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8 awards



Bucs win in overtime

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BE Library looking at 2 new projects

Donations being sought for outside murals, new dinosaur fossil

By Chuck Hunt Register Editor

The Blue Earth Community Library and Fossil Discovery Center has some big plans for the coming months which they hope to accomplish with a lot of

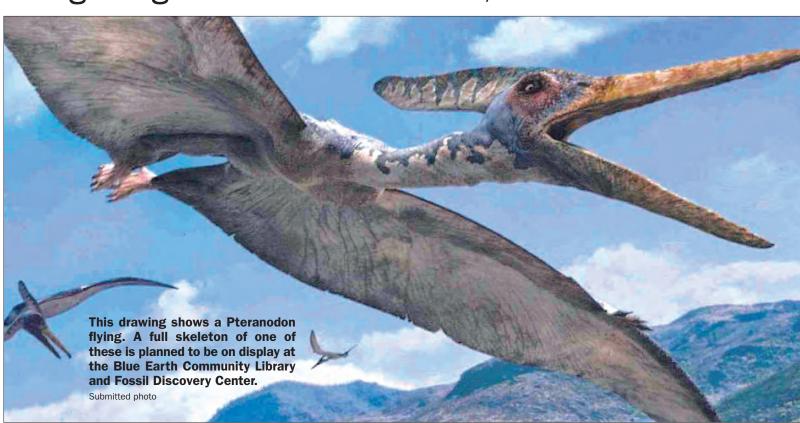
help from their "friends."
In fact, it is their "friends" who are doing all of the work.

One of the projects involves the purchase of a new very large dinosaur display, inside the library on the east wall.

The other project is to put four very large murals on the outside west wall of the library.

Jim Pollard of Blue Earth has already donated \$19,000 worth of cabinets and fossils to the library.

BE Library, page 7





These girls were having a lot of fun at the annual Father-Daughter Dance sponsored by the Habitat for Humanity organization, and held at the Frost Viking Community Center on Saturday, Jan. 29. More pictures from the event can be found inside this week's issue of the *Faribault County Register* on page 12.

County Board goes for the \$9.4 M bond

Also reappoints VSO Schmidtke for 4 years

BY KEVIN MERTENS

Register Staff Writer

The Faribault County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, Feb. 1, and approved the sale of State Aid Highway bonds to Northland Securities in the amount of \$9,435,000.

"The true interest rate (TIR) is 1.9406 percent," county auditor/treasurer Darren Esser said. "I had hoped the interest rate would have been in the 1.6-1.7 percent range, but interest rates have been edging higher."

Public works director Mark Daly was asked if the County State Aid Highway funding will still cover the cost of repaying the bond.

"Yes, it will," Daly replied. "I am not as optimistic about the bituminous prices as I was earlier but I believe this is the right thing to do."

Esser noted the number of companies bidding on the bonds was higher than he had expected.

"We were hoping to have four or five companies bidding," he commented. "We actually ended up with seven companies bidding. The payback period is 15 years."

The board passed the resolution awarding the sale of 2022A General Obligation

County Board, page 7

Blue Earth Light & Water has big plans

\$5 million budgeted for potential substation and other improvements

By Fiona Green

Register Staff Writer

With an eye toward the community's future needs, Blue Earth Light and Water (BELW) hopes to bring some 'electrifying' new projects to fruition.

BELW is a municipal utility governed by Blue Earth's Board of Public Works, which operates independently from the city of Blue Earth.

Tim Stoner general man-

Tim Stoner, general manager of BELW, shares the board intends to undertake three projects which would heighten reliable access to electrical power for industries and residents served by BELW.

The first project entails a potential substation improvement plan, which, if all goes well, would be designed with the burgeoning



north side of Blue Earth in

Stoner shared the area's growth was noticed in part due to a systems study which the Board of Public Works conducted in conjunction with Central Municipal Power Agency/Services (CMPAS) and DGR Engineering in early 2021.

Among other things, the systems study highlighted the influx of new businesses in Blue Earth's Golden Spike Business Park and in nearby areas, as well as new residential properties in the northern area of Blue Earth,

BELW projects, page 7

BELW general manager Tim Stoner is shown at his desk at the BELW offices on Seventh Street in downtown Blue Earth.

Staff photo by Fiona Green



There and back again – back to Blue Earth, that is After living in many states, the Goshorns have settled in Blue Earth

By Fiona Green

Register Staff Writer

hough they met in Blue Earth, high school sweethearts Aron and Megan Goshorn have called countless pockets of the United States home over the years.

Last November, however, Megan and Aron returned to Jolly Green Giant country with their five young Sprouts.

The Goshorns visited with *The Faribault County Register* on Tuesday, Feb. 1, to discuss their plans to put down roots and cultivate their large family.

What are your names?

"Aron and Megan Goshorn." Megan answers.

Megan and Aron also introduce Eli and Isaac, who are stationed at a computer desk at the end of the room, and Micah and Naomi, who have scampered upstairs to play.

Caleb, who remains in the living room to join in the interview, introduces himself.

What are your ages?

"I'm 40," Aron shares, with Megan adding she is 35

Their oldest son, Eli, is 12, Caleb is nine, Isaac is seven, Micah is five, and Naomi is four.

"I have a birthday coming up in April," Caleb shares. "How many months away is that?"

Where are you from?

Though Megan and Aron met in Blue Earth, they have traveled the United States extensively since then.

"I'm military," Aron explains. "I just retired. I was an aviation mechanic."

Aron's vocation led the Goshorn family to Washington, Texas, Virginia and



Staff photos by Fiona Green

The Goshorn family relocated to Blue Earth last November. Above, their large family poses for a portrait along with one of their pet cats. In front are Eli, left, and Caleb, right. On the couch, left to right, are Micah, Megan, Isaac, Naomi, and Aron. Below, the Goshorns show off their silly side – and their second cat.



Kansas over the years.

"My favorite states were Virginia and Kansas, they were both really good," Caleb says.

"He had lots of friends there (in Kansas)," Megan - 11-

Junction City, Kansas, was the family's most recent home.

"It's right next to Fort Riley," Aron says.

Can you describe that place in three words?

Megan and Aron pause to recollect their memories of Kansas.

"Hilly," Megan starts.
"We lived in the Flint

Hills," Aron explains.

"Caring," Eli chimes in, clarifying, "The people around it."

Megan selects "prairie" as their final descriptive word.

"It was very common to have controlled grass fires there," she recalls.

Why did you leave? "I retired from the military," Aron answers.

"And we wanted to move closer to family," Caleb adds.

How did you find Blue Earth?

"Well, we met in Blue Earth," Aron says.

"Most of my family lives here, and your (Aron's) extended family lives here," Megan adds.

Aron was a 2001 graduate of Blue Earth Area High School, while Megan graduated in 2005.

"We went there, and our class pictures are still on the wall," Aron says.

"The kids thought that was so cool," Megan laughs.

Can you describe Blue Earth in three words? "Rural," Eli offers from

the computer. "Small."

"We're used to larger cities," Aron explains.

"Interconnected,"
Megan adds. "Everyone knows each other. When we were in the military, it

was not like that at all."

Who did you bring with you? "Just our kids," Megan

"Kids, cats, and stuff," Aron amends. "And a boat."

What do you like to do in Blue Earth?

"Bike around town," Eli answers.

"I rode my bike to school yesterday," Caleb offers.

"We like going to the sledding hill," Megan says. "It would be fun to bike down the sledding hill,"

The Goshorns, page 8

Caleb considers.





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Political parties hold their caucuses

Faribault County Republicans meet at BEA High School Commons

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

The Faribault County Republicans held their group precinct caucuses all at the same locale last Tuesday, Feb. 1, starting at 7

There were 100 Republicans at the caucus held at the Commons Area at Blue Earth Area High School. Each of the county's 18 precincts had separate tables to meet at, although all the groups met as a whole for most of the night. A few of the precincts had no one present to represent them.

