

# Frazee-Vergas Forum

Tuesday, July 5, 2022



## JOHNSON'S A POPULAR CHOICE FOR GRAND MARSHALS

Photo by Robert Williams  
This year's 2022 Looney Day Parade Grand Marshals are longtime local business owners Kathy and Jerry Johnson.

*Longtime business owners embody the spirit of Vergas*

By Robert Williams  
Editor

While not natives of Vergas, Jerry and Kathy Johnson have been integral members of the business community long enough to deserve that title.

Having been key contributors to the town for nearly a

half-century has earned the couple another title as they were named the 2022 Looney Day Parade Grand Marshals by the Vergas Community Club.

"We're greatly honored considering all the people that are such good leaders and have contributed so much to the community," Jerry said. "We feel honored

to have that bestowed upon us."

That feeling of honor was bounced back at the Johnsons by more than 80 comments of support for the decision and the couple on Facebook when the community club announced the decision.

The Johnsons moved to Vergas after buying Long Lake Resort in 1974 and the following year Jerry was hired as the elementary principal in Frazee where he worked for two decades before retiring.

His retirement has been filled with keeping the resort in shape while Kathy keeps it running.

One of their generational customers at the resort, Stephenie Thaller-Gunterman, summed up the Johnsons' impact on their customers in the comment section of the community club's post.

"We have been coming to Vergas for 45 years," she said. "Kathy and Jerry are the greatest. They are caring and loving people who try their best to make things nice and

comfortable for your stay. We just love all our years with them. Five generations of our family have stayed with them. They are the hardest working couple I have ever seen. They are always helping out others and their community. Great choice. Congratulations to our long-time friends."

Jerry and Kathy themselves are long-time friends having been married for 60

**LOONEY DAYS GRAND MARSHALS**  
continued on 4



Photo by Robert Williams

The Wannigan Park Committee made a big step into the future viability of the project after receiving a designation to the Greater Minnesota Regional System after a lengthy application process. The committee will have one month to attempt to apply for fiscal year 2024 funding which ends at the end of July.

## Wannigan Park gains regional designation

By Robert Williams  
Editor

The Frazee Wannigan Park earned a designation to the Greater Minnesota

Regional System after a lengthy application process was approved.

"We're in business," said Frazee Economic Development Authority chairman

Hank Ludtke. "This opens us up for millions of dollars toward that project and makes us eligible to submit funding applications during each funding

cycle."

The park board will have

**WANNIGAN PARK**  
continued on 4

## Facility Maintenance plan approved

*Five-year roofing system replacement scheduled*

By Robert Williams  
Editor

The Frazee-Vergas School Board adopted the district's long-term facility maintenance plan (LTFM) at a

special board meeting held Monday, June 27.

"Usually the LTFM project list isn't as muddled as it is now, but we have our lease levy side projects also embedded in here so it's a little less clear than it usually is," superintendent Ter-

**FACILITY PLAN APPROVED**  
continued on 10

## Wallin reflects on her reign as Miss Frazee's teen

*Platformed passion for small-town service*

By Kathryn Wilkowski  
Reporter

As giving up the crown comes near, Annalynn Wallin has said that her year as Miss Frazee's Outstanding Teen was a one-of-a-kind

experience that has shaped her to be the best person she could be at the young age of 15.

"Heather Perrine texted my mom like a week or two before the pageant to convince me to try out," Wallin

**REFLECTING ON PAST YEAR**  
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# EDA seeking food vendor for retail building

By Robert Williams  
Editor

Desires for more food options in town were discussed at the meeting of the Frazee Economic and Development Authority (EDA) board Tuesday, June 28.

The search for businesses to lease space in the downtown commercial retail space building continued with food domi-

nating the discussion as a need for both the building and the city.

"There is going to have to be some local effort to find people to go in that space," economic development consultant Don Lorusung said.

According to board

**SEEKING A FOOD VENDOR**  
continued on 3

# Poultry exhibition ban lifted in Minnesota

*Ban was put in place due to bird flu*

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health releases its temporary poultry exhibition ban on Friday, July 1.

Animal health officials first enacted the ban in April and extended it twice to reduce the potential risks of spreading Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). The ban included all poultry swaps, fairs, exhibitions and other events where live poultry and susceptible birds were brought together and then dispersed.

"We feel HPAI cases have slowed enough to allow poultry events to resume in Minnesota," said

Board of Animal Health Interim State Veterinarian, Dr. Linda Glaser. "We appreciate the patience and cooperation from everyone affected as we temporarily restricted these events to address the HPAI outbreak in our state."

While there have been no new HPAI detections in Minnesota's domestic poultry for the past month, biosecurity is still the most effective precaution poultry owners can follow to protect their flock. There are still occasional detections of HPAI in wild birds, which means the virus is still in the environment and poses a risk to bird owners.

**POULTRY BAN LIFTED**  
continued on 3

# REFLECTING ON PAST YEAR

said. "After that, I thought it would be fun. If I won it would be great, but if I didn't win it wouldn't be that big of a deal."

During the local Miss Frazee pageant, Wallin won \$900 from scholarships and explained that going into it, she had no idea what to expect.

"I went in with an open mind and ended up having a blast," she said.

With a passion for community service, Wallin had focused her efforts this year on getting the youth in the area more excited about helping out around the community through volunteering.

"Only 14 percent of the population volunteer yearly, with the majority of that small percentage being adults," she said. "I don't think people realize the importance that community service plays in our small town community. We all rely on each other and without community service, we wouldn't be anywhere. I think it's really important to get more kids involved and excited about helping."

Alongside the many events planned with Miss Frazee Katelyn Mack, Wallin has gone on her own and started a club at the school called Interact where she gathers monthly with a group of students to plan events.

"The goal is to get kids ambition to help out around the school and community, while also having fun. We started with only five kids and now we have over 30," she said. "We've done things like coloring contests, scavenger hunts, a dress drive, decorating for different events, and different dress-up weeks. It's been so much fun and really successful. I plan on doing this for as long as I am in high school."

Wallin also competed in Miss Minnesota's Outstanding Teen last March and won two scholarships, including raising the most money for the "text to give" fundraiser



Contributed photos

With a passion for community service, Miss Frazee Outstanding Teen Annalynn Wallin and her sister queen Katelyn Mack, Miss Frazee, take part in cleaning with the crown around town.

and also won the non-finalist talent award winner for \$250.

"It was so much fun," said Wallin. "I went in just wanting to make the most of the experience. All the girls were great and I still talk to them. We only spent like two days together but we all came out as friends; it was crazy."

As Wallin's busy year comes to an end, she explained that she feels both excitement and sadness for the last month of her reign.

"It's gone by so fast," she said. "It's going to be so weird. I am so excited for someone else to enjoy this experience but I'm also sad to not be the queen anymore."

Both Wallin and Mack will be hosting a candidate meeting Wednesday, July 6, for information on how to run for the upcoming pageant.



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# Public input shapes revisions to Vergas plan

**Comprehensive plan nearing submittal to council**

By Robert Williams  
Editor

The Vergas City Council, along with West Central Initiative community planners Emily Reno and Celeste Koppe, held a meeting on Wednesday, June 29, for public input on the city's comprehensive plan.

The plan is a first for the town. Vergas has completed capital plans and housing studies, but never a full comprehensive plan.

"It was exciting for us to have this opportunity to do that," said Mayor Julie Bruhn. "We felt it important to have a working document for the council to really make decisions going forward. We want it to reflect the residents and what the residents of the city want, what they value and what they feel is important. Our hope is with every council meeting we integrate it into our decisions."

A town the size of Vergas is not mandated by law to have a comprehensive plan, unlike larger cities.

