugene Neubarth, prominent farmers of New Auburn Township, were at the courthouse Tuesday and expressed themselves in regard to the county seat controversy, saying that they considered the courthouse in good condition and that they would vote against Gaylord. Fred Wiest, one of the most influential farmers of Kelso Township, was in town Friday and he stated that

he would also work against Gaylord as he claims taxes are high enough at present without erecting new county buildings at a cost of several hundred thousand of dollars.

70 YEARS AGO
FEB. 8, 1952

Drivers' licenses of 17 residents of Sibley County were revoked and 40 suspended in 1951, according to a recent report from the Minnesota Department of Highways. In 1950 there were 13 revocations and 31 suspensions in the county.

Mayor and Mrs. Fred Bender were among more than 300 Minnesota mayors and their wives who attended the St. Paul Winter Carnival Wednesday last week as guests of St. Paul Mayor Edward Delaney. The Benders were accompanied by Mayor and Mrs. Otto Zarnott of Gaylord. A smorgasbord luncheon was served to the mayors at the Jacob Schmitt Brewing Co. Meanwhile the wives were luncheon guests of the Golden Rule and enjoyed a style show following lunch. The couples were guests of the Theo. Hamm Brewing Co. that evening at the Hotel Lowry. After dinner they attended "Rose Marie" an operetta on ice presented at the St. Paul auditorium arena.

60 YEARS AGO
FEB. 8, 1962

Henderson's Civil Defense director, John Halvorson, was informed that a representative of the Cerny Associates of Minneapolis will be in town the latter part of February. The purpose of the visit will be to make a survey of all buildings and other structures that may serve as public shelter against radioactive fallout for 50 or more persons. Suitable shelters will be marked with a distinctive yellow and black sign and will be supplied by the Office of Civil Defense with austere food, water, first aid and other essential survival items. Local authorities are responsible for the management and use of the shelter.

Icy highway conditions ap-

parently resulted in a sudden skid and the death of three college students about two miles north of St. Peter just after midnight Friday. The students were identified as Michael Pieser and Mark Pierce, both 19, of Fairmont, and Michael Mayeron, 21, of Detroit Lakes.

Their car, traveling north on Highway 169, slid into the path of a semi-trailer driven by Denny Davis, 29, of Carroll, Iowa. All three boys were tossed from their car and the truck careened into the ditch. Mayeron was pinned beneath the trailer and the 1,000 cases of beer it contained. It took two wreckers an hour to lift the wreckage from his body. Davis, who sustained only slight injuries, said the car slid into the left side of his cab. It is believed Pieser was driving since the 1954 Chevrolet was registered in his mother's name. The body of the car was stripped from the chassis on the right side, with the floor and engine exposed. The car was possibly run over by the heavy truck.

50 YEARS AGO
FEB. 10, 1972

The John Kroehler farm home, west of Henderson, sustained considerable damage in a fire discovered shortly before noon Friday by Mr. Kroehler who was outside doing farm chores. Mrs. Kroehler and the three children were at school at the time.

Upon noticing the smoke coming from the house, he immediately summoned the Henderson Fire Department who responded within about 10 minutes. He later stated that if it were not for the new "fire number sticker" on his telephone he would not have been able to turn in the alarm from his home because the density of smoke in the house would have prevented him from reading the directory. It is believed the fire started in the television room on the northeast side of the house. The fire quickly spread to the porch, charring

clothes in a closet, burning the curtains off the wall and blackening the walls throughout the house. The new colored television was a mass of entangled wires.

Debra Lynn Bender has been named Henderson High School's Betty Crocker Home-maker of Tomorrow for 1972. Selected on the basis of her score in a written knowledge and attitude examination administered to senior girls in December, she will receive a specially designed award charm from General Mills and is now eligible for state and national honors. The state winner will receive a \$1,500 college scholarship and her school will be awarded a complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica.

40 YEARS AGO
FEB. 11, 1982

It was announced at a press conference this week that Magnetic Controls Co., a manufacturer of trade name ADC products for the computer and telecommunications industries, bought the Green Giant administration and office services buildings. The communication connector division of MCC will be moved to the Le Sueur facilities while the company's magnetic division will remain in St. Peter. The transfer will be phased in over several months, with an expectation of about 170 persons at first, possibly growing to 400. Most of the jobs will be assembler positions that currently pay about \$5.60 per hour.

Delaine Schafer of rural Winthrop recently went to California and returned with 15 adopted burros. The Animal Protection Institute of America is sponsoring the adoption program, which began when U. S. Navy sharpshooters began gunning down the animals at one of its test centers. It is estimated over 6,000 burros were running wild on the property. Humane groups rounded up as many burros as possible then adopted them out at no cost.

The Schafers figure it cost

them about \$170 per animal for veterinarian costs to leave California and to enter Minnesota, and travel costs. Schafer is keeping a male, a female and her young female offspring. The other 12 were adopted by several of their area friends.

30 YEARS AGO
FEB. 13, 1992

Twelve contestants from grades 5-8 participated in the Henderson School's Spelling Bee at Hilltop Elementary on Feb. 6. After spelling nearly 70 words, the three finalists were: Joshua Reinitz, Matt Grapentine and Ryan Hollom. Reinitz was knocked out first to place third in the competition. After many dual rounds, Grapentine emerged victorious. The seventh grader will advance to the Regional competition at Mankato. All three boys earned trophies.

Due to the concerns of neighboring landowners, the Sibley County Zoning Commission recommended denying a permit for a transmission tower. KDOG radio station of Mankato wanted to construct a 422-foot tower in Jessenland Township, about three miles northwest of Henderson. According to the Federal Communications Commission, the Jessenland location is the only feasible one in the area, but neighbors worried that the tower would be an eye sore, could diminish land values and that the red light would be a nuisance.

The grand re-opening of the Legion Hall on Saturday was well attended. Don Mediger, Commander of the Sibley Post No. 74, cut the ribbon on the new 17-foot bar that was installed to accommodate the customers' beverage needs. Mrs. Bert "Vi" Karels, president of the American Legion Auxiliary, cut the ribbon on the rebuilt stage. Among the entertainment on the stage was the Marvin Kahle Band, the Kinsman and karaoke.