One of the first orders of business was to cast straw votes for their choice for a GOP candidate to run for governor against incumbent DFLer Tim Walz.

There were six names on the ballot, plus one spot for undecided. It was announced there was one more potential candidate who declared too late to be on the ballot and that was former Hennepin County Sheriff Rich Stanek.

The Faribault County Republicans gave the nod to former state Sen. Scott Jensen with 33 votes. Mike Murphy received 22 votes, state Sen. Paul Gazelka 16, Dr. Neil Shah 10, corporate executive Kendall Qualls 7,

GOP caucus, page 8





GOP caucus moderator Bill Erickson, above. At right, state Rep. Bjorn Olson addresses the caucus. Left, a person looks over the list of GOP governor candidates. Below, an overall view.





Faribault County's Democrats meet both in Blue Earth and Wells

BY KEVIN MERTENS

Register Staff Writer

The beginning of the 2022 Minnesota political season kicked off on Tuesday, Feb. 1, with the holding of caucuses around the state.

In Faribault County, the DFL (Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party) held two caucuses, one in Blue Earth and one in Wells.

"We have not had anyone on a local level declare their candidacy as of vet because the announcement of the redrawn district lines has not been made public yet," DFL Faribault County chairman, Dan Woodring, said.

As per DFL statewide rules, all people attending DFL caucuses had to show proof of vaccination for COVID and wear a mask.

Once the formalities of saying the Pledge of Allegiance, reading a letter from the DFL state chairman and electing a caucus moderator were completed, the caucus participants got down to business.

Woodring, who attended the meeting in Wells along with eight other adults, was elected to serve as the caucus moderator. Approximately 20 people attended



Democrats visit about the issues at the caucus held in the Media Center at BEA High School, above, while caucus moderator Dan Woodring, right, addresses the DFL caucus held at the Community Center in Wells last Tuesday, Feb. 1.

One of the things a caucus does is prepare resolutions which will be taken to each party's caucus conven-

The DFL caucus in Wells passed over 10 resolutions dealing with many different subjects.

One resolution called for the state to transfer to 100 percent clean energy by

the DFL Caucus in Blue 2050. Another called for common-sense gun violence prevention measures.

> Other resolutions dealt with education, whether calling for more equitable funding for schools, universal preschool education, or more funding for meals at schools.

Another resolution called for the extension of voting rights to allow non-incarcerated felons to vote.

Issues involving agriculture were also brought up at the caucus with resolutions calling for more funding for land stewardship and the rapid implementation of regenerative farm practices also passing. Another resolution, involving agriculture, supported adequate payment for landowners when land is taken out of production for buffer strips

or waterways.



the development of a statewide public transportation railway system and another supporting electric vehicle charging stations in Minnesota.

A resolution supporting funding for a range of difhousing and another allowing stronger unions in Min-

These resolutions, along with any others which came from the caucus held in Blue Earth, will be considered at the DFL County Convention, which will be held at 2 p.m. on April 2, at the Blue Earth Area High

One more COVID death reported

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

One more person from Faribault County was listed as having died due to COVID-19 in the latest report from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), but had not been listed by the Faribault-Martin County Health and Human Services Office yet.

The recent death made the total in the county now at 46, since the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

In the report released this past week on Jan. 31, by the County Health Services, the number of cases of COVID-19 since the beginning of recording the numbers stood at 3,407 in Faribault County, with 204 of those being active, and 10 persons listed as being hospitalized.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, 197 persons have been hospitalized, with 50 of those having been in

The number of cases in Faribault County has seen

an uptick recently. For the week of Dec. 19-



25, 2021, there were 36 new cases reported. The week of Dec. 26, 2021-Jan. 1, 2022, it was 60 cases. Jan. 2-8 the number rose to 136. Jan. 9-15 it was 145 cases. Jan. 16-22, the number was at 171.

COVID update, page 8



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Taking a beating for his opinion

Perhaps you read the large, page-and-a-half story in the Mankato Free Press last week about my friend and fellow weekly newspaper publisher/editor, Reed Anfinson, of Benson, Minnesota. Or maybe you read the story in another publication or online.

Register Editor

It was quite the story, about Reed's issues with one of his neighbors, mainly concerning a weekly editorial/column Reed writes.

I first met Reed many years ago, but we became very good friends in the early 1990s when we both served on the Minnesota Newspaper Association Board of Directors for nine years together. Reed came on the board the year after I did. The two of us, as well as a couple others on the board, somewhat revamped the way the board of directors operated, since most of us were small town publishers.

When I was president of the Minnesota Newspaper Association, Reed was first vice president, and I handed the president's gavel over to him that next year. Yes, "that year," the infamous year of my introduction of Gov. Jesse Ventura at the convention. Reed became president of MNA the very next day. Reed has since gone on to also serve on the National Newspaper Association Board of Directors, and serve as president of that organi-

Reed and I shared a passion for small town newspapers. He was born into it, as his father and grandfather both were in the business. I had to stumble into it during my college years. But no matter, we both loved newspapers, particularly ones in small towns.

We both believe that the duty of our newspapers is to inform the residents of our communities about what is going on in those towns - good, bad and sometimes ugly. We believe that the main focus is to let our readers know what their local governmental bodies - city council, school board, county board - are up to.

We have both written a weekly column for many, many years. I'm approaching 50 years of writing a column every week, with only missing having one every great once in a while. That, my friends, is one big number of columns. And I will readily admit that some have been pretty good, and others have been, well, not so good. Some were well received and a few have caused pretty big negative reactions.

Reed once told me he admired my columns, especially the ones that he felt were witty and clever. The truth is, I admired his columns for a different reason. His are always well-written, well-researched, and obviously composed by a very intelligent guy. Many of them are on topics of national interest or related to Freedom of the Press. I always thought

from the Editor's Notebook

By Chuck Hunt,



his columns could have been syndicated nationally and run in daily newspapers.

Reed's columns, however, have a pretty obvious liberal slant. And he readily admits that, and has always invited those with other views to express them in his newspaper. The problem is, most of the folks in his town and county are very conservative in their views. Some of them don't like seeing Reed's views in their local newspaper.

Unfortunately some of those folks feel so strongly about it, they have threatened Reed; not just with stopping their advertising and subscriptions, but with bodily harm as well.

That seems to be the way things are these days. People are so passionate in their views they can't see the other side. These days those of us in the newspaper biz have upset people even without trying. Just putting in a COVID update about numbers of local cases and suggesting people get vaccinated has ruffled up the feathers of a lot of people.

That is what newspapers often do. But hopefully, it is because we are always trying to do our best to inform you about what is going on, in the place where you call home.

Maybe we are doing it right. To be honest, I felt pretty good about the awards the *Register* recently earned at the Minnesota Newspaper Association's Better Newspaper Contest. Taking a first place award in General Reporting means that overall, we are doing our job of reporting the news. A first place in Photography as a Whole means that week after week we try hard to have quality photos in our pages. And, being recognized for our work on special sections and magazines is also pretty gratifying. Plus I am pretty proud of staff members Kevin Mertens and Kristin Woodwick for their awards in photography and design.

We have a really great staff of eight here at the Register. They are all hardworking, extremely competent, and all dedicated to our mission of putting out a great product. It takes a great team effort to do what we do, and win these awards.

It takes a whole lot of effort by everyone on our staff to put out the newspaper each week, but it can also be very rewarding. Sometimes what we do ruffles feathers, sometimes it downright ticks people off, and, occasionally, we receive a little praise for what we do.

And that can make it all worthwhile. Thanks for reading us...



Football, Groundhog Day and Punxsutawney Phil

So, it was time to write my column again and once again I was struggling trying to come up with a topic.

I considered writing about football. After all, I do not believe I have written about sports in my column for a few months now.