"We just felt that we needed it," Bruhn said. "So much was changing; there is so much development. We have growth and people wanting to live here."

Koppe and Reno compiled all of the information and public input to create the plan. The city used the



Photo by Robert Williams

**Final revisions are underway on the comprehensive plan for the city of Vergas as preparers hope to complete the project and have the plan ready to be submitted to the city council for adoption in July.**

WCI planners in lieu of not having a dedicated city planner or one on the city's former engineering firm. The meeting was one of the final opportunities for public input before the plan goes before the council for

adoption in July.

"We knew we needed support if we were going to create a really comprehensive view for the city and make us aware of what everyone was saying and what they thought was im-

portant," Bruhn said.

Three main topics of importance were reiterated.

**PUBLIC INPUT SHAPES PLAN**  
continued on 4

## SEEKING A FOOD VENDOR

continued from 2

member Ashley Renollet, reaching out to area and regional businesses in need of space was recommended by Nate Vollmuth, president of Goldmark Design & Development. Goldmark was hired by the EDA to market the property.

"The main focus was we would like to see a food joint go in simply because with all the work the school is doing to be able to host tournaments they're going to be bringing a lot of traffic into town," city administrator Jordin Roberts said. "They need somewhere to eat and they need more options."

Board chair Hank Ludtke also noted Wannigan Park is also going to create the same need in the future with the multiple forms of traffic it will bring to town. The park earned a designation to the Greater Minnesota Regional System this month which will jump start funding applications to complement the park committee's fundraising to acquire the property and move forward.

Both Renollet and Roberts

cited the collection of projects going on in town all centered around bringing more people to Frazee and the subsequent need for amenities.

"Getting a little bit of variety would be nice," said Roberts. "As well as Wannigan Park coming to town, the Heartland Trail coming through town and all the different things that we're working on it would be really beneficial to have more food options."

Landscaping and finishing touches, along with hiring services for basic operations like cleaning and maintenance, remain prior to the retail building opening later this year.

### Business Center Building

Next door to the retail building, the Business Center building is scheduled for exterior work to begin the third week of July. Hopes are to have the project finished by the end of August or early to mid-September, according to EDA board member John Olson.

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File photo

**The Frazee-Vergas School Board is asking for families to fill out their free and reduced meal information in the hopes of receiving additional funding to help fund programs at the school.**

# Parents can help boost dipping school revenues

**Board pleads for more free or reduced lunch applications**

By Robert Williams  
Editor

The Frazee School Board held a special meeting Monday, June 27, to discuss and approve the preliminary school district budget for the 2022-23 school year.

"The revenues and expenditures both did reduce pretty proportionately," said Business Manager Chrissy Clapsaddle.

Declining revenues are

primarily tied to the district's decline in enrollment, along with ESSER money not being included in the budget.

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding was signed into law in 2020 and 2021 as part of the CARES Act, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, and the American Rescue Plan.

"Right now, we are unable to submit our ESSER budget to the state for approval so I had to take that out of our budget," said Clapsaddle.

Enrollment for the coming year is 828, a decrease of 19 students, however those numbers are subject to change prior to the start of the school year.

The lack of a summer food service program also has a negative effect on rev-

**BOOSTING REVENUES**  
continued on 10

## POULTRY BAN LIFTED

The USDA posts the latest reports of wild and domestic HPAI cases on its website.

Bird owners preparing for their local county fair should take some specific biosecurity precautions before and after the fair. Precautions include handwashing, reporting sick birds to the fair veterinarian, and

keeping birds isolated from the rest of your flock when returning home. Additional measures can be reviewed on the Board's "Biosecurity for Exhibitors" flyer.

This spring's 2022 H5N1 HPAI outbreak in Minnesota posed a high risk to poultry but low risk to the public. There is no food safety con-

cern for consumers.

Follow the latest information on HPAI in Minnesota, as well as resources for poultry owners on the Board's website. Flock owners should continue to practice good biosecurity around their birds and report any suspicious illness to their veterinarian.

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File photo

The Phelps Mill County Park will host the 38th annual Phelps Mill Festival on Saturday and Sunday in rural Underwood.

## Phelps Mill Festival to get underway Saturday

*Event to feature arts, food, outdoor activities*

The 38th annual Phelps Mill Festival will be held this year July 9-10. The festival will consist of two full days of art, food entertainment and kids' activities plus craft wine and beer tasting at Phelps Mill County Park just north of Underwood. The Phelps Mill Festival features fine artists and crafters from around the United States.

Each exhibitor is hand-picked by a panel of jurors to ensure quality and originality for the show. From paintings and prints to jewelry and apparel, to furniture and pottery, everyone will find something special to take home with them. For those that are not as interested in shopping, there's still a lot going on. Kids' art activities will be provided by Fergus Falls Bethlehem Lutheran Church and

for the whole family, find a place in the shade at the main stage and enjoy the entertainment, perfect for all ages. Come paint with ArtBar 39 – all experience levels welcome. Bring home your own one of a kind painting that you created. Saturday, aerialist Laura Ernst will perform stunts and acrobatics. She will be appearing on the main stage at 12:30 and 2:45 p.m. Also appearing on the main stage on Saturday, at both 1:15 and 4 p.m., Will be local entertainers, the P-

**PHELPS MILL FESTIVAL**  
continued on 6

## Texting 911 is a valuable option for motorists

Question: Is there a way to report a traffic violation from within the same vehicle without calling and without the driver knowing you made the report? For example, if you are a passenger in a vehicle where the driver is texting and driving and you feel unsafe, but don't want to confront them, is there a number you could text?



**Ask a Trooper**  
Sgt. Jesse Grabow

Answer: Yes you can. Texting 911 has been an option in Minnesota since December of 2017. Text-to-911 is an alternative lifeline for people who would put themselves in harm's way if they called 911.

Text-to-911 is a valuable alternative for hearing individuals who must remain quiet to stay safe or who can't speak in an emergency. People have also utilized the service when signal strength was lacking or when their microphones/speakers were inoperable. The following are examples of how Text-to-911 was used to seek help:

- A suicidal individual did not feel comfortable talking to someone, so they texted for help instead.
- An abducted woman texted 911, leading to her captor's arrest.
- Children who were fearful of being overheard when calling 911 have texted when their parents were in a verbal or physical conflict.
- A hunter became lost in the woods on a cold night and didn't have enough signal strength to call 911, but did have enough to text 911.
- A person had difficulty breathing from a panic attack and could not speak, so they texted 911.

Text-to-911 should only be used in emergencies and

when speaking is not an option. Dispatchers have reported receiving texts for non-emergencies or in situations where it would be preferable to speak to 911. Text-to-911 users should be ready to answer follow-up questions promptly as delayed replies will also delay response times.

Remember: Call if you can, text if you can't.

- Provide an accurate location, cross street or well-known landmark in your initial text. Dispatchers cannot send help if they don't know where you are.
- Texting 911 with a false report is a crime.
- If you accidentally send a text to 911, send another text, or call 911 to let the dispatcher know that there is no emergency.

If there is an emergency and you cannot call 911, take these steps:

1. Enter the numbers 911 in the "To" field.
2. Text your exact address and type of emergency.
3. Send the message.
4. Use simple words, but do not include abbreviations, emojis, pictures or slang.
5. Promptly answer questions and follow instructions.