20 YEARS AGO
FEB. 7, 2002

A big crowd filled the Hen-

derson Fire Hall for pork sandwiches and the Charlie Moore trio proved to be a crowd pleaser as they played old time music favorites during lunch to kick off Eskimo Day on Feb. 2. While there wasn't enough snow for the family trail ride, snowmobilers did see their shadow promising six more weeks of winter.

10 YEARS AGO
FEB. 8, 2012

Starting with the 2012-13 school year, all LS-H fourth and fifth graders will experience the transformation as Hilltop becomes a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math School. The district's K-3 students will be housed at Park Elementary in Le Sueur.

Damone Christopher Williams-Tillman pled guilty last Tuesday to one count of first-degree murder during an act of domestic violence that took the life of former Henderson area resident 19-year old Josselyn Bishop. The plea deal allows him a chance of parole after serving a minimum of 30 years in prison. Williams-Tillman, originally from Golden Valley, was charged in July 2011 with second degree murder of Bishop, with whom he had a previous relationship. Bishop was found stabbed to death on a median on North Victory Drive in Mankato.

Victim impact statements were read in court prior to sentencing. Bishop's 8-year old brother Gage, told the defendant that he didn't have to do what he did. "You could have walked away." Bishop's mother stated that Tillman had ripped the happiness out from under them.

Bishop was a 2010 LS-H graduate where she was a standout of the softball team. Coach Eric Lewis stated back in July that "Josselyn was a super young woman... she was the kind of person that made my job fun." Bishop had been attending Minnesota State University in Mankato.

State sees big dropoff in new COVID-19 cases

By Rachel Miller
Editor

Minnesota reported an additional 53,526 (a decrease of 38,783) new COVID-19 cases in the past week, which included 45,127 breakthrough cases in fully vaccinated individuals.

At this point, the state is updating breakthrough data weekly on Mondays, while new cases are updated daily.

Furthermore, according to Minnesota Department of Health Information Officer Doug Schultz, breakthrough cases are only reported after an investigation, so updated numbers are usually from a week or two ago.

The state also reported 223 new deaths, 152 of which, or 68 percent, were among fully vaccinated individuals.

A total of 1,246 (a decrease of 326) people required hospitalization in the past week, of which 829 people, or 66.5 percent, were fully vaccinated. To date, 58,150 people have been hospitalized due to COVID-19, including 8,496 fully vaccinated people. The state also reported 178 (an increase of 19) more patients needing ICU hospitalization. To date, 10,855 people have needed ICU care due to COVID-19.

Sibley County reported 82 new cases (a decrease of 90, or 52.3 percent) to bring its total to 3,012 cases. The county remains at 23 deaths.

Le Sueur County added 158 new cases (a decrease of 161, or 50.4 percent) to total 5,749 cases. The county remains at 47 deaths.

Scott County added 856 cases (a decrease of 960, or 52.8 percent) in the past week, bringing its total to 30,729. Scott County also saw a huge spike in deaths, adding nine to bring its total to 239.

VACCINE STATUS

On the vaccine front, 3,610,146 Minnesotans have received a full vaccine schedule (an increase of 15,982), which is 63.3 percent of the state's total population. The number of Minnesotans who have received at least one vaccine is roughly 3.852 million, or roughly 67.6 percent of the state population.

In addition, 96.8 percent of people age 65+ in the state have received at least one vaccine dose and 93 percent have a completed series. The state is also reporting 73.9 percent of people 5 and older have had at least one dose, and 69.3 percent have a completed series.

Right now, 8,113 (an increase of 44) Sibley County residents have received at least one vaccine dose, and 7,642 (an increase of 30) are completely vaccinated. Among residents 65+, 83.4 percent are completely vaccinated, and 54.4 percent of people 5 years and older.

In neighboring Le Sueur County, 17,366 (an increase of 59) people have received at least one vaccine dose, while 16,356 (an increase of 93) people are completely vaccinated. The county reports 90.2 percent of people 65 and older are fully vaccinated, and 61.7 percent of people 5 and older.

In neighboring Scott County, which is part of the greater met-

ro area, 105,233 (an increase of 414) people have one vaccine dose, while 98,854 (an increase of 506) have a completed vaccine series. The county has reported an impressive 99 percent completed vaccine rate among those 65+, and 73.2 percent among those 5 and older.

SCHOOL IMPACT

Schools impacted by COVID-19 saw a big decline in the past week. Not only did all three previously affected Le Sueur County schools drop off, but 11 Scott County schools also dropped off, leaving just three affected schools in the tri-county area.

Schools are included on the state outbreak list if they report five or more cases among students and staff who were in the building while infectious in the past two weeks.

At this point, the only affected schools are Aspen Academy in Savage, New Prague Senior High and Shakopee High School.

STATE OVERVIEW

To date, Minnesota has reported 1,364,884 COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began, including 329,653 breakthrough cases.

The state conducted 266,261 tests in the past week, bringing its total to 18,179,549 tests.

Deaths are high but stable. Minnesota reported 223 more deaths in the past week, an increase of 5 from the previous

week.

So far, 11,634 people have died from COVID-19, including 1,521 (an increase of 152) deaths in fully vaccinated people. To date, 5,415 (an increase of 69) of the state's deaths, or 46.5 percent, have been in assisted living facilities.

Of Minnesota's 1,364,884 total cases, 1,314,053 (96.2 percent) no longer need isolation.

Exposure in congregate care facilities in the tri-county area remains low. Le Sueur County recorded one new facility, Scott County declined by one, and Sibley County has no impacted facilities. To be included on the outbreak list, a congregate care facility must have at least 10 residents contract COVID-19 in the past 14 days.

At this point, the only affected facilities are Ridgeview Le Sueur Nursing and Rehab Center (new) in Le Sueur County and New Perspective Prior Lake (new), Kingsway Retirement Living and Shakopee Friendship Manor, all in Scott County.