And there have been some incredible playoff games taking place in the National Football League. But then I thought it might be too depressing knowing the Vikings are not obviously close to being able to defeat a team like the Kansas City Chiefs.

Of course, then the Chiefs got beat by the Cincinnati Bengals, a team the Vikings should have beaten in their first game of the season.

I could have written about the Vikings hiring a new general manager and their search for a new coach. Per-



haps I could have touched on the Washington Football Team deciding to now call themselves the Washington Com-

But no, I am not going to go down that road. Instead, I am going to write about Groundhog Day. Please, hold your applause.

Now, the Groundhog Day I am going to write about is not the movie starring

SnapShots, page 5

Questions charge on gas bill for Feb. 2021 weather event

To the Editor:

On page 2 of the CenterPoint Energy gas bill is a cost item labeled "February 2021 Weather Event."

Scheduled to run for 63 months, this charge began with the September 2021 billing. It appears that this recurrent charge will accrue to a significant sum by the time it ends.

One would hope that the energy companies have learned from their complaLetter to the Editor

cency and miscalculations and taken steps to prevent repeated failures. I'm not holding my breath.

I don't like having to pay for the folly of the green ideals that compromise our energy policy and systems.

Dr. Joe Tempel, Blue Earth

Faribault Register County Register **ONLINE POLL QUESTION**

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS...

Have you ever tested positive for COVID-19? ☐ Yes, recently

Yes, a long time ago 26%

lacksquare No, but I thought I might have had it anyway ${f 28}\%$ ☐ No, never had the need to

20%

What is you favorite dinosaur? T-Rex

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION...

Pteranodon Velociraptor

Stegosaurus

Triceratops Brontosaurus

 Brachiosaurus Other

Vote online at www.faribaultcountyregister.com

It's one of anyone named Lester's dirty little secrets

What is the official state muffin of Minnesota?

Please phrase your answer in the form of a question as the state song "Hail! Minnesota" plays.

Time's up. It's the blueberry muffin. Not all states have an official state muffin. It's hard to believe, isn't it? And they call themselves states?

I'll give you a much easier question. What is the state It's Lester. If your name is Lester, I can't believe you

didn't know that. The soil is found in 16 counties and was named for the city of Lester Prairie. What is our state grain, state gemstone and state photo-

graph? Wild rice, agate and Grace. The state bird is the loon, making Minnesotans lunatics. I think the blackcapped chickadee should be the state bird while the loon is wintering in the south. It has a remarkable ability to recall the locations of hundreds of stored seeds because its hippocampus, responsible for memory, expands in volume by approximately 30 percent in the fall. In spring, less memory is needed and the chickadee's hippocampus shrinks to its normal size. I digress.

The state drink? Milk. Did you guess Grain Belt or Hamm's? The state fish is the walleye, the fruit is the Honeyerisp apple, the flower is the pink lady's slipper, the mushroom the morel, the tree the Norway pine, the bee the rusty patched bumblebee and the butterfly is the beloved monarch. You could fill a tent with them and charge admission. You couldn't do that with mosquitoes or wasps.

Our state sport is ice hockey. The state status symbol is owning a Zamboni. The state motto is "L'etoile du Nord,"

Tales from the **Batt Cave**

By Al Batt, Special to the Register



selected by Minnesota's first governor, Henry Sibley. The French said it meant, "Star of the North," but can we trust them? They say snails are good eating.

We have unofficial state symbols. The Land of 10,000 Lakes was promoted in a tourism campaign in the 1920s and it must be true, it's on our license plates. Depending on the source, the Gopher State has 11,482 to 14,444 lakes 10 acres or larger. The nickname, Gopher State, derives from a political cartoon depicting either railroad tycoons or legislators as thirteen-lined ground squirrels pulling a train car.

We need other official state symbols. The Zildjian, the world's largest maker of cymbals, should be the state cymbal. The state conspiracy theory is there is no Iowa. The state disappointment, the Minnesota Vikings.

Yesterday, when I was younger, I headed home after working in South Dakota. It was a beautiful winter day as I listened to the radio of a car whose motto was "be repaired" when I heard the whispers of a storm - heavy

snowfall and my choice of two sides – low temperatures, high winds, icy roads, dangerous windchill factor or whiteout conditions. Snowstorms surprised us in those days. Prognostications weren't as astoundingly accurate as they are today. Still, it was a frowny-faced forecast. It began to snow. I thought I could beat the storm. The dire weather prediction was a 99 percent possibility. "So, you're saying I have a chance," I said. I wanted to get home. If I could just get home, everything would be fine. It kept snowing and I kept going because I had nowhere else to go. It became an epic blizzard. The National Weather Service defines a blizzard as blowing or falling snow, winds of at least 35 mph, and visibility of a quarter-mile or less for at least three hours. In other words, an average winter day. As I drove, for each degree the temp dropped, the wind speed gained 2 mph. I nearly made it to Worthington, but I and a dozen other stranded motorists bunked with a farm family who believed what is written in Hebrews, "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." Their angel detector didn't go off in my presence, but I was able to hole up there until things blew over. The kindness of those good people echoes many years later. I made it

Dorothy, in "The Wizard of Oz," said, "There's no place like home."

That symbolizes Minnesota for me.

The most significant state symbol to me is my home.

Faribault Register County

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Association Member

The Faribault County Register (USPS 058-620) (ISSN 1045-7429) is published weekly at 125 N. Main Street, PO Box 98, Blue Earth, MN 56013.

Periodicals postage paid at Blue Earth, MN 56013. Postmaster: Send address change to Faribault County Register, 125 North Main Street, PO Box 98, Blue Earth, MN 56013

Subscription Rates: In-County - \$54.00/year Out-of-County - \$64.00/year No refunds on subscriptions. Please inform our office of address changes two weeks in advance.

> Advertising Deadlines - Display, classified and legal advertising deadline is at noon on Wednesday.

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A real 'potpourri' of information about the BE Chamber – plus!

"Potpourri" is one of those words that has several meanings. Some of you may recognize it as the name for a "mixture of dried petals of roses or other flowers with spices, and kept in a jar for their fragrance." Others may know it as a "musical medlev." This week, "potpourri" aptly fits the Chamber Focus as a "mixture of ... subjects, ideas,

Last week I stopped by the Giant Welcome Center (GWC) to drop off the Ambassador name badges and had a nice visit with executive director Shellie Poetter, on a wide-ranging variety of topics, beginning with the plan to resume weekly Chamber Updates on KBEW Radio. These promos are a great way to keep up with everything that is going on at the Chamber

and, by extension, in the Blue Earth area, which is served by the Chamber.

Shellie has completed the inventory of the souvenirs and clothing in the retail space, and she will soon be ordering new merchandise for Spring and Summer shopping. A new order will also be placed for Steve Tubbs pottery, since there are very few pieces left.

Shellie hopes to expand the "What's Local" space in the GWC in the coming months. Businesses should be thinking about a unique item that could be displayed in the GWC to help drive customers to their location. Last year BS Studio featured original paintings by Stephanie Spencer and Blue House on Main displayed their jute tote bags.

Fossil excitement is growing at the GWC with the soon-tobe special display area for the cast of the Acrocanthosaurus arm, on loan from Blue Earth's own expert ama-

teur paleontologist, Jim Pollard. He has created an attractive, informative 'rack card' with information about the arm and about all of the amazing fossils currently on display in the BE Community Library & Fossil Discovery Center. He has even included directions to the library from the

(FYI – the Acro's arm was even more powerful than the mighty T-Rex! Who knew? You can learn all about the Acrocanthosaurus, whose skull is prominently displayed in



the library, as well as two complete Oreodont skeletons, and a variety of other fossils, including those collected by library director Eva Gaydon and her children on their 'dig' last sum-

In her quest to host events and activities for the community, Shellie is happy to announce that the Chamber will be hosting the first-ever Charcuterie Challenge on March 26, in the Giant Memorabilia Museum. This event replaces the Soup Cook-Off, which was held three times, once in the old Nicollet Street location and twice in the GWC.