# Church Directory

**Bethany Lutheran**  
52943 140th St., Menahga  
Church Phone: (218)538-6531  
Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

**Bethlehem Lutheran, Frazee**  
210 Maple Ave East, Frazee  
Pastor Edwin Borchart  
218-334-2866  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Worship  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship, Worship is live on 104.1 WAVE Radio Station,

**Frazee United Methodist Church**  
202 2nd St, Frazee  
(218) 334-6901  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church**  
46914 St Hwy 34, Osage  
Pastor Bill Knaack  
218-252-0199  
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship

**Harvest Church**  
806 Frazee Rd, Frazee  
Pastor Ryan Stockstrom  
218-334-3101  
www.Harvestfrazee.org  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship in person and online, Childrens Church during the sermon

**Immanuel Lutheran Church of Shell Lake**  
43526 School House Rd, Osage  
Pastor Bill Meyer  
218-847-8216  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Adult Education  
Communion 1st & 3rd Sunday

**Lakes Area Word Fellowship**  
151 S 1st Ave., Vergas  
218-847-8216  
Pastor Larry Vosika 218-847-8499  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Worship  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship

**Lake Region Mennonite**  
35502 State Hwy 34, Detroit Lakes  
Pastor Jesse Swiers  
218-375-2803  
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church Frazee**  
202 West Maple Ave, Frazee  
Msgr. David Baumgartner  
218-334-4221  
Tuesday: 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: 9 a.m. Mass @ Frazee Care Center  
Thursday: 9 a.m. Mass  
Friday: 9 a.m. Mass  
Saturday: 9 a.m. Mass, 5:30 p.m. Mass  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass

**Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran**  
15275 Co Hwy 45, Menahga  
Rev. Dennis Hannu  
218-538-6540  
Wednesday: 8 p.m. Family Bible Study  
Sunday: 11 a.m. Worship

**St. Paul's Lutheran, Loon Lake**  
31385 Co Hwy 4, Vergas  
Pastor Bruce Maul  
218-342-2379  
Sunday: 8:45 Bible Study, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, fellowship following each service

**St. Paul's Lutheran, Evergreen**  
13084 Co Hwy 39, Frazee  
Rev. Thomas Batchelder  
218-334-8125  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School

**St. John's Lutheran Height of Land**  
37425 Hwy 56, Frazee  
Pastor Bill Knaack  
218-252-0199  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday School  
Monday: 7 p.m. Bible Study

**St. John's Lutheran, Vergas**  
410 East Scharf Ave (LCMS), Vergas  
Re. Jacob Wagner  
218-342-2791  
stjohnvergas@arvig.net  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship, live stream on Facebook  
Tuesday: 4:30 p.m. ACS Channel 14 TV  
Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays

**Vergas United Methodist Church**  
200 West Main St, Vergas  
Pastor Amy Strom  
218-334-6901  
amyjstrom@gmail.com  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship in person

**Dent United Methodist Church**  
301 Main St, Dent  
Pastor Amy Strom  
218-334-6901  
amyjstrom@gmail.com  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship in person  
10.45 a.m. live-streamed worship

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## Arvig announces local scholarship recipients

Arvig announced 36 high school 2022 graduates received the Royale B. and Eleanor M. Arvig Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000 each.

Students were selected based upon achievements or interest in the field of mathematics, engineering, accounting, computer science, telecommunications or any of the physical sciences.

"We are proud to invest in the futures of area students," said David Arvig, Vice President/Chief Operating Officer at Arvig. "Our rural communities need educated and talented young people to be our future leaders. We want to congratulate each one on their success and wish them the best of luck as they pursue their education."

Locally, Malena Maloney of Frazee, Mya Anderson of Detroit Lakes and Connor

Kostynick of Perham were among the recipients.

### About the Royale B. and Eleanor M. Arvig Memorial Scholarship

When Royale and Eleanor Arvig began offering telephone service to the Perham area in 1950, they showcased entrepreneurial initiatives that continue to drive the company today.

With the philosophy and beliefs in mind that by encouraging civic leadership and emphasizing the importance of higher education, the Royale B and Eleanor M Arvig Memorial Scholarship Fund was established. With a new generation of leaders entering the workforce, they can create and maintain strong, vibrant communities that will lead the growing rural economy into an exciting and prosperous future.

## COLLEGE NEWS

### Local Students graduate from Bemidji State

Five local students earned degrees from Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minn., during the 2021-2022 school year.

Degree recipients include: Frazee: Alexi Cheveldayoff, bachelor of science degree in business administration; Megan Danielson, bachelor of science degree in wildlife

biology; Arron Erickson, bachelor of science degree in engineering technology; James Huwe, bachelor of arts degree in sports management; James Huwe, bachelor of science degree in business administration; James Huwe, certificate in coaching; Katie Ihry, master of science degree in mathematics and Amanda Lahr, master of business administration degree in business administration.

## PHELPS MILL FESTIVAL

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sion Band. They have many years of experience playing across the U.S. and upper Midwest and perform across multiple genres of music.

The craft beer and wine vendor tasting event will run from 2-6 p.m., on Saturday. Come sample some of the finest made beer and wine in the area. Each guest will receive a commemorative glass for the tasting event.

Sunday's Community Service and music will be at 11 a.m. and provided by Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Fergus Falls. Performing at 12:45 p.m. on Sunday will be local favorite Connie Lee Stich - she may have grown up near the tiny town of Urbank and her stature may be on the small side but there is nothing small about Connie Lee Stich. When she steps her country-kicking cowboy

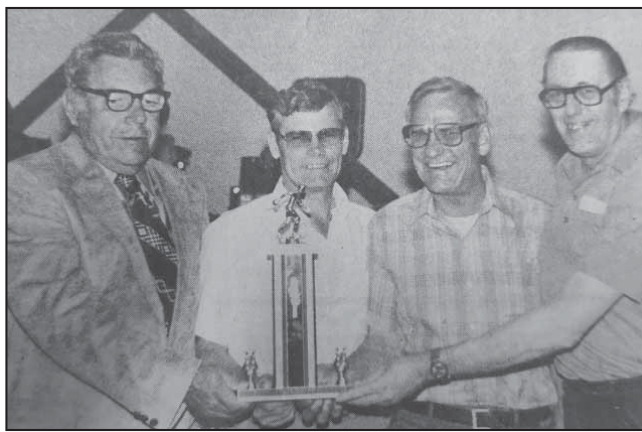
boots on stage, the sound that resonates from within her five-foot, one-inch frame lets the audience know where her passion lies.

Phelps Mill Festival has several food vendors serving pancakes, brats, burgers, popcorn, pork chops, baked potatoes, and root beer floats, just to name a few. Food vendors are all local non-profit groups working towards fundraising and making some delicious eats for everyone to enjoy.

For more information about the Phelps Mill Festival, and updates on the entertainment schedule, visit [www.phelpsmillfestival.com](http://www.phelpsmillfestival.com).

This activity is funded in part by a grant from the Lake Region Arts Council through a Minnesota State Legislative appropriation.

# Mystery photo



**Above:** This weeks mystery photo features a Frazee basketball team from the early 1920s. Do you know any of the people pictured above? If so call 334-3566 or email [fforum@loretel.net](mailto:fforum@loretel.net)

**Left:** Lori Weeding, Doreen Schrandt, Neil Woodard, Neil Wothe and Dr. Paul Hendrickson correctly identified last weeks mystery photo of Bob Matthews, Alan Wothe, Walt Wothe and Jerry Brenk.

# A glimpse from the past

### 5 years ago Frazee-Vergas Forum July 6, 2017

A \$20,000 memorial fund for the late Rodney Hanson of Vergas pushed the Vergas Long Lake Trail to the next phase. "Everyone reached in, and then reached in further to get it over the hill," Robin Hanson, son of Rodney, said. Vergas City Clerk Julie Lammers reported that adding the large memorial donation to previous offerings and mixing in pledges brought the trail fund to \$100,000, which was the amount needed to start work on the trail addition.