Demographics for deaths compared to total number of cases is as follows:

- **Age 100+:** 140 deaths (an increase of 3); 503 total cases (an increase of 14)
- **Ages 90-99:** 2,269 deaths (an increase of 35); 9,874 cases (increase of 286)
- **Ages 80-89:** 3,554 deaths

(an increase of 64); 28,725 cases (increase of 887)

- **Ages 70-79:** 2,662 deaths (an increase of 45); 57,822 cases (increase of 1,898)

- **Ages 60-69:** 1,712 deaths (an increase of 47); 120,111 cases (increase of 3,825)

- **Ages 50-59:** 801 deaths (an increase of 16); 173,747 cases (increase of 5,158)

- **Ages 40-49:** 309 deaths (an increase of 10); 194,304 cases (increase of 6,153)

- **Ages 30-39:** 139 deaths (an increase of 7); 236,066 cases (increase of 7,979)

- **Ages 20-29:** 40 deaths (no increase); 239,724 cases (increase 6,598)

- **Ages 5-19:** 7 deaths (no increase); 250,674 cases (increase of 7,591)

- **Ages 0-4:** 1 death (no increase); 53,247 cases (increase of 2,745)

As it stands, the top 10 counties in Minnesota for cases are:

1. Hennepin: 245,650 (+6,875)
2. Ramsey: 101,268 (+2,778)
3. Dakota: 84,344 (+2,346)
4. Anoka: 76,054 (+2,174)
5. Washington: 51,284 (+1,547)
6. Stearns: 46,055 (+1,543)
7. Olmsted: 37,207 (+1,390)
8. St. Louis: 36,949 (+1,437)
9. Scott: 30,729 (+856)
10. Wright: 28,299 (+788)

HENDERSON INDEPENDENT
Rachel Miller, Editor/Publisher
Beth Cornish, Office Manager

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SIBLEY COUNTY DISTRICT COURT
Sibley County Court Administration is seeking a full-time court operations associate. Main duties include case processing in the juvenile, civil, jury, clerking court hearings (both in person and via use of technology equipment for remote hearings (Zoom), and assisting the public. Visit State of Minnesota for full job description.
Applications may be obtained and filed online at: <http://www.mncourts.gov/>
Application deadline is 2/20/22 @ 11:59 PM

HENDERSON HAPPENINGS

Treasures in Town of Le Sueur will host its Annual Meeting on Monday, February 14, at 10:00 a.m. at First Lutheran Church, 116 Inner Drive, Le Sueur. Contact Edrie Barton, Treasures in Town President at edrie.barton@gmail.com for more information.

The Friends of the Henderson Public Library meets the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the library lower level.

Henderson Public Library Hours are: Monday, Tuesday and Friday: 9 a.m. to noon, 2 to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 2 to 7 p.m.; Thursday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon

Henderson City Council meets the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Community Building, 600 Main Street, Henderson.

For more information call 507-248-3234.

Henderson Lions Club meets twice a month from September to April on the first and third Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. at the Henderson RoadHaus Event Center.

Need a message on the Lions Club community message board? Call Judy Loewe at 507-248-3345.

The Sibley County Historical Museum will be open on Sundays 2 to 5 p.m. through October.

Please call 507-248-3434

and leave a message if you need information or research.

Henderson Area Chamber meets the last Wednesday of each month at noon.

Henderson Township meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Henderson Public Library.

The Ladies Tourist Club, GFWC meets at 5 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in various locations from September through May.

For more information call Judy Loewe at 507-248-3345.

AA meetings 7 p.m. every Thursday at St. Joseph's Parish Center.

Jessenland Township Planning and Zoning Commission meets the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Jessenland Town Hall located on Sibley Cty Hwy 6. If the third Monday of the month falls on a national holiday then the alternate meeting date of the fourth Monday of the month will be used.

The Sibley Post #74 American Legion meets 6:30 p.m. every third Monday of the month at Henderson RoadHaus. For questions contact Dean Lind at 507-665-2053.

**If you want to list your meeting or event with the *Henderson Independent* call 248-3223 or e-mail us at hendersonmnews@gmail.com.

Call (507) 248-3223 to place your ad in the Indy!



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ANDERSON, SKUBITZ & CORYELL, PLLC LAW OFFICE
James E. Anderson
John M. Skubitz
Todd M. Coryell
• Real Estate • Trust & Probate • Business & Corporate Law • Personal Injury • Criminal & Traffic Defense • Divorce & Family Law
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PUBLIC NOTICES

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 7, 2011
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$87,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Troy D. Jenneke and Angelica R. Jenneke, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100199600012404774
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Advisors Mortgage, LLC
SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed January 11, 2021, Sibley County Recorder, as Document Number A222140

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

The East 88.5 feet of the West 227 feet of Block Number Sixteen (16), Streissguth's Addition to the City of Arlington

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 108 E Baker St, Arlington, MN 55307

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 31-0285-000

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Sibley

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$86,538.02

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

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, 10:00AM

PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, 319 Park, Gaylord, MN 55334

to pay the debt 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 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on October 7, 2022, or the

next business day if October 7, 2022 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: February 2, 2022

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
Assignee of Mortgagee
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP

BY
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Gary J. Evers - 0134764

Joseph M. Rossman - 0397070
Attorneys for Mortgagee
LOGS Legal Group LLP

1715 Yankee Doodle Road,
Suite 210
Eagan, MN 55121
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Published in the *Henderson Independent* on Thursdays, February 10, 17, 24, and March 3, 10 and 17, 2022.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF SIBLEY
DISTRICT COURT

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
INFORMAL PROBATE
Court File No.: 72-PR-22-2

NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS (WITHOUT A WILL)

In Re: Estate of John E. Sedio, Deceased

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

Notice is hereby given that an application for informal appointment of personal representative has been filed with the Probate Registrar. No will has been presented for probate. The application has been granted. Notice is also given that the Probate Registrar has informally appointed the following as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent:

Tripp J. Sedio
1001 W. Church St.
Belle Plaine, MN 56011

Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative, or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-607, and the Court orders otherwise, the personal representative has the full power to administer the estate, including, after thirty (30) days from the issuance of letters testamentary, the power to sell, encumber, lease, or distribute any real estate owned by the decedent.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the

decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: January 19, 2022

Karen V. Messner,
Court Administrator
by Teresa Giesen

Tripp J. Sedio
1001 W. Church St.
Belle Plaine, MN 56011
Self-Representative

Published in the *Henderson Independent* on Thursdays, February 10 and 17, 2022.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
CP 1309 - BITUMINOUS
MICRO-SURFACING
CONTRACT NO. 2022-02
COUNTY OF SIBLEY,
MINNESOTA

BIDS CLOSE: FEBRUARY
24, 2022 AT 10:15 A.M.
TELEPHONE: (507) 237-4092

Sealed proposals will be received by the County of Sibley, Minnesota, in the office of County Public Works at 111 8th St., P.O. Box 897, Gaylord, Minnesota 55334 until 10:15 a.m., on Thursday, February 24, 2022, at which place and time they will be publicly opened in the Office of Public Works by two or more persons who have been designated by the County to open bids.