It's not too early to start planning for the City-wide Garage Sales, set for Friday and Saturday, April 22-23, with City-wide Cleanup the following Saturday, May 7. Registration information will be coming out in the future.

The committees for both the Wine Walk and Giant Days have begun meeting and planning for their events. The Ambassadors met last week and are making plans to surprise a very deserving Triple A winner in the near future.

Last, but not least, here's a 'Shout Out' to the Blue Earth Public Works Department, supervised by Jamie Holland. In last week's issue of the Faribault County Register, he shared a summary of all of the time, effort and equipment

that go into snow removal in the city. Just last week, crews were out and about removing snow from boulevards and intersections for improved visibility.

Another 'Shout Out' goes to the Blue Earth Light & Water crews, who were busy removing the beautiful blue snowflakes from the streetlights downtown and all along Seventh Street from Main Street to the Beltline. I'm always a little sad when they come down, but I am so thankful that they have brightened the dark nights of winter since early November.

Hopefully, some of this 'potpourri " was helpful or at least informative. Actually, it just proves that the Blue Earth Area Chamber covers a lot of ground from fossils to charcuterie and so much more.

Community solutions for Minnesota's child care system

It is no secret that our child care system is strained. Even before the pandemic, rural Minnesota was struggling with a child care shortage. For parents, this has made it challenging to enter or stay in the workforce. For communities, the challenge is attracting and retaining residents if they do not have enough care available in town. Fortunately, at Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) we have seen some real progress through our work addressing this challenge.

One of the ways we have helped develop solutions to the child care shortage is by offering complimentary consulting services. Jeff Andrews, SMIF's early childhood business consultant, provides direct support to family providers, owners/operators of child care centers and communities.

SMIF is currently working with multiple communities as they approach ways to support child care locally. One thing that is clear is that there is not a onesize-fits-all answer, which is why SMIF helps communities

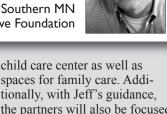
develop solutions that are unique to them. One example of this is Jeff's work in Northfield. Under his guidance, Three Rivers Community

Action and Healthy Community Initiative created a plan to open a new family child care owner initiative at the Northfield Community Resource Center. Using this partnership model, they will be able to provide classroom space and business support to individuals who are looking to start a new career or relocate their current family child care business.

When a major business closed a few years ago in Waseca, community partners came together to reimagine how to use the large, vacant building that was left behind. SMIF has worked alongside partners from the City, Chamber, EDA, County and School District to create a plan for this building which will include a traditional

Guest Column

By Tim Penny, President/CEO Southern MN Initiative Foundation



spaces for family care. Additionally, with Jeff's guidance, the partners will also be focused on supporting existing providers in town through trainings and other initiatives. Supporting existing providers

is another critical tool in addressing the child care shortage. Providers are often stretched thin in a very demanding job which can lead to burnout and, ultimately, leaving the industry. Additionally, the needs of families are changing and evolving due to how the pandemic has impacted people's work lives and personal lives. Providers are finding themselves at a crossroads and realizing that the way they have always done things isn't working any more. Because of this, SMIF offers consultation services that help providers create a more sustainable business model that also aligns with their own personal

One of the most recent success stories in this space is a partnership between SMIF and Families First of Minnesota that has been a joint effort to get more providers into Parent Aware, Minnesota's quality rating program. All 17 participating providers, from across SMIF's 20-county region, have had an opportunity to work directly with Jeff to discuss changing their business models to adapt to the current climate and reimagine their future, all the while providing the same quality care for families and kids.

Finally, the owners and operators of child care centers are a third area where SMIF's consulting services are available. Jeff's approach with centers, whether new or existing, is more in-depth and complex to help owners understand the nuances of the child care center

business. Recently, through Jeff's support, a new preschool opened in Caledonia and a new child care center opened in Lake Crystal. The preschool at the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro has also been expanded. Additionally, a new child care center, Leo Augusta Children's Academy, will be opening soon in Blooming Prairie.

The availability of quality child care undoubtedly plays a critical role in our communities. In 2022 I encourage community partners, providers and center owner/operators to reach out to SMIF for our complimentary consultation services. We are ready to help you reimagine your future.

The best way to start is by filling out a form on our website at smifoundation.org/earlychildhood or by contacting Jeff at 507-214-7056 or jeffa@smifoundation.org.

As always, I welcome your comments and questions. You can reach me at timp@smifoundation.org or 507-455-3215.

SnapShots, from page 4

Bill Murray and Andie Mc-Dowell, although it was a

fairly entertaining movie. No, the Groundhog Day which will be the topic of this column is the one where we wait to see if some overgrown rodent (sorry if I offended any of you overgrown rodents reading this column) is going to see his shadow, so we can find out if we are going to have six more weeks of winter.

Now, just to review, the story goes if the groundhog comes out of his den from hibernating and sees his shadow, then winter will go on for six more weeks. On the other hand, if the portly little fellow does not see his shadow, then spring will arrive early.

How did this celebration

begin, you might ask? According to the website history.com, the first official Groundhog Day celebration actually took place on Feb. 2, 1887, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania (the movie Groundhog Day was actually shot in Woodstock, Illinois). The

annual ritual has roots in pre-Christian traditions and was brought to the U.S. by

German immigrants. It so happens Feb. 2 falls midway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox and is a significant day in several ancient and modern traditions. The Celts, for instance, celebrated it as Imbolc, a pagan festival marking the beginning of

spring. But, who in tarnation came up with the idea to make it a celebration in Punxsutawney?

The answer is it was the same type of person who would plant stories in a certain local newspaper



around April 1 every year and have people believe some pretty incredible things, only to find out they were part of an April

Fool's joke. Yes, the first Groundhog Day celebration in Punxsutawney was the brainchild of a newspaper editor.

Now, just to be clear, the

editor's name was not Chuck Hunt. His name was Clymer Freas. Whether they are related or not has not been determined.

Now, back to the story. People would walk to a site called Gobbler's Knob and if the groundhog saw his shadow, it was bad news for those wanting an early end to the winter sea-

Nowadays, the event draws tens of thousands of spectators to the town which only has a population of around 6,000 peo-

As for the accuracy of Punxsutawney Phil, as the groundhog is called, the National Climatic Data Center's studies show Phil is correct only about 50 percent of the time. I know it is tempting to say that is right in line with most meteorologists, but that is too easy of a joke and I am not

going to go there. Another little known fact is there are other groundhogs who are trying to compete with Punxsutawney Phil. Indeed, some have proven to be better weather prognosticators than the legendary

Staten Island Chuck, for instance, is known to be accurate an incredible 80

percent of the time. There you have it, everything you probably did not want to know about Groundhog Day and more.

Whether we have six more weeks of winter or we are blessed with an early spring, stay safe, stay warm and maybe curl up on the couch under a warm blanket and watch a movie, maybe Groundhog Day.





Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022

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7:30 p.m. Program

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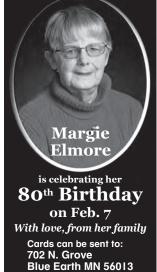
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The family of Rahn Greimann would like to sincerely thank the community of Blue Earth, our church family, and our dear friends and extended family, for the outpouring of love, care, and kindness shown to us during the time of Rahn's injury and subsequent passing. Whether you brought food, gave hugs, helped with chores, moved snow, gave of your time or talents, sent cards, flowers or other memorials, please know that we are so grateful and have been lifted up by your thoughtfulness. Rahn was a man who loved people and served others his whole life. How fitting that he and his family have been loved and served by all of you.

May the Lord bless you all.