Frazee's Economic Development Authority went into a closed session to discuss land acquisition for annexation during its monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 27. Prior to the meeting it was noted the discussion would be closed as it would benefit the landowner and may impact negotiations. The location of the property being discussed was requested, but there was no response by deadline and the clerk had taken time off for the July 4 holiday.

Kandy Beaman recently took over the Vergas Event Center manager duties.

The 50-year-old rural Vergas resident has resided in Otter Tail County most of her life, and after moving near the small village, felt a sense of community with the "great people" in the town and it's "natural beauty" that made her want to call it home.

### 25 years ago Frazee Forum July 3, 1997

The old saying three times and you're out applied to Charlie Rew this past weekend when his home was struck by lightning. Rew, who lives near Acorn Lake on Highway 10, says lightning had struck near his home two times prior to Saturday's bolt, which found its mark. Rew was standing in the kitchen during the storm when lightning hit the corner of his home shortly after noon. A fluorescent light directly over his head blew out as the lightning hit its mark.

Now that summer's in full bloom, what good would a freshly mowed lawn be without lawn furnishings to enjoy the view from? Dale Makey, who recently moved to the Frazee area, is bringing his own special touch to Adirondack-style

lawn furnishings, as well as woodworking in general. Dale a native of Detroit Lakes, and his wife Marion, a Bemidji native, returned to the lakes area last summer after living in Minneapolis, and Colorado.

Looking for a way to beat the heat without running up a big electric bill for air conditioning? Ed and Charlotte Enger provide a perfect summertime diversion at Ed's River Run on County Road 29, about two miles north of Highway 34. For about 13 years, the couple has been renting inner tubes and providing transportation for people who want to relax by spending a couple hours floating down the Otter Tail River.

### 50 years ago Frazee Forum July 6, 1972

John Quam, a Detroit Lakes attorney, has resigned his position as chairman of the Becker County Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party. Quam said he was doing so for personal reasons. Mike Wammer, rural Audubon, who was first vice chairman, was named to serve out Quam's two year term as county chairman. Quam was first elected chairman of the county

DFL in 1970, and was re-elected this year.

A 14-year-old Detroit Lakes boy fishing from a railroad bridge was killed by a north-bound Soo Line freight train at 3:20 p.m. Saturday. The victim was identified as Richard Kunz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kunz of Detroit Lakes. According to the Becker County sheriff's office, the boy had been sitting on a bridge over the Pelican River, about one mile south of Detroit Lakes. He apparently saw the train and tried to run but stumbled and the train ran over him. Becker County Deputy Sheriff Rodney Lindstrom said another boy fishing nearby was in a state of shock after the accident and was unable to answer questions.

Alma E. Rohr retired on June 30, after more than 37 years of service as postal clerk at the Frazee Post Office. Mrs. Rohr started work with the U. S. Postal Service on December 17, 1934, and has worked under three postmasters (J. J. Dale, 1934-1948; Paul Wade, 1948-1957, and Ralph Trieglaff, 1957-1972). Alma's future plans are not fully determined, but she plans to remain in Frazee.



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# Frazee splits a pair with Ada-Borup

## Post 15 drops two in doubleheader with Parkers Prairie at home

By Chad Koenen  
 Publisher

Frazee Post 15 fell to 4-8 on the season after dropping a pair of games to Parkers Prairie and splitting a doubleheader with Ada-Borup last week.

This week Frazee will host Pelican Rapids in a doubleheader on Tuesday, before traveling to New York Mills on Wednesday and Otter Tail Central in Henning on Thursday.

### Tuesday

In the first game of the night, Post 15 out hit Parkers Prairie by a 10-5 margin, but 4 costly errors were too much to overcome, as Frazee fell by a score of 6-3.

Parkers Prairie jumped out to a 6-0 lead after scoring a pair of runs in the first inning and 4 more runs in the fifth inning. Frazee was able to answer with 3 runs of their own in the bottom half of the fifth.

The scoring for Post 15 came on a 2-run double by Mark Jaroszewski and an RBI single by Derek Zitzow.

Frazee was led in the game by Jaroszewski, Zitzow and Logan Breckke who all had 2 hits in the game.

Scott Seim took the loss on the mound as he gave up just 5 hits and struck out 12 hitters over 6 2/3 innings. He gave up 6 unearned runs in the loss.

In the second game of the

day, Post 15 once again found themselves in a 6-0 hole after Parkers Prairie scored 4 runs in the first inning and 2 more in the bottom of the second inning.

Frazee answered with 2 runs in the fourth inning when Brandon Nguyen hit a 2-run double to score Breckke and Gage Post from second and third base respectively.

Post 15 was able to load the bases up in the top of the sixth inning with just one out and scored a run when Zach Longfors hit a sacrifice fly to center field, but were unable to get another runner across the plate to cut the lead to 6-3.

Parkers Prairie was able to add another run in the top of the seventh inning to come away with a 7-3 win.

Longfors took the loss on the mound as he gave up 6 runs, just 1 of which was earned, over 1 2/3 innings of action. Frazee gave up just 2 earned runs on the day, despite losing by scores of 6-3 and 7-3.

Game one	AB	R	H	BI
Brandon Nguyen	4	0	2	0
Nathan Longfors	0	1	0	0
Zach Longfors	3	0	0	0
Scott Seim	3	0	1	0
Cael Pausch	0	1	0	0
Mark Jaroszewski	4	0	2	2
Kale Ovsak	3	0	0	0
Derek Zitzow	3	0	2	1
Gage Post	2	0	0	0
Logan Breckke	3	0	2	0
Drew Mekalson	2	1	1	0

HITTING- 2B- Brandon Nguyen, Lo-

gan Breckke, Mark Jaroszewski  
 PITCHING (ip-h-r-er-bb-k)- Scott Seim 6 2/3-5-6-0-0-12, Mark Jaroszewski 1/3-0-0-0-0-1

Game two	AB	R	H	BI
Brandon Nguyen	3	0	1	2
Zach Longfors	3	0	1	1
Scott Seim	4	0	1	0
Mark Jaroszewski	4	0	1	0
Kale Ovsak	4	0	1	0
Derek Zitzow	3	0	0	0
Gage Post	4	1	1	0
Logan Breckke	1	1	0	0
Nathan Longfors	1	1	1	0
Drew Mekalson	0	0	0	0
Cael Pausch	1	0	0	0

HITTING- 2B- Brandon Nguyen  
 PITCHING (ip-h-r-er-bb-k)- Zach Longfors 1 2/3-4-6-1-2-0, Drew Mekalson 3 1/3-3-0-0-0-1, Cael Pausch 1-1-1-1-2-1

### Thursday

Frazee split a doubleheader with Ada-Borup on Thursday as they fell by a score of 7-4, before defeating Ada-Borup by a score of 6-4 in the nightcap.

In the first game of the day, Ada-Borup scored 3 runs in the bottom of the first inning, before Frazee chipped away at the score with Derek Zitzow fielder's choice in the fourth inning that scored a run. Post 15 scored another run in the fifth inning when Drew Mekalson crossed the plate on a passed ball to make the game 3-2 in favor of Ada-Borup.

Unfortunately, Ada-Borup was able to score 4 runs in the bottom half of the inning to ultimately come away with the 7-4 win.

In the second game of the day, Frazee scored 4 runs in the third inning and 2 more in the fourth inning to erase a 4-0 lead by Ada-Borup and come away with the 6-4 win.

Zach Longfors got Post 15 on the scoreboard in the third inning on a 2-run single, before Mekalson hit an RBI single and Scott Seim scored on an error to tie the game up at 4-4.