Plans and specifications, proposal forms and contract documents may be seen at the office of Sibley County Public Works, Gaylord, Minnesota, or online at <http://www.co.sibley.mn.us/>.

Published in the *Henderson Independent* on Thursdays, January 27 and February 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2022.

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Karen V. Messner,
Court Administrator
by Teresa Giesen

Tripp J. Sedio
1001 W. Church St.
Belle Plaine, MN 56011
Self-Representative

Published in the *Henderson Independent* on Thursdays, February 10 and 17, 2022.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
2022 BITUMINOUS SEAL
COAT
CP 1249
COUNTY OF SIBLEY,
MINNESOTA

BIDS CLOSE: FEBRUARY
24, 2022 AT 10:00 A.M.
TELEPHONE: (507) 237-4092

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF SIBLEY
BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
JOINT DITCH AUTHORITY-
SIBLEY-CARVER
NOTICE OF HEARING ON
REPORT OF ENGINEER

In the matter of Joint Ditch No. 2 SC Bridge Repair #21-262

WHEREAS, ISG, Inc. was on the 9th day of November, 2021, appointed as the Engineer in the repair of Joint Ditch 2 Sibley & Carver Counties and ordered to make a survey of said proposed ditch as required by law and to make and file his report thereon, and

WHEREAS, The Engineer in said proceedings have filed their report as provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE, That the hearing on said Engineer's report will be held before the Sibley-Carver Joint Ditch Authority on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. (or immediately following the Joint Ditch 1 SN hearing) in the Basement Meeting Room in the Courthouse in the City of Gaylord, Minnesota. The ditch authority will be asked

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF SIBLEY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JOINT DITCH AUTHORITY- SIBLEY-NICOLLET-RENVILLE NOTICE OF HEARING ON REPORT OF ENGINEER

In the matter of Joint Ditch No. 7 SNR Bridge Repair #21-261

WHEREAS, SRF was on the 9th day of November, 2021, appointed as the Engineer in the repair of Joint Ditch 7 Sibley, Nicollet & Renville Counties and ordered to make a survey of said proposed ditch as required by law and to make and file his report thereon, and

WHEREAS, The Engineer in said proceedings have filed their report as provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE, That the hearing on said Engineer's report will be held before the Sibley-Nicollet-Renville Joint Ditch Authority on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. in the Basement Meeting Room in the Courthouse in the City of Gaylord, Minnesota. The ditch authority will be asked to consider the following:

1. Consider accepting the Engineer's Report (Presented by SRF)

2. Consider directing the Engineer to prepare the bid specifications and set up a timeline to process the bids and award the contract.

3. Other items of business as deemed necessary.

If you have any questions, please contact the Sibley County Auditor-Treasurer's Office at 507-237-4070 or Ditches@co.sibley.mn.us.

Dated: January 28, 2022

Marilee Peterson
County Auditor-Treasurer
Published in the *Henderson Independent* on Thursdays, Feb. 3, 10 and 17, 2022.

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF SIBLEY DISTRICT COURT FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT INFORMAL PROBATE Court File No.: 72-PR-22-6 NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTEREST, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re: Estate of James Edward Crosby, Decedent

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT on March 1, 2022, at 10:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Gaylord, Minnesota, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of Decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of Linda Ann Crosby, whose address is 6232 6th Avenue, New Auburn, MN 55366, as personal representative of the Decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the Decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; to sell real and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the

benefit of the estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: February 3, 2022

Amber Donley,
Judge of District Court
Karen V. Messner,
Court Administrator
Paul H. Tanis
(MN #153394)

RILEY-TANIS & ASSOCIATES, PLLC
324 S. Minnesota Avenue,
PO Box 360
St. Peter, MN 56082
Telephone: 507-934-3430
Fax: 507-934-2988
Email: paul@riley-tanis.com
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

Published in the *Henderson Independent* on Thursdays, February 10 and 17, 2022.

JESSENLAND TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The citizens of Jessenland Township, Sibley County, State of Minnesota are hereby notified that normal monthly meetings of the township board meet the last Wednesday of each month.

Jessenland Township Hall
32506 Scenic Byway Road, Henderson, MN 56044.

Meeting Times:
May Through October: 8:00 PM
November through April: 7:00 PM

Bonnie Weber
Jessenland Township Clerk
Published in the *Henderson Independent* on Thursdays, Feb. 3 and 10, 2022.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Gaylord UCC hosts Refugees in America presentation

Gaylord United Church of Christ will be presenting an informational video titled, "Who is my Neighbor? Refugees in America," on Monday, Feb. 28, 7:00 p.m. at 318 4th Street.

Light refreshments will be served starting at 6:15 p.m., prior to the video. This event is free and all are invited to come and enjoy the video with discussion to follow after, if you so desire. Additional information can be found on the website: listentogod.org and on Facebook.

DNR No Child Left Inside grants return

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is pleased to announce another phase of the extremely popular No Child Left Inside grants. These grants help more children cast a line, study animal tracks, hike or bike, or simply learn more about nature.

Public entities and nonprofit organizations serving youth under age 18 can apply for these No Child Left Inside grants. The minimum funding request is \$5,000, with a maximum request of \$25,000. Applications for the current funding phase must be received by 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 10.

Projects will be selected using a competitive review process and awards will be distributed on a geographically balanced, statewide basis. Funding can be used for outdoor recreation equipment, transportation, and related natural resource education expenses.

Approximately \$250,000 is available, including \$100,000 for fishing and hunting-focused programs.

For more information about

the grant program, instructions for how to apply, and a link to the application or informational webinar registration, visit the No Child Left Inside grants page of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/no-child-grants).

Questions should be emailed to outreachgrants.dnr@state.mn.us with "Grant Questions" in the subject line. People may also call 888-646-6367.