Shelly Greimann, Brianna & David Greer, Makenzie & Todd Bloomer, Alberta Greimann, Leslie Hollowell family and Lesa & Mike Johnson



... IN WINNEBAGO

• Foundations Bible Church

205 Cleveland Ave. W., Winnebago

Sun. School: 9:00 am (Sept.-May)

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

128 Main St. N., Winnebago, 893-3197

109 Cleveland Ave. W., Winnebago

• Lutheran Church of Our Savior

Sun. School: 9:00 am (Sept.-May)

32 1st St. NE, Winnebago, 526-5626

205 Cleveland Ave. W., Winnebago

• St. Casimir Catholic Church

320 2nd Ave. SW, Wells, (507) 553-539 I

121 1st Ave. SE, Winnebago, 893-3320

Pre-Kindergarden Sun. School: 10:15 am

nerly First Baptisi

Sun. Worship: 10:00 am

• First Presbyterian

Sun. Worship: 9:15 a.m.

First United Methodist

Sun. Worship: 10:30 am

www.oslwinnebago.org

Sun. Worship: 10:00 am

. St. Mary's Catholic

No Sat. Evening Mass

Spanish Church Services

Sun. Mass: 8:00 am

(Servicio en Espanol)

Sun. Worship: 1:00 pm

... IN WELLS

Sun. Worship: 8:00 am

scasimir@bevcomm.net

Sun. Worship: 10:00 am

www.opendoorsUMC.org

Bevcomm broadcast:

Sun. Worship: 9:30 am

Wed. Worship: 6:15 pm

wellsassembly.org

• Wells Assembly of God

425 S. Broadway, Wells, 553-351 I

Wed. Night Family Night: 6:30 pm

Open Doors United Methodist

595 1st Ave SW, Wells, 553-5453

Sun. Worship: 9:00 am (coffee following)

Sun. School: 10:00 am (Sept.-May)

Mon. II am & 6 pm; Tues. 8 pm

• Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

291 1st St. SW, Wells, (507) 553-3513

Sun. School released during worship (Sept-May)

Wed. School & Confirmation 7 pm (Sept-May)

Bevcomm broadcast Tue. at 10:15 am &

Wed at 7:30 am & Sat. at 10:00 am

www.goodshepherdwells.org

893-4112

444 4th St. SE, Winnebago, 893-4239

Parker Oaks Sun. Aft. Worship: 3:30 pm

507-893-4214 foundationsbiblechurch.org

Berean Baptist

Sun. Worship: 10:40 am

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

... IN EAST CHAIN

• East Chain Lutheran (ELCA)

. IN BLUE EARTH

Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church 105 S. Grove St., Office: 526-5040 Sun. Worship: 9:30 am Servicio en espanól Domingo Espanól contact #: 507-525-7763 or 832-868-7474

Faith Lutheran (Church of Lutheran Brethren) 15th & Ramsey, Blue Earth, 526-5922 or 526-2270

Sun. Worship: 9:30 am Sun. School: 10:45 am (Sept.-May)

sday Bible Study & Prayer

• First Baptist
7th & Moore, Blue Earth, 526-5523 Sun. Worship: 10:45 am Sun. School: 9:45 am (Sept.-May)

• First Presbyterian 108 S. Galbraith, Blue Earth, 526-3486 Sun. Worship: 10:00 am Sun. School: 9:00 am (Sept.-May)

 Hope United Methodist 12080 380th Ave., Blue Earth, 526-2144 Sun. Morning Traditional Worship: 9:00 am Wed. Evening Contemporary Service: 6:30 pm

Immanuel Ev. Lutheran (Mo. Synod) 43103 120th St., Blue Earth, 526-2072 Sun. Worship: 8:00 am • Life Family Church

111 S. Ramsey, Blue Earth. 507-399-6600 Sunday Worship: 10:00 am Children Church and Nursery Provided www.facebook.com/lfcblueearth

River of Life Worship Center An Assembly of God Church 1329 E. Ramsey, Blue Earth, 526-2396 Sun. Worship: 10:00 am Sun Bible Cla Fellowship: 9:40 am

Children's Programs (K-12) Wednesdays: iClub/iYouth 2:15 pm • St. Paul Lutheran (Mo. Synod) 305 E. 5th St., Blue Earth, 526-7318

Sat. Evening Worship: 5:30 pm Sun. Morning Worship: 9:30 am Bible Class: 10:30 am Sun. School: 10:30 am (Sept.-May)

• St. Peter & Paul Catholic 214 S. Holland, Blue Earth, 526-5626 Sat. Night Mass: 5:15 pm Sun. Mass: 10 am

• Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) 235 E. 7th St., Blue Earth, 526-3463 Sun. Worship: 9:30 am Sun. School: 10:30 am Check our website www.betrinity.com

.. IN BRICELYN Good Hope Parish (4 Churches) Bricelyn Lutheran 404 N. Secor 653-4565 North Blue Earth 50962 100th St. 653-4520

Our Savior's Lutheran Trinity Lutheran of Rural Thompson, IA Sun. Worship: Feb 6 & 20 @ 9am Trinity Sun. Worship: Feb 6 & 20 @ 10:45am **BLC** Sun. Worship: Feb 13 & 27 @ 9 am NBE Sun. Worship: Feb 13 & 27 @ 10:45 am **Our Saviors**

... IN DELAVAN

• Faith Lutheran Delavan Sun. Worship: 8:15 am

409 280th Ave., Blue Earth, (507) 773-4201 Parish Office (507) 943-3555 Sun. Worship: 10:30 am

... IN EASTON Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church 27 Main St., Easton, (507) 787-2303

Sun. Worship: 10:00 am OLMC@bevcomm.net

. IN ELMORE

• Shiloh Lutheran (ELCA) 108 E. Jay St., Elmore, (507) 943-3555 Sun. Worship: 8:30 am

Broadcast on KBEW 1560 AM Radio at 10 a.m. • St. John's Lutheran (Mo. Synod) KBEW Radio Broadcast: 8:15 am Sun. Worship: 9:00 am Elmore United Methodist Church: 943-3455

Sunday Worship: 10:45 am in-person and on facebook Wed. Evening Youth Ministry: 7 pm

... IN FROST

• Dell Lutheran (AFLC) RR Frost Sun. Worship: 10:30 am Sun. School: 9:15 am (for all gges) • South Blue Earth Lutheran 48332 40th St., Frost, 878-3324 Sun. Worship: 9:00 am (check calendar) United Lutheran Box 487, 310 Howard St., Frost, 878-3195 Sun. Worship: 10:30 am (check local calendar)

... IN HUNTLEY Community Covenant Church Huntley, Phone 866-4646

Sun. Worship: 10:00 am ... IN KIESTER Open Doors United Methodist

www.opendoorsUMC.org Sun. Worship: 10:30 am ... IN LEDYARD. IA

 Bethany Evangelical & Reformed Church 310 Division St, Ledyard, IA (515) 646-2805 Sun. Worship: 10:00 am (Sept.-May) 9:00 am (June-Aug.)

Sun. School 9:00 c • Sacred Heart Catholic Church 205 Logan St, Ledyard, IA (515) 646-2525 Sun. Mass: 10:30 am

... IN MINNESOTA LAKE

* St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Sat. Worship: 5 pm stjb@bevcomm.net

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Amana

During holidays, special events and school and summer breaks the Church and Sunday School times do change.

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Obituaries

Robert "Bob" Murphy, 91

Guckeen - Robert 'Bob" Murphy, age 91, lifelong resident of Guckeen, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 4 at SSPP Catholic Church in Blue Earth. Burial took place at Calvary Cemetery in Blue Earth.

Bob was born on Feb. 5, 1930 in rural Faribault County to William Howard and Anna Irene (Guckeen) Murphy. He attended Guckeen school until eighth grade and completed two years of high school in Blue Earth. On Oct. 9, 1950, he married Margaret "Marge" Jeffries in Guckeen. The couple was blessed with eight children and many wonderful years together. After her passing, he later married longtime friend, Angie Giesinger in 2004. He was a lifelong farmer and also a chef and supervisor for 28 years at Fairmont Foods. Bob was a lifelong member of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Guckeen.