Post 15 took the lead for good just one inning later when Brandon Nguyen scored on an error and Kale Ovsak scored on an RBI single by Logan Breckke to make the score 6-4 in favor of Frazee.

Nguyen took the win on the mound as he went 5 innings and gave up just 1 earned run and struck out 3 hitters.

Game one	AB	R	H	BI
Brandon Nguyen	3	0	1	1
Zach Longfors	3	0	1	0
Scott Seim	4	0	0	0
Mark Jaroszewski	3	1	1	0
Kale Ovsak	3	0	1	0
Derek Zitzow	3	0	1	1
Gage Post	4	1	1	0
Logan Breckke	4	0	0	0
Drew Mekalson	2	2	0	0

HITTING- 2B- Kale Ovsak, Gage Post  
 PITCHING (ip-h-r-er-bb-k)- Mark Jaroszewski 6-11-7-50-3

Game two	AB	R	H	BI
Brandon Nguyen	3	2	2	0
Zach Longfors	3	1	1	2
Scott Seim	3	1	1	1
Kale Ovsak	3	1	1	0
Logan Breckke	3	0	1	1
Drew Mekalson	2	0	1	1
Gage Post	2	0	0	1
Cael Pausch	2	0	0	0
Nathan Longfors	1	1	0	0

HITTING- 2B- Kale Ovsak  
 PITCHING (ip-h-r-er-bb-k)- Brandon Nguyen 5-5-4-1-1-3



Contributed photo

Cody Hill recently helped to take six veterans trout fishing on local lakes.

## Warm water temperatures makes for a hot bite

Summer has arrived and it has brought our typical summertime bites. Water temperatures have increased a lot in the past few days, and it has pushed a lot of fish out from shallow water patterns to mid lake structures to find cooler water and bait fish.

With the warmer weather it has brought this typical summer problems that a lot of minnows are now harder to find so a lot of people are using more leeches and crawlers as a result.

Leech ponds took a hard-hit last year with the low water levels and has caused leeches to be a very hot commodity. If you are a diehard leech user, I strongly suggest stocking up if you see the coolers of your local bait shops do sell by the pound and I strongly recommend this way of purchasing for the next few weeks.

My favorite way to find fish time of the year is trolling a simple rig of a plain #4 snell hook with a single bead in front of it tipped with a leech and just enough weight to get down to bottom but not enough to sink into the weeds. When you troll leeches do not go too fast and I normally only target 0.4-0.7 mph while I fish. Keep your bail open and a finger on the line and if you feel a bite let out some line and let the fish eat your leech.

When I come up to a spot, I normally use this presentation to find active fish. I use my GPS to mark where we are getting fish and if all our bites or fish are coming from one area I switch to a jig and leech and start focusing in on



Chill Fishing Report  
 Cody Hill

that area. Joys of this presentation is almost everything will bite, and it helps with kids keeping them active with catching something.

This past weekend we changed it up with switching to targeting rainbow trout. We have a few local lakes that are stocked with trout, and it can give people a change of pace and something new and fun to do instead of just walleye fishing. Everyone thinks you need fancy technology and big lures for trout but for them I use panfish gear with plain hooks and slip bobbers. They are a fun fish to catch and something different for the dinner table than deep fried fish.

I teamed up with the Brady Oberg Legacy Foundation and we had the opportunity to take six veterans out trout fishing. This was a unique opportunity and a rewarding trip for me since this was something new to almost every one of our veterans and it didn't take long to catch fish.

After 5 hours of fishing with a few small adjustments through the morning we had to call it a trip because we were limited out. It was fun when we got back to shore because they were telling their fishing stories from the morning and each and everyone had the largest grins on their faces.

# Two Frazee students complete robotics camp



Contributed photos

Incoming Frazee-Vergas high school juniors Sam Stockstrom and Josh Boyer, members of the school's Kaotic Robotics team, earned certificates of completion at a two-day programming camp at Bemidji State University.



## Twenty-eight students participated in the camp

The Northern Minnesota Robotics Conference (NMRC) in partnership with Bemidji State University (BSU) resumed a robotics programming camp for the first time in two years this past month after being shut down previously due to Covid-19.

This programming camp began back in the summer of 2018 after the collaboration of NMRC member teams identified programming skills as one of the top priorities for student growth.

These skills are not only necessary for teams to be successful on the field but needed in business and industry within communities in order for them to thrive as well.

This year 28 students from teams in the communities of Hatton-Northwood (ND), Warroad, Cass Lake, Nevis, Pine River-Backus, Perham, Frazee-Vergas, Becker, Big Fork, Babbitt, Stephen-Argyle, Crosby-Ironton, and Pillager descended onto Bemidji State University for this two-day event.

During this camp students participated in either the Level 1 or Level 2 programming course in which they wrote code, deployed code to robots, and tested the programs they wrote through a variety of hands-on activities.

In addition to the courses students participated in campus tours and received presentations on postsecondary opportunities at BSU. They also heard from industry experts at Paul Bunyan Communications about opportunities here in northern Minnesota in which their developing programming skills could be put to work in the future.

On behalf of all member teams and students the NMRC would like to thank Paul Bunyan

Communications, Bemidji State University, BSU's Dept. of Technology, Art, & Design, the Minnesota Manufacturing Center of Excellence, and the NCVCC (North Country Vocational Cooperative Council) for their commitment to our students and their desire to help create opportunities for our kids. Without their logistical and financial assistance this camp would not have been possible.

To learn more about the NMRC and member teams visit [NMRCconference.org](http://NMRCconference.org) and read about teams under the "Members" tab. You can also learn how you or your organization can get involved to help kids from our region under the "Partners & Volunteers" tab.

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Contributed photo  
Temperatures hit triple digits at Lindy's home recently.

## Bringing my attention to warm temps

Over the years, I've seen some pretty miserable weather. Beyond a doubt, winter weather has produced the most memorable temperatures, but summer can do it, too. Summer might be in second place, but.

Just check the picture. That was a couple of days ago. Maybe I just don't remember the last time that happened here. Probably it has gotten that hot, but I didn't have a nice digital thermostat to bring my attention to it. There's something about a digital in-your-face notice that is somehow more alarming. More memorable.

Maybe I'd be the better for not having any thermometer at all. Then, hot is just hot.

I remember baling oat straw in Iowa, growing up on the farm there. That was during a time when I hardly ever wore a shirt, and those oat fibers would get up under your armpits and in your elbows. Itch? Wow.

We had a rain barrel at the corner of the house, and I remember how good it felt to take a stand-up bath in that nice soft rainwater, come the end of a day. Wash those pokey oat barbs away.

That almost made the itch of baling straw worthwhile.

Almost. I left home when I was 16 and went to work for a farmer, who paid me thirty-five bucks and room and board, in return for which I got Sunday off. The other six days? Dark to dark. I learned over that summer how good I had it at home. When the summer was over, I apologized to my parents for being a dumb s.....! And they let me come home.

But one day later in the summer the farmer and I were combining oats, out in the field, some five miles from his home. We took a lunch break, and before starting everything up again, got out the grease gun and began lubricating all the grease fittings.

The grease gun went empty. Back then, you didn't go to the store and buy nice grease-filled cardboard tubes, which went back into the grease gun



The Prairie Spy  
Alan "Lindy" Linda

quite handily.

Nope. Back then, you had a five-gallon can of grease, into which you plunged the opened-up grease gun. Then you pulled back against a really strong spring and sucked the grease gun full. At that point you locked the plunger open by snapping the handle over into a groove, which held that powerful spring—which had to be powerful to push the grease back out when you pumped the handle.