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SPORTS & OUTDOORS

GIRLS HOCKEY

Bulldogs earn #3 seed for Section 2A Tourney

By Rachel Miller
Editor

The Minnesota River Bulldogs girls hockey team has received the #3 seed for the Section 2A Tournament that begins this Thursday.

The Bulldogs will be hosting #6 Mankato West (4-1-19) at 7 p.m. Thursday in Le Sueur. The winner of that matchup with play #2 Litchfield-Dassel-Cokato (11-1-13) at the Litchfield Ice Arena on Saturday at 1 p.m. in the semifinals.

Mankato East (5-19) has received the #1 seed and a first round bye, and will play the winner of the #4 Hutchinson (3-1-20) vs. #5 Waconia (5-1-19) quarterfinal game on Saturday.

The Section 2A Championship match is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. at the high seed.

The Bulldogs previously defeated Mankato West 5-2. They also had two matchups against Litchfield-Dassel-Cokato. Although LDC defeated the Bulldogs in the season opener, the Bulldogs honed their skills and skated to a 3-0 win in the rematch three weeks ago.

With a 5-19 record, Mankato East will be the team to beat. Just four teams, none of whom

are in Section 2A, have succeeded in beating Mankato East: Owatonna, Northfield, Luverne and New Ulm. Owatonna twice earned 5-2 victories over Mankato East, and ended a nine-game winning streak. Following the loss, Mankato East won its final five games.

BULLDOGS FALL IN FINAL TO MINNEHAHA
The Bulldogs finished the regular season 12-12 after splitting its final two games.

The Bulldogs closed out the regular season on Friday with a 6-3 loss to Minnehaha United.

Senior Anna Pavlo gave the Bulldogs a 1-0 lead when she netted a goal after being assisted by McKenna Mueller and Adrianna Bixby midway through the period.

Although the rest of the first passed uneventfully, Minnehaha United hit the ice with renewed vigor in the second, and went on to score three goals, within six minutes of each other.

The Bulldogs responded quickly in the third, as Bixby, assisted by Mueller and Pavlo, scored a goal just 18 seconds into the final period.

Unfortunately, Minnehaha United scored two more times before Macie Portner (ass. Sophia Doherty, Darbi Dunning) netted the Bulldogs' third and

final goal midway through the period.

Minnehaha United just had to get the final say, though, as MU's Ava Wasserman earned a hat trick with two seconds left in the game.

The Bulldogs were outshot 39-29; senior goalie Amelia Messer recorded 33 saves in the net.

THRILLING WIN OVER WASECA

Prior to Friday's loss, the Bulldogs earned a thrilling third-period, 6-3 comeback victory over the Waseca Bluejays at home.

The first half of the first period passed in quiet fashion, until Pavlo, assisted by Lucy Kleschult, scored the first goal of the game. The Bulldogs were able to savor the 1-0 lead for all of 31 seconds before Waseca's Madelyn Malecha evened the score.

Perfect passing allowed the Bulldogs to pull ahead again, 1:41 into the second period.

Pavlo had control of the puck — and Waseca goalie Alicia Kelly's attention — on the left wing, when she passed the puck to Bixby on the right. Net wide open, Bixby had an easy goal, despite Kelly's desperate lunging split.

This time, the Bulldogs held onto the lead for more than 10



PHOTO BY RACHEL MILLER

A perfect pass from Anna Pavlo set up Adrianna Bixby to score on an open net. Waseca goalie Alicia Kelly was in the left goal corner when Bixby got the puck, leaving the net wide open, and Kelly's desperate lunging split was too late. Bixby's goal gave the Bulldogs a 2-1 lead early in the second period.

minutes before Waseca scored an unassisted goal. A little more than four minutes later, Waseca pulled ahead, 3-2, when Malecha scored again.

The Bulldogs managed to fend off the attacking Bluejays for the rest of the period...and skated with a vengeance in the third.

A little more than five minutes into the final period, Kle-

schult, assisted by Pavlo and Mueller, tied the game 3-3. Three minutes passed, and then the Bulldogs went on a scoring rampage, netting three goals within 1:37.

Sofie Wilson got the scoring started, thanks to assists by Bixby and Pavlo, at the 8:06 mark. Doherty then took advantage of a Christina Cruz assist to score at 8:52, and Claire

Hathaway scored an unassisted goal at 9:43 to give the Bulldogs the 6-3 lead.

Waseca was unable to mount a further offense, and the final minutes of the game passed uneventfully.

The two teams were matched pretty evenly on offense, with the Bulldogs taking 33 shots to Waseca's 29. Messer earned the win in the net with 30 saves.

WRESTLING

Giants beat St. James, St. Clair in quad meet

By Rachel Miller
Editor

The Giants wrestling team earned wins over St. James and St. Clair in last Friday's St. Clair quad meet.

The Giants earned a 48-33 win over St. James, who surrendered 30 points to the Giants by leaving five weight classes uncontested.

The Giants' also won three mat victories by fall: Dalton Wilson at 106 pounds in 2:42,

Andy Genelin at 160 pounds in 1:42, and Peyton Tellijohn at 170 pounds in 1:20.

Colton Wilson (113), Andrew Lansing (120), Jordan Grinde (145), Dylan Novak (152) and Malik Gonzalez (285) all won by forfeit.

St. James earned just one forfeit victory and five mat wins, including four pins over the Giants.

In the match against St. Clair, the Giants earned six mat victories and picked up four open classes to win 60-12.

Dalton Wilson won by fall in 37 seconds at 106 pounds; Grinde won a 15-3 major decision at 138; Novak won by fall in 4:33 at 145; Genelin won by fall in 1:46 at 152; Ty Boisjolie won by fall in 1:28 at 182; and Carter Nelson won a 7-5 decision at 195.

NRHEG 50, GIANTS 28
The Giants also wrestled New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva (NRHEG), who sported a full roster, and lost 58-28.

The Giants came close to

a full roster themselves, and surrendered just six points by leaving the 195 pound weight class open.

The Wilson boys both recorded wins in the light classes. Dalton Wilson pinned Jacob Karl in 1:10 to win at 106 pounds, and Colton Wilson followed that by pinning Seth Staloch in 1:38.

The Giants dropped the next four weight classes, and then Jordan Grinde pinned Ryan Schlaak in 1:43 and Novak earned a 15-7 major decision.