Bob had a big personality and enjoyed dancing, travel- een, Greg (Dixie) Murphy



Bob Murphy

ing, woodworking, playing cards, going to casinos, having coffee with the guys at the Derby, and wintering in Arizona. He was 100 percent Irish, and on his 25th anniversary with Marge, the couple traveled to Ireland. He was very proud of his heritage. Bob had a large family, and his children and grandchildren were very important to him. He was known and loved for his big smile and his quick wit.

Left to cherish his memory are his children, Connie Murphy (Brian Blow) of Howard Lake, Jim Murphy (Friend, Merilee) of Guck-

of Fairmont, Judy (John) Herdan of Albertville, Pat (Jim) Marvin of Ft. Collins, Colorado, Cindy (Craig) Oseland of Stillwater, Mitch (Diane) Murphy of Guckeen, and Kelly (Sherri) Murphy of Reads Landing; sister, Marlene Winter of Rake, Iowa; 21 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Mary Beaber of Durango, Colorado, and Dorothy (Larry Bilek) Jeffries of Osceola, Wisconsin; Angie's children, Dianne (Marlin) Larson, Kenneth (Kay) Giesinger, Donald (Diane) Giesinger, Randy (DeeDee) Giesinger, and Lee (Val) Giesinger; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Marge in 2002; second wife, Angie in 2018; his parents; Marge's parents, Jim and Gusty Jeffries; brothers, Donald, Ray (Carmel), and Harold (Shirley) Murphy; brothers-in-law, John (Bernie) Jeffries, Paul Beaber, and Jerry Winter; daughtersin-law, Debra Murphy and Elise Murphy; and Angie's daughter, Lori (Kim) Kerns.

Joan A. Adams, 87

Winnebago - Joan Audrey Adams, age 87, of Winnebago, died on Jan. 29, 2022 at Fairmont Hospital. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 4, 2022 at Zaharia Family Funeral Home in Truman. Burial took place in Nashville Cemetery. Joan was born to Theo-

dore and Cecilia Nowicki of East Chain on June 19, 1934. The family moved to Nashville Township when Joan was a child. Joan attended country school and was active in 4H. She graduated from Huntley High School in 1952 and from Mankato Teacher's College in 1953. Though she worked for a time at the bank in Huntley, her lifelong vocation was farming. Joan married Alan Adams on July 29, 1953 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Winnebago. They lived on the Adams family farm where they raised their three and the Winnebago City children, Rebecca, Mark, and David. She enjoyed at tending the activities of her children and visiting with neighbors.

County Fair, registering



Joan Adams

entries and also as a ticket taker at the racetrack. She enjoyed volunteering at the Winnebago Area Museum. Joan also served on the Nashville Township Board and Nashville Cemetery Association. She was active with the Winnebago Methodist Church. Joan had a passion for Odd Fellowship. She was a member of the Starlight #11 Rebekah Lodge for nearly 59 years #30 Odd Fellows Lodge. During this time, she held many offices, most notably serving as President of the Rebekah Assembly of Min-Joan worked at the Martin nesota for the 1999-2000 term. She was a director on

the Camp Fa-Ho-Cha board for many years. Joan was also a director on the board of the Three Links Care Center in Northfield for over 20 years.

Joan is survived by her sons, Mark of Winnebago and David (Debra) of Fairmont, and son-in-law, Brian Crow of Golden Valley; grandchildren, Lynne (James) Duben of Cannon Falls and Leigh Larson of Welcome; step-grandchildren, Angela (Chad) Rupprecht of Stroundsburg, Pennsylvania, Kristina (Justin) Anderson of Lake Crystal, David Ebel of Tampa, Florida; great-grandchildren, Wesley, Wyatt, and Walker Duben, Rhylyn and Rhys Larson, Logan and Reese Anderson, and Atlas Ebel; nieces and nephews, Nancy Kastner, Bob Adams, Sharon Skaro, Angie Wiggins, and Michael Zenz.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Theodore and Cecilia Nowicki; husband Alan: daughter Rebecca; sister, Delores and her husband, Alex Zenz; brother-in-law, Richard and his wife, Arlene Adams.

Sheldon L. Wallace, 54

Delavan - Sheldon L. Wallace, age 54, of Delavan, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022 at Mary Greeley Medical Center in

Ames, Iowa. The visitation honoring the lives of both Sheldon and his mother Deanne was held Saturday, Feb. 5 from 4-7 p.m. at Spencer Owen Funeral Home in Winnebago. The funeral service was



Sheldon Wallace

held Sunday, Feb. 6 with visitation from 12-1 p.m., followed by the service at 1 p.m. at Hope United Methodist Church, Blue Earth. Burial will take place at a later date in Rice Lake Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Center Creek Gun Club, or charity of choice.

Deanne E. Wallace, 82

Delavan – Deanne E. Wallace, age 82, of Delavan, passed away on Friday, Jan. 28, 2022, at Mayo Health System in Mankato.

Visitation was held from 4-7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 at Spencer Owen Funeral Home in Winneba-

A funeral service honoring the lives of both Deanne and her son, Sheldon was held on Sunday, Feb. 6 at



Deanne Wallace

Hope United Methodist Church in Blue Earth at 1 p.m. with visitation one hour prior to services at the church. Burial will be at a later date in Rice Lake Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Rice Lake Cemetery, Winnebago Ambulance, Delavan First Responder, or charity of your choice.

Robert Andrews, 76

Wells – Robert Andrews, age 76, of Wells passed away Jan. 27, 2022 at United Hospital District in Blue Earth. Visitation was

held Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 at Bruss-Heitner Funeral Home in Wells, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Bruss-Heitner Funeral Home is assisting

the family. Online condolences can be left at www. brussheitner.com.

We'd love to help you make the announcement! SEND YOUR ENGAGEMENT AND/OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT TO US.

TOWN CRIER SHOPPER

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BE Library, from page one -

Now, he is hard at work raising funds to put a full size skeleton of a giant Pteranodon on the inside wall.

Some of the bones used in the skeleton will be real fossils and some will be

Total cost of the skeleton and mounting it, as well as installing it in the library, is \$40,000. Pollard has already raised over half that amount in donations from local individuals, groups and businesses.

All of the funds are going through the Friends of the Blue Earth Community Library group, which operates as a 501(c)(3). That way all donations are tax deductible.

"The cost of dinosaur fossils has dramatically increased in the past couple of years," Pollard says. "We were pretty lucky to get this one at a relatively reasonable price."

The other project is one that was created by the Friends of the Blue Earth Community Library group itself. It includes four large banners that will go across the west outside wall.

Each vinyl banner, which adhere's to the wall itself, will feature a famous author and a quote from the author.

"We started with 13 possible authors," says Lill Robinson, the Friends of the Blue Earth Community Library president. "Then we narrowed it to seven, and then let patrons of the library vote on them."

The top four vote-getting authors are Theodore Geisel (aka Dr. Suess), William Kent Krueger, Mark Twain and Laura Ingalls Wilder.

"We are not sure if we will use Theodore Geisel's



An artist's rendition of what the west wall of the Blue Earth Community Library and Fossil Discovery Center will look like with the new banners. While two are shown above, there will be a total of four installed across the whole wall.

real name, or use the name Dr. Suess," Robinson says. "We were also glad to see the name of Minnesota author William Kent Krueger was selected. He is pretty

popular here."

Robinson says the idea for a mural on the wall started when they noticed the big blank wall after the city redid the parking lot last year. It just looked like something was needed on it, she adds.

"A regular mural would not really work on the type of wall material that is

there," Robinson says. "But we came up with this vinyl material."

It comes with a 20 year guarantee. The cost of all four of the giant posters is going to run between \$12,000 and \$14,000.

"The Friends will be paying for half the cost of the banners," Robinson says. "We hope to raise the money for the other half of the cost."