I was pretty strong, but it was a strong pull to suck the gun full of grease against the pressure of the spring. I got the gun full of grease, I locked the plunger shaft into its locking click. I turned around and the farmer had the crank end in his hands, so I pointed the gun at him so he could screw the pumping mechanism back on.

Apparently I didn't have the plunger solidly locked open. Just as I pointed it at him, the plunger let go. The entire load of grease hit him in the chest, solidly enough to back him up a step.

He wore what we now call wife-beater tee shirts, open. Plus it was hot. And he was sweaty. Most of the grease hit him right under his chin, and he had a hairy chest. PLOP!

You know, he never said anything.

He didn't have to.

It was hot. The oat straws and stuff were itchy. He cleaned it off well as he could, and put in the rest of the day. That had to be miserable.

He never said anything. Over the years, it's helped me keep my trap shut when someone did something stupid that affected me in not-so-nice ways. (Usually my kids; but not always.)

That's what hot weather brings back to me.

## Have your opinion heard

Have an opinion on a topic affecting the area?  
Write a Letter to the Editor to share your thoughts.  
Deadline for all Letter's to the Editor is Friday at 12 p.m. Email letters to news1@loretel.net or dropped off at the Frazee-Vergas Forum office at 112 West Main Ave. in Frazee.



## Unique world records to make your stomach hurt

There is, perhaps, nothing more American than watching a bunch of adults stuff their faces with enough hot dogs to feed an entire school. Give me freedom, give me fireworks and give me Joey Chestnut shoving his face with over 70 hot dogs in 10 minutes on Coney Island on the Fourth of July. Somewhere George Washington must be cracking a small smile at just the thought of this gluttony.

Each Fourth of July I make it a point to watch the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest. It's a test of skill, endurance and a good jaw, as the over zealous announcers usually repeat over and over again during the broadcast. The rest of my family, on the other hand, would prefer to stay outside in the lake, or really do anything else besides watch the annual hot dog eating contest.

Either that, or they are sick of me reliving the glory days of my time in high school when I won the pie eating contest during our



Publisher's Perspective  
Chad Koenen

senior homecoming pep fest. I kid you not that I ate my pie, got cleaned up and did a victory lap around the gym, before anyone else was even half way done with their pie.

In college I had a similar ability to win contests, albeit of a different kind, when I could drink "pop" faster than most other people as well. I could make our drink go down even faster when I cut a hole in the bottom of the can.

While hot dogs, and in my case pie, may get the most recognition for eating things faster than necessary, there are hundreds of annual eating contests for everything like jalapenos to

pizza. Here are a few of the world records:

- Joey Chestnut holds the record of 76 Nathan's Famous hot dogs and buns in just 10 minutes (this article was written before this year's contest so it may be even more now).

- Don Lerman holds the record of eating 7 quarter-pound sticks of salted butter in just 5 minutes. There was no word on whether he then ingested popcorn for an extra tasty treat.

- Patrick Bertoletti holds the world record for eating 3 lbs. 11.75 oz. of rocky mountain oysters in just 10 minutes. A friend of mine once told me rocky mountain oysters taste just like chicken—I will just take their word for it and eat chicken instead.

- Nick Wehry holds the world record for eating 50 hardboiled eggs in 3:04. He was the first to finish in the contest, but I think we can all agree that in the end he probably ended losing (it).

- Geoffrey Esper holds

the world record for eating 281 Hooters chicken wings in 10 minutes. It didn't say if he had to eat the bone or not, but I am assuming he got a pass on those.

- One of the oldest records I could find was set back in 2015 when Matt Stonie ate 182 strips of Smithfield Bacon in just 5 minutes. As a person who had their gallbladder removed a few years ago I know what eating that much bacon in 6 months can do to a person, let alone in just 5 minutes.

- Bob Shoudt holds the world record, which dates back to 2010, of eating 36 peanut butter and banana sandwiches in 10 minutes.

- Joey Chestnut holds the world record after eating 257 Hostess Donettes in just 6 minutes.

- Finally, since we are in Minnesota we have to give some representation to SPAM. Geoffrey Esper holds the world record for eating 9 3/4 lbs. of delicious Austin, Minn. made SPAM in just 8 minutes. Anyone else hungry?

## Putting the bulls out to pasture on the farm

By Tyler Trieglaff  
Notes from the Chief

Haying season is in full swing with the majority of the first crop stacked at the farm.

We have 160 acres to go and those fields usually only get one cutting. We have 532 bales run through the baler so far and there should be another 300 or more for the first crop. Second crop will be up in the air, baling the good alfalfa for sure and maybe rotating some other hayfields for pasture. There is a huge change from last year's drought. We seem to have almost too much pasture which means we won't have to feed any hay for several months we hope.

The round baler is working pretty well but we are also supporting our local dealer with numerous parts runs. At the moment of typing this, there is a major breakdown involving some bearings on the roller drums that help form the bale. We are figuring it out, but it doesn't seem to be the simple fix I was hoping for. I hope to replace all the bearings at once so we don't

have to repeat this pain in the arse process.

By the time you read this, the bulls will be out on the pastures with their lady friends. We did turn the bull in with the heifers on Saturday, June 25, that will give those girls a little head start on the rest of the herd. We will plan to pull the bulls at or before Labor Day giving us a 9-week calving season. The cows will have had at least 3 heat cycles in that time, but hopefully most will be preggo in that first 3 weeks.

**Friday, June 24**

5:36 p.m. Driving complaint on N. Lake St and N. River Drive, vehicle causing issues in the construction area. Warren Brown, 28, Ogema, arrested for 3rd Degree DWI.

10:25 p.m. Assist with a fire call on Co Hwy 39.

10:52 p.m. Alarm at a business in town. Building was secure.

**Sunday, June 26**

6:30 p.m. Assist with a medical.

10:57 p.m. Report of a domestic situation. Kileen

Weise, 64, arrested for 2nd Degree Assault and domestic Assault.

**Monday, June 27**

8 a.m. Assist with removing construction debris from roadway.

9:49 a.m. Report of picnic tables floating in the lake at the beach. Assist city crew with removing and chaining them to the picnic shelter.

1:47 p.m. Assist with a two-vehicle crash with injuries on US Highway 10.

9:10 p.m. Report of a court order violation. Under investigation.

**Tuesday, June 28**

2:06 p.m. Report of a possible gas leak on E Main. Gas company was testing lines in the area.

2:13 p.m. Resident trapped a woodchuck in a live trap. Woodchuck and others were camping under a garage or woodpile in town. Officer transported the adult woodchuck to a better place in the country. Officer did try to determine how much wood a woodchuck could chuck then released into the wild.

3:02 p.m. Officer returned a chainsaw that was found a few weeks ago.

9:15 p.m. Assist with a medical.

**Wednesday, June 29**

5:23 p.m. Assist with a couple background check for landlords.

8:48 p.m. Alarm at a business. Proper code to cancel.

**Thursday, June 30**

10:08 a.m. Warrant attempt on an adult female in town. Unable to locate.

10:16 a.m. Assist with a welfare check in the county.

9:14 a.m. Report of a male resident harassing the construction crew on S. Lake St.

3:42 p.m. Report of garbage blowing from construction on Balsam Ave. Officer talked with the property owner who was going to talk with his contractors.

4:37 p.m. Report from crew foreman that a local male was harassing a female flagger on N Lake St., has been an issue a couple of times. Crew foreman moved him along, info only for now.