The 160-195 weight classes all went to NRHEG, but Carter Nelson managed to pin Cole Hutchens in 3:56 to win a fifth

match for the Giants at 220 pounds. NRHEG closed with a pin over Gonzalez at 285.

Le Sueur - Henderson Athlete of the Week

Rhyan Fritz

Rhyan Fritz scored 11 points and grabbed five rebounds to help the Giants defeat the Sibley East Wolverines, 35-22, last Friday. She also scored 16 points in the team's 66-50 loss to Nicollet on Saturday.

Athlete of the Week Sponsored By:

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DAMAGE PREVENTION PROGRAM
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Le Sueur-Henderson Winter Sports Schedule

Girls Basketball

Tues., Nov. 30 LS-H @ Medford.....Loss, 59-33
Fri., Dec. 3 Belle Plaine @ LS-H.....Loss, 70-30
Mon., Dec. 6 LS-H @ GSL.....Loss, 58-26
Tues., Dec. 7 LS-H @ Lester Prairie.....Loss, 68-52
Tues., Dec. 14 LS-H @ NRHEG.....Loss, 78-48
Thur., Dec. 16 LS-H @ TCU.....Win, 47-38
Mon., Dec. 27 LS-H vs. Houston.....Loss, 72-38
Tues., Dec. 28 LS-H vs. Luverne.....Loss, 87-26
Tues., Jan. 4 LS-H @ Sibley East.....Loss, 37-30
Thur., Jan. 6 Maple River @ LS-H.....Loss, 61-31
Fri., Jan. 7 MVL @ LS-H.....Loss, 76-35
Thur., Jan. 13 LS-H @ NYA.....Loss, 60-21
Sat., Jan. 15 LS-H @ New Ulm.....Loss, 58-55
Tue., Jan. 18 Mayer Luth. @ LS-H.....Loss, 70-27
Thur., Jan. 20 Lester Prairie @ LS-H.....Loss, 70-42
Thur., Jan. 27 LS-H @ Belle Plaine.....Loss, 56-20
Fri., Jan. 28 St. Clair @ LS-H.....Loss, 67-35
Mon., Jan. 31 TCU @ LS-H.....Loss, 65-45
Thur., Feb. 3 GFW @ LS-H.....Loss, 61-50
Fri., Feb. 4 Sibley East @ LS-H.....Win, 35-32
Sat., Feb. 5 LS-H @ Nicollet.....Loss, 66-50
Thur., Feb. 10 LS-H @ Cleveland.....7:15 p.m.
Mon., Feb. 14 LS-H @ LCWM.....7:15 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 15 NYA @ LS-H.....7:15 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 18 LS-H @ Mayer Lutheran.....7:15 p.m.
Mon., Feb. 21 Hope Academy @ LS-H.....7 p.m.
March 1-11 Section Playoffs

Boys Basketball

Sat., Dec. 4 WEM @ LS-H.....Loss, 75-36
Mon., Dec. 6 LS-H @ GSL.....Loss, 80-46
Tues., Dec. 7 St. James @ LS-H.....Loss, 71-35
Sat., Dec. 11 LS-H @ Watertown.....Loss, 79-32

Tue., Dec. 14 Lester Prairie @ LS-H.....Loss, 65-47
Mon., Dec. 27 LS-H vs. Houston.....Win, 73-38
Tues., Dec. 28 LS-H vs. Kenyon-W.....Loss, 71-57
Thur., Jan. 6 LS-H @ TCU.....Win, 58-43
Tues., Jan. 11 LS-H @ Sibley East.....Win, 65-50
Thur., Jan. 13 Medford @ LS-H.....Win, 87-69
Sat., Jan. 15 LS-H @ New Ulm.....Loss, 95-38
Mon., Jan. 17 LS-H @ Cleveland.....Win, 72-52
Thur., Jan. 20 LS-H @ NYA.....Win, 65-59
Tue., Jan. 25 LS-H @ Mayer Luth.....Win, 53-49
Thur., Jan. 27 Belle Plaine @ LS-H.....Loss, 60-46
Fri., Jan. 28 LS-H @ Lester Prairie.....Loss, 60-56
Thur., Feb. 3 LS-H @ Belle Plaine.....Loss, 61-52
Fri., Feb. 4 LS-H @ Hope Academy.....Win, 82-76
Mon., Feb. 7 MVL @ LS-H.....7:15 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 11 Sibley East @ LS-H.....7:15 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 18 LS-H @ GFW.....7:15 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 19 LS-H @ Nicollet.....4 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 22 NYA @ LS-H.....7:15 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 25 LS-H @ Mayer Lutheran.....7:15 p.m.
Tues., March 1 NRHEG @ LS-H.....7:15 p.m.
Thur., March 3 TCU @ LS-H.....7:15 p.m.
March 8-18 Section Playoffs

Girls Hockey

Thur., Nov. 11 Bulldogs @ Litchfield.....Loss, 2-0
Fri., Nov. 12 Mankato East @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 4-1
Mon., Nov. 15 Bulldogs @ Windom.....Win, 4-1
Thur., Nov. 18 New Ulm @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 3-0
Sat., Nov. 20 Bulldogs @ Luverne.....Loss, 7-3
Sat., Nov. 27 Delano @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 3-0
Tues., Nov. 30 Bulldogs @ Fairmont.....Win, 2-0
Tues., Dec. 7 Bulldogs @ Albert Lea.....Loss, 5-4
Thur., Dec. 9 Bulldogs @ Waseca.....Win, 5-0
Sat., Dec. 11 Worthington @ Bulldogs.....Win, 4-0

Tues., Dec. 14 Austin @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 5-0
Fri., Dec. 17 Morris @ Bulldogs.....Win, 11-6
Fri., Jan. 7 Windom @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 1-0
Sat., Jan. 8 Bulldogs @ New Ulm.....Loss, 3-0
Mon., Jan. 10 Fairmont @ Bulldogs.....Win, 2-1
Tues., Jan. 11 Mankato W. @ Bulldogs.....Win, 5-2
Sat., Jan. 15 Bulldogs @ Worthington.....Win, 8-1
Mon., Jan. 17 Luverne @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 8-1
Thur., Jan. 20 Litchfield @ Bulldogs.....Win, 3-0
Tues., Jan. 25 Marshall @ Bulldogs.....Win, 4-3 OT
Thur., Jan. 27 Bulldogs @ Hutchinson.....Loss, 4-2
Sat., Jan. 29 Bulldogs @ Marshall.....Win, 4-2
Thur., Feb. 3 Waseca @ Bulldogs.....Win, 6-3
Fri., Feb. 4 Bulldogs @ Minnehaha.....Loss, 6-3