Anyone wishing to make a donation of any size can make out a check to the Friends of the Blue Earth Library and drop it off at the library. You will receive a receipt later which can be used for tax purposes.

Make sure to designate on your check if the donation is meant to go towards the banners or for the Pteranodon exhibit.

County Board, from page one

State Aid Highway bonds to Northland Securities, Inc.

Daly also took time to review the 2022 State Aid Apportionments for the county.

"The State Aid dollars for regular construction increased from \$3,153,88 in 2021 to \$3,759,463 for this year," he explained. "The money for State Aid municipal construction also increased from \$682,024 in 2021 to \$748,286."

Daly also addressed the money townships will receive in 2022.

"The money for township bridges actually went down a little from \$920,028 last year to \$913,777 this year," he said. "However, township road money went up a lot for this year from \$491,768 to \$735,271. This increase was due to a onetime transfer of \$12 million of General Funds which were made available by the legislature during their 2021 Special Session."

Daly reminded the board there will be five roads, the

Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

Faribault County Public Works director Mark Daly, left, discusses the highway bond with the County **Board. County Attorney Cameron Davis and commis**sioner Tom Loveall are shown listening to the report.

Unity Trail and four bridges on the schedule to be worked on this year.

"Two of the bridges are on County Road (CR) 13, between CR 2 and CR 4. Another one is on 200th Street northwest of Easton and the final one is on 70th Street in Pilot Grove Township," Daly commented.

"The roads we will be working on are CR 21, CR 28, CR 29, CR 30 and CR

Central Services director Lexie Scholten attended the meeting virtually with a couple items of business for the commissioners to ad-

"Per Minnesota State

Statute 197.60, the County Board is responsible for appointing a Veteran Service Officer (VSO)," Scholten explained. "Jenna Schmidtke's term actually expired on Oct. 10, 2021. The reappointment would be for a four-year term retroactive to that date."

The board passed a motion to reappoint Schmidtke as the VSO.

"Item number two is a renewal contract with VTI Security," Scholten explained. "They are the company which covers software support for the video and door access control systems. One contract is a Software Support Agreement (SSA) and the other is a Service Protection Plan (SSP). The county signed a five-year contract for the SSA in 2019 and I am recommending we sign a three-year contract for the SSP at a cost of \$6,787 per year, which is a five percent reduction compared to a oneyear contract."

The board unanimously approved the contract with

Action was also taken to issue an on-sale liquor license to the Elmore American Legion (Sanford American Legion Post 92) for March 1-31.

"Since the establishment is at the Minn-Iowa Golf Course, which is outside of the city limits, they had to get Elmore Township's approval, which they have, and then our approval, before it goes to the state." Esser explained to the board. "The state issues liquor licenses for a time period beginning April 1 and ending March 31."

"Couldn't we get them to issue a 13-month license so we don't have to do this again in another month?" commissioner Groskreutz asked.

"I tried," Esser replied, "But the state of Minnesota says no."

The board approved the liquor license for Sanford

board's unique process for

arrangement creates a win-

keeping rates low for resi-

dents of Blue Earth," Stoner

"It works in favor of

He hopes the planned im-

rovements will uphold the

When asked when con-

struction on the new proj-

ects might begin, Stoner

replies, "It really depends

on the supply chain. Can we

procure bids? Do we have

that construction will begin

would handle the larger up-

He anticipates, however,

While DGR Engineering

the materials needed?"

as soon as possible.

win situation, however.

upholds

bonding.

tradition.

Stoner

American Legion Post 92. The board also:

• Approved a resolution allowing Jean Garvick to repurchase tax forfeited property at 409 South Henry Street in Elmore.

• Passed a motion to approve a five-year postage machine lease with Quadient Leasing at a cost of \$211.97 per month.

 Approved a request from Planning and Zoning administrator Loria Rebuffoni to attend the 2022 Minnesota Association of County Feedlot Officers Annual Conference.

• Approved the request of chief deputy auditor Jessica Blair to attend the 2022 County Auditor Election Training Conference.

 Groskreutz reported three employees resigned from Minnesota Valley Action Council because of COVID mandates and seven people were granted religious exemptions.

grades being made, Stoner

believes a significant por-

tion of the work could be

perienced line crew (in Blue Earth)," Stoner says.

changes will position the

Blue Earth community with extra capacity for growth

Stoner adds the construc-

"When those two proj-

tion of a reverse osmosis

plant in town has also been

ects are done, it will be a

major feather in the cap of

Blue Earth for years to

come," Stoner says. "It's

cool to see. That doesn't al-

ways happen in small com-

discussed.

munities."

while keeping rates low."

He concludes,

"We do have a very ex-

sourced locally.

BELW projects, from page one -

all of which require electric-

ity. Though the potential improvement substation plan is in its early days, Stoner shares the Board of Public Works has made steps toward securing at least one, possibly two transformers which could form the base of a new substation.

Currently, BELW intends to open bids for at least one

transformer, which will be reviewed and approved at the next Board of Public Works meet-

Stoner explains

ing

whether the board decides to purchase one or two transformers could be influenced by several factors.

"It's depending on cost, and what we see with the supply chain," Stoner says. Stoner shares a location

at the north end of Blue Earth is being considered as the potental home of the new transformer, or transformers.

"That's where the growth is going on in the community," Stoner reasons. "It will help offload the current system.

Stoner adds the growth in the community's electrical needs may not be specific to the north end of town, how-

'We have to prepare for future loads and electrification," Stoner says.

By 'electrification.' Stoner refers to the increase in the amount of electricity required to power appliances which are becoming more and more technologically sophisticated.

As such, the Board of Public Works's improvement plan encompasses two additional projects which would serve to strengthen the capacity of existing sub-

> items (to improve)," Stoner ex-

— Tim Stoner

stations in the area. "When those two "The projects are done. system it will be a major study results identifeather in the cap fied a list of of Blue Earth."

plains. One project would entail creating an underground system running from the Rice Street area to East

An additional project would implement an underground feeder connecting

two existing substations. Stoner shares the Board of Public Works plans to fund the improvements via revenue bonds, which the board will work with Northline Securities to secure.

"We don't expect the cost to exceed five million,"

Stoner says. He adds the board intends to bond in the amount of \$5 million to ensure all potential costs of the improvements are adequately covered.

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Staff photo by Fiona Green

Blue Earth Light and Water's offices are located at the corner of Seventh Street and Moore Street. The offices had a major remodeling project of the interior completed last year. Other projects are now planned.

Works Board Charter, the board was required to receive the Blue Earth City Council's approval before applying for the bonds.

"The Charter gives the board the power to bond, with consent from the city,"

Stoner explains. The Blue Earth City Council passed a resolution establishing its compliance with the reimbursement bond regulations at their

Blue Earth Drug

Jan. 18 meeting.

As previously stated, BELW provides electric service and water service for the city, operating independently from other city-

run services. "The water services are strictly for Blue Earth, but the electric services serve a little larger area," Stoner clarifies.

It is this arrangement which necessitates the

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"Ice cream," Caleb an-

swers, after giving some

thought to the matter. His

chip cookie dough.

favorite flavor is chocolate

What is your

beverage of choice?

while Eli prefers Gatorade.

Aron selects sweet tea

although he is also fond of

an energy drink called Rip

as his favorite beverage,

It, which he was intro-

Caleb is a fan of Sprite,

The Goshorns, from page 2

wWhat do you like to do no matter where you are?

"Boat," Eli says. "Go to the lake,' Aron adds. "Junction

had the

"This is where we'd like to raise our kids."

biggest man-made reservoir in the state."

What do you enjoy about having a large family? There is always some-

one for them (the kids) to play with," Megan says.

There's always something to fight about," Caleb adds.

'It's always busy," Aron concludes. "It keeps us young."

What after-school activities have you tried out?