Frazee-Vergas  
**Forum**  
Official newspaper for the cities  
of Frazee & Vergas and the  
Frazee-Vergas School District

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Letter's to the Editor

The Frazee-Vergas Forum accepts and encourages Letters to the Editor from readers on subjects of current and general interest. All letters must be signed and include contact information from the author. Letters can be emailed, as long as the editor is able to verify the author of the letter prior to publication. The Frazee-Vergas Forum reserves the right to edit all letters and refuse the publication of any letter to the Editor without explanation or prior notice. Opinions expressed in letters and guest opinions are not necessarily the opinion of this newspaper or its staff.

The Publisher shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The Publisher's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement is strictly limited to one publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issue or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisement.



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### HELP WANTED

Help wanted: Henning City Clerk-Treasurer, Job Type: Full-time. General Duties: Chief administrative officer of the city. Responsible for daily administration and coordination of all City affairs in accordance with statutes and directives from the City Council. Preferred Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree in public admin-

istration, business finance, or a related field, and five years of public sector administrative experience. Excellent communication skills, both oral and written. The combination of a technical degree and Municipal Clerk Certification may substitute for the bachelor's degree. Apply: Applications will be accepted until the vacancy is filled. Starting pay is \$25-28 per hour depending on experience. Full job description and application may be picked up at the Henning City Office at 612 Front Street in Henning or online at [www.cityofhenning.com](http://www.cityofhenning.com) and can be dropped off at City Hall or emailed to [henngov@arvig.net](mailto:henngov@arvig.net).

6-28, 7-5

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Send Resumes to [laura@divinehouse.org](mailto:laura@divinehouse.org)  
Or pick up Applications at Divine House Inc 115 Willow St W, Suite 1 Detroit Lakes, MN Phone: 218-847-9678  
EOE

### MEETING NOTICE

Regular Meeting of the Frazee-Vergas School Board  
**Monday, July 11**  
**6:00pm | Frazee Fire Hall Meeting Room**  
at 222 West Main Avenue, Frazee, MN 56544  
**Frazee-Vergas Public School**  
Independent School District #23  
305 North Lake Street, Frazee, MN | 218-334-3181

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**PERHAM** Service Foods • Central Market

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE TO VOTER – CITY OF FRAZEE**  
**FILING AFFIDAVIT OF CANDIDACY**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:  
That a regular city election in the city of Frazee, County of Becker, in the State of Minnesota will be held on Tuesday, the 8th day of November, 2022 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.  
That the first day for filing affidavits of candidacy will be 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 2nd, 2022,

and the last day for filing affidavits of candidacy for said election will be 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 16th, 2022. Affidavits of candidacy can be submitted at the City Hall located at 222 Main Ave W, Frazee, Minnesota 56544.  
The offices to be filled at said election are: two (2) council members (four year terms), and one (1) mayor (four year term).  
The cost is \$3.00 and when you officially file, your name will be printed on the ballot.

Published July 5, July 12, 2022

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF BECKER

IN DISTRICT COURT  
SEVENTH  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Quiet title

County of Becker, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota, Colin C. Bork, Robert J. Bork, Linda L. Bork,

Plaintiffs,  
SUMMONS  
Martha Raaen, Ole E. Raaen, Ole Raaen, Marie Raaen, Mary Raaen, Frances M. Raaen, Frances E. Raaen, Bessie Beaton, Bessie Forest, Bessie Forrest, Charles A. Beaton, John E. Beaton, Ray L. Guillemette, Emil L. Stumm, Helen M. Stumm, Charlotte Thompson, Joseph Melvin Paulson, Mavis A. Swenson, Nancy Ann Trickey, Marsha Prady, Marsha M. Prady, Kevin Prady, Anthony Prady, Kelly Kendle, Sara Engen, Chris Hauglid, Chris Allen Hauglid, Chris Alan Hauglid, Chris W. Gorder, Mabel Gorder, Mabel C. Gorder, Ed Olson, Edward L. Olson, and the unknown heirs of the above-named defendants, and also all other persons or parties claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real estate described in the Complaint herein,  
Defendants.

THIS SUMMONS IS BEING DIRECTED TO: The above named Defendants.

1. YOU ARE BEING SUED. The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiff's Complaint against you is attached to this Summons. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court and there may be no court file number on this Summons.

2. YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 20 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You must give or mail to the person who signed this summons a written response called an Answer within 20 days of the date on which you received this Sum-

mons. You must send a copy of your Answer to the person who signed this Summons located at:

Charles J. Ramstad  
114 Holmes Street West  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
(218) 847-5653

3. YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's Complaint. In your Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.

4. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS. If you do not answer within 20 days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the Complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the Complaint, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.

5. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, the Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

6. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION. The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an alternative dispute resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even if you expect to use alternative means of resolving this dispute.

7. THIS LAWSUIT MAY AFFECT OR BRING INTO QUESTION TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN BECKER COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, legally described as follows:

That part of Government Lot 4 in Section 12, Township 139 North, Range 39 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian in Becker County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Beginning at an iron monument which designates the northwest corner of said Government Lot 4; thence North 89 degrees 23 minutes 04 seconds East 122.80 feet on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Government Lot 4 to an iron monument on the easterly line of a 33.00 foot wide public cartway known as South Twin Drive, said cartway being established by a Township Resolution recorded as Document No. 522625, on file and of record in the office of the Recorder in said County; thence South 31 degrees 18 minutes 40 seconds East 128.85 feet along the easterly line of said South Twin Drive; thence South 38 degrees 02 minutes 41 seconds East 273.10 feet continuing along the easterly line of said South Twin Drive to an iron monument; thence continuing South 38 degrees 02 minutes 41 seconds East 72.49 feet along the easterly line of said South Twin Drive to an iron monument; thence continuing South 38 degrees 02 minutes 41 seconds East 72.49 feet along the easterly line of said South Twin Drive to an iron monument; thence South 51 degrees 44 minutes 19 seconds East 11.88 feet along the easterly line of said South Twin Drive to an iron monument at the most northerly corner of a tract of land described as the South Twin Lake Tract in Exhibit A, Parcel 1 in Judgment Document No. 671007, on file and of record in the office of the Recorder in said County; thence South 53 degrees 07 minutes 20 seconds West 233.29 feet along the northwesterly line of said tract of land to an iron

monument; thence South 37 degrees 07 minutes 04 seconds West 29.01 feet continuing along the northwesterly line of said tract of land to an iron monument; thence continuing South 37 degrees 07 minutes 04 seconds West 14 feet, more or less, along the northwesterly line of said tract of land to the water's edge of South Twin Lake; thence in a generally northwesterly direction along the water's edge of said South Twin Lake to the west line of said Government Lot 4; thence North 00 degrees 08 minutes 12 seconds West 26 feet, more or less, along the west line of said Government Lot 4 to an iron monument; thence continuing North 00 degrees 08 minutes 12 seconds West 494.02 feet along the west line of said Government Lot 4 to the point of beginning. The above described tract contains 4.86 acres, more or less, and is shown on Meadowland Surveying, Inc.'s Certificate of Survey 10072-15 dated January 19, 2022.

SUBJECT TO a 33.00 foot wide easement for public cartway purposes as described in said Document No. 522625.

FURTHER SUBJECT TO an easement for public road purposes for 400th Avenue over, under and across that part of the above tract which lies within 33.00 feet of the centerline of said 400th Avenue.

AND YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the object of said action, among other things, is to determine the title and adverse claims to the land hereinafter described and that no personal claim is made against any of the Defendants hereto.