Boys Hockey

Sat., Nov. 27 Bulldogs @ Faribault.....Win, 5-4
Tues., Nov. 30 Fairmont @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 8-6
Thur., Dec. 2 Bulldogs @ Mankato W.....Win, 3-1
Tues., Dec. 7 Hutchinson @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 6-4
Sat., Dec. 11 Worthington @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 5-2
Tue., Dec. 14 Bulldogs @ RW Valley.....Win, 8-1
Fri., Dec. 17 Bulldogs @ Dodge Cty.....Loss, 13-1
Tues., Dec. 21 Mankato E. @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 3-0
Tues., Jan. 4 Bulldogs @ La Crescent.....Loss, 8-4
Thur., Jan. 6 Bulldogs @ Waseca.....Loss, 4-2
Sat., Jan. 8 Bulldogs @ New Ulm.....Loss, 3-1
Tues., Jan. 11 Bulldogs @ Fairmont.....Loss, 3-2
Thur., Jan. 13 Bulldogs @ Windom.....Tie, 1-1
Sat., Jan. 15 Bulldogs @ Worthington.....Loss, 3-0
Tues., Jan. 18 New Ulm @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 6-1
Sat., Jan. 22 Bulldogs @ Litchfield.....Loss, 9-0
Thur., Jan. 27 Bulldogs @ Rochester.....Loss, 7-1
Sat., Jan. 29 Bulldogs @ Marshall.....Loss, 6-5
Mon., Jan. 31 Waseca @ Bulldogs.....Win, 4-3 OT

Fri., Feb. 4 RW Valley @ Bulldogs.....Win, 6-1
Sat., Feb. 5 Marshall @ Bulldogs.....Loss, 4-1
Fri., Feb. 11 Bulldogs @ Luverne.....6 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 12 Luverne @ Bulldogs.....6 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 15 Windom @ Bulldogs.....7 p.m.
Thur., Feb. 17 New Prague @ Bulldogs.....7 p.m.
Feb. 21-March 5 Sections Playoffs

Wrestling

Thur., Dec. 2 LS-H @ WEM.....Losses
Sat., Dec. 4 LS-H @ GSL Invite.....Novak 2nd
Tue., Dec. 7 Tri Meet @ LS-H.....Losses
Fri., Dec. 10 LSH @ St. Peter.....Cancelled
Fri., Dec. 17 LS-H @ RWV Tourney.....33rd place
Sat., Dec. 18 LSH @ RWV Tourney.....33rd place
Tue., Jan. 4 Home Quad Meet.....
.....vs. Windom, Loss, 48-28
.....vs. Springfield, Loss, 48-36
.....vs. Minneapolis North, Win, 48-28
Sat., Jan. 8 LSH @ TCU Tourney.....6th place
Fri., Jan. 14 LSH @ NYA.....Cancelled
Sat., Jan. 15 LSH @ HLWW Tourney.....16th
Tues., Jan. 18 LCWM, NCA @ LS-H.....Loss, 41-24
Fri., Jan. 21 MRC Tourney @ LS-H.....4th place
Tues., Jan. 25 LS-H @ Sibley East.....
.....vs. Springfield, Win, 48-36
.....vs. St. Clair-Mankato Loyola, Win, 57-21
Fri., Jan. 28 LS-H @ RRC Tourney.....5th place
Saturday, Jan. 29 LS-H @ Wabasso.....8th place
Fri., Feb. 4 LSH vs. St. Clair.....Win, 60-12
.....vs. St. James, Win, 48-33
Thur., Feb. 10 LS-H @ Maple River.....5 p.m.
Feb. 17-25 Section Playoffs

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

Henderson Independent
Feb. 10, 2022



GIRLS BASKETBALL

Giants break drought with three-point win over Wolverines

By Rachel Miller
Editor

The Giants girls basketball team snapped a 13-game losing streak and earned its second win of the season in a nail-biting three-point contest against Sibley East on Friday that had fans on the edge of their seat until the final buzzer.

After losing 37-30 to the Wolverines earlier this season, the Giants were raring for another chance, and kept the Wolverines at bay as they took a 24-18 lead by the half. But the Wolverines were prepared in the second half, and limited leading scorer Samantha Wilbright, who netted nine first-half points, to just four in the second half.

With two minutes on the clock, the Wolverines were trailing by three. Those final two minutes were tense, and both teams took advantage of their time-outs to try and gain an advantage. The Giants managed to retain the three-point lead, and had possession of the ball as the final minute began to tick down. Instead of trying

to run the clock down, the Giants tried to push scoring, and a close pass that could have been intercepted had fans on edge.

But by the time the final second had ticked down, the Giants had managed to sate the win drought and earn a 35-32 victory.

"This was another well fought game for us," said Coach Sherri Fritz. "We consistently looked to score and take good shots. We rebounded well and were able to mix up our defenses a bit. It got a little nerve-racking at the end of the game, but the girls did well and held their composure until the final buzzer went off."

Wilbright led the team's offense with 13 points, followed by Olivia Fritz with 11 points, nine of which were from the three-point zone, six from Brynn Biedscheid, and five from Lexi Terwedo.

Morgan Gregersen went up for eight rebounds, while Fritz grabbed five.

GFW GAME

Prior to the win against Sibley East, the Giants dropped a hard-fought, 61-50 battle to Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop.

"We played a couple different defenses to keep the opponent on their toes which also helped us keep our heads in the game. We had better scoring across the board, but need a few other people to contribute to make it a little more even," Fritz said. "We were missing some players Monday and tonight that would have helped in that department, but the girls played hard as always."

Wilbright scored 22 of the team's points, followed by Ava Wagner with eight points, Biedscheid with seven and Gregersen with five.

Gregersen also grabbed eight rebounds, Fritz picked up five, and Wilbright had six steals.

NICOLLET GAME

The Giants closed the week by playing at Nicollet on Saturday — their fourth game in six days. Fritz said she could tell her girls were physically and mentally exhausted from the effort, and they lost 66-50.