RAMSTAD, SKOYLES & WINTERS, P.A.  
Dated: March 31, 2022  
By: Charles J. Ramstad  
Attorneys for Plaintiffs  
114 Holmes Street West  
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota 56501  
Phone: (218) 847-5653  
Atty. Reg. No. 0169390

Published June 28, July 5, July 12, 2022

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## BOOSTING REVENUES

continued from 3

enue. Last year, the Minnesota Department of Education approved the district to be part of the 2021 Summer Food Nutrition Program. Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the program provided free breakfasts and lunches to children up to 18-years-old. Adults were also provided the opportunity to purchase a healthy meal for \$6.85 a day.

This summer, a similar lunch program would have required students to eat the lunch onsite, rather than the takeout manner during the pandemic. Given the construction going on at both the high school and elementary campuses, the summer lunch program was eliminated.

Compensatory funding continued to fall and garnered much of the discussion during the meeting. That funding can be directly improved by parents and the comments from district and board members were a similar refrain to last year's budget meeting.

"That is based on the parents filling out the free and reduced applications and when we have free breakfast and free lunch parents aren't as motivated to fill those out and that affects our revenues," said Clapsaddle.

While free meals were a convenience to parents and students, a lesser number of submitted applications produced a negative effect on the district's bottom line.

"It was difficult to do that last year because we had free meals," said superintendent Terry Karger.

Both the district and school board members are hoping the program will be aided by the assistance of parents.

"It should spark some interest with inflation and all these other things going on, I would see more people wanting to take advantage of the stuff that's out there and I wouldn't blame them," said school board chair Thaddeus Helmers. "So we could actually see a change in that number based on previous years prior to the free food."

The board had a lengthy discussion on the effect of parents not filling out free and reduced lunch applications and its direct correlation to less funding for the district.

"I just want to make sure that the public understands we are not receiving our full

potential of income because a portion of our public isn't filling out the forms," said board treasurer Nathan Matejka. "It's not something we're not doing; it's something that we're not getting."

Vice chair Kimberly Antonsen noted that families who may or may not qualify are asked to complete the paperwork.

"If they think they do, they should," she said. "Some people feel they aren't going to qualify so they don't fill it out, but you still should."

Last September, Helmers made a direct plea to parents to use the benefits.

He reported in 2017-18 there were 47 percent of district residents utilizing free and reduced lunches. That number dropped to 35 percent in 2021.

The district lost upwards of \$200,000 and that trend is continuing if families do not apply for the benefit.

That loss of revenue can translate to larger class sizes and reduction in staff, along with benefits lost like waived activity fees.

A direct link to the application is located on the district's website by selecting the Departments drop-down menu and expanding the food service-nutrition drop-down to select free-reduced lunch application or by visiting directly at: frazee.k12.mn.us/departments/food-service-nutrition/free-reduced-lunch

Food costs factored into negative numbers on the expenditure side of the budget as well.

Projected expenditures highlighted increasing food prices causing a projected food service fund balance of -\$73,574.

"The reason for that is our food prices have just increased," said Clapsaddle. "There is a supply chain disruption so you don't have a lot of options on who you can get your food through. You really have to take what you can get and try to make the best out of it. We're kind of stuck with that one."

Clapsaddle was quick to note that all the numbers are still projections and estimates only.

"All of this information is preliminary," she said. "We're going to do another revision like we typically do to get a more accurate pupil count and add our ES-SER funding and just get an overall better picture of our expenditures and revenues."

# Midco aims to franchise in Frazee in 2023

## Company to bring broadband access to Frazee

By Robert Williams  
Editor

Mid-Continent vice president Justin Forde attended the Frazee City Council meeting on Monday, June 20, to seek permission for his company to construct a state-of-the-art fiber network in the community to provide broadband internet, phone and television access.

"This system would open with five-gigabit symmetrical speeds to every address, which is as fast as anybody else is doing in the country and perhaps the fastest," he

said. "In the not too distant future, we've already made a \$500 million commitment for 10-gig speeds that will probably start launching in 2025 and throughout our Midco network by 2030."

Midco began a \$20 million project to bring services down highway 10 from Hawley to Lake Park, Audubon and Detroit Lakes.

"We have several types of these projects going throughout the upper Midwest," Forde said.

According to Forde, Midco specialized in rural broadband, mainly in the

Dakotas and Minnesota. "Many of the cities we serve are closer to 500 in population than 5,000, as well as a lot of farms and rural areas," he said.

Midco has been installing fiber in Detroit Lakes over the past year and plans to extend those services to Frazee and down Highway 10.

Fiber installs would likely begin in 2023.

Based out of Fargo, N.D., Forde noted that the increase in people working remotely has driven demand for better broadband speeds in the lakes area.

The company is nearing completion of office space for engineering teams and installation teams based out of the Detroit Lakes

industrial park and would likely have a point based in Frazee upon project completion.

Midco would negotiate with the city to determine the timeliness of fiber installation in town from one team that moves around the city or a full install upon an evaluation of the location of current underground services.

The city recently approved a new franchise agreement with Arvig, based out of Perham. An agreement with Midco would be similar in nature and have to go through the regular approval process before construction teams would start planning work that could begin spring of 2023.



Contributed photos

One of the bigger future projects discussed at Monday's special school board meeting on facility maintenance funding was a five-year adhered roofing system to upgrade the schools topside and improve 80 percent of the roof that is currently no longer under warranty.

## FACILITY PLAN APPROVED

continued from 1

ry Karger said. "I think the projects we are seeking you to approve are good projects. I don't think we're doing anything frivolous."

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) provides guidance to school districts to enable them to meet requirements of the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue program under Minnesota Statutes. Districts submit 10-years expenditure applications to MDE for approval to receive revenue.

Expenditures are broken down into different categories, from health and safety items like asbestos removal, fire safety, indoor air quality to large maintenance projects. Health and safety items are a consistent annual expense to



the district running from \$24,000 to a high projection of \$32,000 in 2026. The 2022 budget called for just under \$30,000.

Indoor air quality also includes a planned \$2 million project for new air handling units, ductwork and the necessary controls. Ceiling replacement is also part of this project, along with the fire protection system and classroom door updates.

According to Karger, the project is attached to the district's lease levy, a bond to fund the project that was discussed at last summer's budget meeting with plans for construction this summer.

Also approved were two small projects, \$5,000 to update soffits at the elementary school this summer, along with a small \$600 painting job at the high school. An estimate to replace the entire soffit and fascia system at the elementary school was turned down by the district due to total cost.

The freezer alarm system on the lone major

freezer the district owns at the high school will be repaired. The air dryer that sits atop the shop area that keeps the moisture out of tool lines has died and will be replaced for \$1,850.

The high school boy's varsity showers will also be redone with a high-grade system in hopes of maintaining it well into the future.

"It hasn't been updated in a long time and it's definitely in need," said Karger.

The primary playground on the west end of the elementary school is scheduled to be replaced after it was determined by the district's insurance that it was no longer up to code. The playground surface will also be replaced in time with the construction currently going on in the area.

The board also discussed a couple of future fixes, including new lights in the high school media center and Karger stressed the need involving a \$20,000 investment in water heaters at the elementary school.

"We've been advised for

two years in a row now to look to replace," he said. "This last time was a little more urgent."

The replacement is scheduled for 2024, but could need to be done a year from now.

A roof analysis by Herzog Roofing has been completed to bring the district's roofs up to date. Currently, 80 percent of the roofs are no longer under warranty, according to Karger.

"We've been very fortunate that we've been able to patch quite a bit," said Karger. "We've built up our LTFM over the years knowing this is forthcoming and I think next summer would be when we need to start."

The roof project is spread out over a five-year plan based on greatest need first. Total estimated cost for the adhered roofing system project is \$1.1 million.

"Financially, it fits into our allotted money per year, so we do have a good plan," said Karger.

The adoption of the school district's LTFM plan was approved unanimously by the school board.

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