"We made some mental mistakes out on the court that led to easy points for the other team and allowed them to go on a couple runs. At one point we were up by six, then before we knew it we were down by



PHOTO BY RACHEL MILLER

Rhyan Fritz netted 11 points in the Giants' three-point victory over the Sibley East Wolverines at home last Friday.

30," Fritz said. "We did make a comeback with about three minutes left to get within 16, but it was a little too late. We learned some good lessons from this game."

Wilbright scored 17 points, while teammate Fritz was a

close second with 16 points. Lexi Terwedo scored six points and had six rebounds, while Gregersen again grabbed eight rebounds.

COMING UP

The Giants are on the road for the next two games. They

will be playing Cleveland on Thursday, and Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial on Monday. After that, they will host Norwood-Young America next Tuesday. All games start at 7:15 p.m.

BOYS HOCKEY

Bulldogs fell Redwood Valley, fall to Marshall

By Rachel Miller
Editor

The Minnesota River Bulldogs boys hockey team split a pair of games in the past week, concluding with a 4-1 loss to Marshall on Saturday.

After a scoreless first period, Marshall netted two goals in the second, and sandwiched two more around the lone Bulldogs goal in the third period.

The O'Keefe boys worked together to score the Bulldogs' sole goal in the third. Forty seconds after Marshall scored its third goal, Kellen O'Keefe scored off an assist from Brendan O'Keefe.

The Bulldogs were outshot 39-28, and Mitck Kotek took the loss in the net with 35 saves.

BULLDOGS FELL REDWOOD VALLEY

Four days after beating Waseca 4-3 in overtime, the Bulldogs earned a 6-1 win over Redwood Valley on

the home ice.

The Bulldogs established dominance early on, as five of the team's six goals were netted in the first period. Chase Goecke and Diego Hettig worked well early on, as Goecke scored a hat trick within the first 12:18 of the game, with Hettig assisting on all three goals. Dylan Hunt also assisted on Goecke's second goal, and Travis Kotek also assisted on the third.

Just 1:10 after Goecke's third goal, Ethan Hathaway scored an

unassisted goal, and a mere 11 seconds after Hathaway, Alex Schaffer scored, assisted by Judsom Narum and Drew Simonette.

Upon returning for the second period, Simonette took advantage of a Brendan O'Keefe assist to score 50 seconds into the period.

With a 6-0 lead, things slowed down, and the rest of the second passed without more scoring action.

Redwood Valley finally got on the board at 5:08 in the third with an

unassisted goal.

The Bulldogs outshot Redwood Valley, 51-19, and Sam Gibson earned the win in the net with 18 saves.

COMING UP

The Bulldogs have four more games left in the regular season. They are off until this Friday, when they have their last away game at Luverne. After that, they will host Luverne on Saturday, Windom on Tuesday, and New Prague on Thursday, Feb. 17. All are 7 p.m. games.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Giants battle Belle Plaine Tigers to the bitter end

By Rachel Miller
Editor

A mark of a good team is one that learns from its losses, adjusts and improves, and the Giants boys basketball team has proved time and time again that they are capable of making the top conference teams sweat.

One week after losing by 14 to the Belle Plaine Tigers — who remain tied for first in the Minnesota River Conference with Lester Prairie — the Giants were ready for a rematch.

This time, the Giants were on the Tigers home turf. Coach Ryan Graff said the two teams were within three points of each other for most of the first half, but some defensive lapses and turnovers allowed the Tigers to go on a late 13-2 run and close the half leading 36-28.

The Giants made great gains and were trailing by one, 38-

37, around the 14:30 mark in the second half. Unfortunately, the Tigers began to pull away and went on a 10-0 run over the next five minutes, and extended it to 53-39 with seven minutes left in the game.

Trailing 55-41 with 4:38 to go, the Giants finally began to make a comeback, and netted six points over the next 90 seconds, while defense stopped the Tigers.

The Giants narrowed the gap to six, 57-51, with 1:30 left in the game, but just couldn't get enough to pull out a revenge win, and the Tigers won by nine, 61-52.

"To the boys credit, they didn't give up," Graff said. "We put on some full court pressure that they executed quite well."

Senior Gage Bishop led the team with 18 points, followed by Cayden Luna with 10 points. David Gupton and Dylan Kahlow both scored eight points, Dylan Graff scored four, and



PHOTO BY RACHEL MILLER

Cayden Luna braces as Belle Plaine's Jack Kruger came crashing down on him. Kruger leaped to block a shot that Luna didn't take, and as the old adage goes: What goes up, must come down.

Grant Adams and Zack Rojas scored two each.

Bishop grabbed nine rebounds, Adams and Luna had six each, Kahlow had four, and Nathan Gregersen and Dylan

Graff had three each. Adams and Gregersen also had two steals each, while Gupton and Graff both had one steal.

In the end, turnovers dealt the final blow, as the Giants

had 23 turnovers, compared to 13 for Belle Plaine.

"Those alone gave them 10 more possessions and that is very difficult to overcome against a good team like Belle Plaine," Graff said. "We need to cut down on our turnovers and eliminate unforced turnovers that are really in our control."

GIANTS HOLD ON TO HOPE

A day after falling to Belle Plaine, the Giants turned around and defeated Hope Academy 82-76.

Adams hit a three-pointer 30 seconds into the game to give the Giants the lead, and they never looked back, although Hope Academy did make them sweat a little in the second half.

Graff said his team had a stellar first half, with the best shooting of the season by far. The Giants sunk 19 out of 27 shots, and got the rebound on

five of their eight missed shots. The Giants amassed a 25-5 lead with 10 minutes to go in the half, and extended it to 50-28 by the half.

The second half was a different story. Hope Academy ramped up its defense, and the Giants had 14 turnovers. Hope Academy closed the gap to 71-68 with three minutes to go, but the Giants held on for the win.

Bishop scored 24 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, Adams had 17 points, Gupton had 12 points and seven rebounds, Luna and Graff both scored nine points, Kahlow netted six, Gregersen scored three and Brody Berndt scored two points.

COMING UP

The Giants have a slow week. They will be hosting the Sibley East Wolverines on Friday at 7:15 p.m., and are then off until the following Friday, when they travel to play GFW.