Eli, who has a proclivity for numbers, has been involved in after-school

math programs. "I was in a cooking

— Megan Goshorn

class, Caleb remembers. "They

all have done gymnastics,' Megan adds. "Eli

does piano lessons. They all have done wrestling."

What after-school activities would you still like to try?

"I want to do ukulele lessons," Caleb reminds his parents.

"Soccer," Eli suggests. "Fishing contests," Caleb says. "Stunts on a bike."

What is something about you that would surprise people?

"I can solve a Rubik's

cube pretty fast," Eli shares. He says his record is 32 seconds for a threeby-three cube.

"I can solve a Rubik's cube," Caleb adds.

Megan and Aron aren't sure what people might find surprising about them, so their children offer some suggestions.

"They have five kids," Caleb says.

"My dad was alive when the high school was built," Eli adds.

"I don't know why they think that's surprising," Megan laughs.

How do you hope to surprise yourself in the future?

"Date nights," Aron answers immediately, adding it can be hard to find a babysitter.

"Travel more," Megan considers.

Eli suggests a family trip to Hawaii, while Aron selects Israel as his travel destination of choice.

"We'd like to go to the promised land," Megan says.

"We've talked about taking one kid at a time," Aron agrees.

Do you see a future for your family in **Blue Earth?**

"For the next 15 to 20 years," Aron answers.

"This is where we'd like to raise our kids," Megan explains.

"When we're empty nesters, who knows?" Aron says.

Are you a Jolly Green Giant or a Sprout?

"I'm a Giant," Aron says, while Caleb identifies himself as a Sprout.

"Our kids find Sprouts

fascinating," Megan adds. "I would probably say I'm a Giant."

What is your favorite green vegetable?

"I like the fresh-cut green beans," Aron answers.

"I would say fresh cut broccoli," Megan says. "I don't know if Eli or Caleb would have a vegetable they eat."

"Nope," Eli confirms.

thing to eat that is not a vegetable? Eli has

his answer "Our kids find ready right Sprouts fascinating." away.

"Pizza," he replies. Aron

enjoys crab legs, while Megan responds, "Olive Garden. Period.'

duced to while he was in What is your favorite the military. "Coffee, but not black,"

- Megan Goshorn

is Megan's answer. "Micah made me

coffee the other day, but he put three scoops of sugar in."

It's the thought that counts.

GOP caucus, from page 3

state Senator Michelle Benson 4 and undecided 4. There were 97 straw ballots cast at the county caucus last Tuesday.

Statewide Republicans also seemed to be going with Dr. Scott Jensen in the straw polls. He was reported to have received 38 percent of the straw voting statewide. State Sen. Paul Gazelka was reported to

have received 14 percent.

Before the balloting at the Faribault County Republican caucus last Tuesday night, several of the candidates had written letters which were read aloud by local county GOP members.

The group also heard from state Representative Bjorn Olson, who was present to give an update on the legislature and his views on certain issues.

Rep. Olson also participated in the caucus with his hometown of Elmore.

The party members present also discussed issues, elected party leadership and chose delegates to the Faribault County Republican Convention, which will be held Saturday morning, March 12, at the Golden Bubble south of Wells.

COVID update, from page 3 -

The week of Jan. 23-29 the number was at 86 but was expected to rise as more cases are recorded.

Martin County's numbers were at 5,149 cases with 55 deaths, up two from the week previous. Their weekly number of reported cases had increased from 72 to 110, 165 and 259. The week of Jan. 16-22 the number was at 248 and the week of Jan. 23-29 it was at 161, and expected to rise. Martin County has 23 persons hospitalized as of Jan. 31, with 323 total hospitalized since data was recorded, 68 of them in

Other neighboring counties include Blue Earth County with 16,438 cases and 87 deaths and Freeborn County with 8,437 cases and 64 deaths, up six from last week. Statewide the numbers

are 1,347,000 cases total with 3,916 newly reported cases of COVID.

Of the total cases, 1,294,284 no longer need isolation. There have been 57,462 persons in the state who have been hospitalized due to COVID, with 10,752 of those in ICU.

There have been 11,516 deaths in the state due to COVID-19, with 5,382 of those persons in long-term care or assisted living facilities.

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In an effort to support increased testing demand on our local health care providers and schools, Community Health & Human Services of Faribault & Martin Counties will provide rapid testing for individuals. Testing is available to anyone who has symptoms, was exposed to someone with COVID-19 or in need of verification of a negative result for an upcoming procedure or travel.

They will be utilizing the Cue Test which is a nasal swab test. Results can be expected same day.

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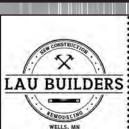
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Register staff wins eight MNA awards

Four first place awards for writing, photography and advertising

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

The Faribault County *Register* won seven awards at the Better Newspaper Contest during the Minnesota Newspaper Convention last week, plus one additional award in a design contest at the convention.

The Register and its staff received four first place awards, three second place awards and one third place award.

Two of the first place awards were to the Register staff as a whole and two were to individual staffers.

One of those first place awards was for General Reporting in the 1,500 to 3,000 circulation category. It was awarded for overall reporting throughout the whole newspaper.

Likewise, another first place award was for Photography as a Whole, which was made for overall excellent photography throughout the newspaper.

Sales representative and graphic designer Kristin Woodwick took first place in the Best Use of Color in Advertising in the newspapers up to 3,000 circulation category. Her winning advertisement was for an electric vehicle rebate ad for Blue Earth Light & Water.

Reporter-photographer Kevin Mertens won first place in the Feature Photo category with a photo of a young steer rider in the Tuff 'N' Nuff Rodeo during the County Fair.

The entire *Register* staff took second place in the Best Magazine category, with all weekly newspapers competing together, for the 2020 Our Heroes magazine.



Photo by Jim Nauman

Faribault County Register publisher/general manager Lori Nauman, right, gets some help from Minnesota Newspaper Association president Justin Lessman, publisher of the Jackson County Pilot, to hold up the Register's four first place awards. The newspaper also received three second place awards and one third place award, for writing, photography, magazines and special sections. Pictured below, some of the award winning entries the Register staff was recognized for at the annual MNA Convention held Jan. 26-28.







The Register was also awarded second place in the Best Spe-

cial Section category, newspapers up to 3,000 circulation, for the 2021 Relay for Life special sec-

Woodwick also picked up a

second place award for her design for a front page of a newspaper association magazine.

Mertens received a third place award in the newspaper contest's Portrait and Personality Photography category for the picture of a young girl holding up a Tootsie Roll during the Wells Kernel Days parade.

"It's always nice to get awards at the convention," Register managing editor Chuck Hunt said. "But we are especially proud to have received two first place awards, one for our reporting and the other for our photography. I think it shows we must be doing something right."

Register publisher/general manager Lori Nauman agreed.

"We are proud of all of our employees at the Register and it takes a lot of teamwork to do what we do," she said. "Congratulations to all of the staff for being recognized for all of their hard work."

The Register has been a consistent winner in the newspaper association's Better Newspaper Contest over the past many years.



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A historic relic celebrates its fiftieth anniversary

Rev. Nicholson donated BE First Presbyterian's hand-carved cross

BY FIONA GREEN

Register Staff Writer

building brimming with memories, Blue Earth's First Presbyterian Church, located on the corner of East Sixth Street and South Galbraith Street, houses more than one historical artifact within its

One such artifact has graced the church sanctuary's west wall for half a century: a nine-foot, hand-carved cross which was presented to the congregation in 1972 by a local pastor.

Reverend Kenneth M. Nicholson, who preached at Blue Earth's Immanuel United Methodist Church at the time he crafted and donated the cross, made several such gifts to local churches during his lifetime.

Jacqui Dikken, a First Presbyterian church elder, and Connie Hedland, administrative assistant and treasurer at First Presbyterian, reckon Nicholson's work is still scattered amongst several area churches.

The items, similarly hand-crafted and donated by Nicholson, remain as artifacts of visual interest and religious significance in the churches they were gifted to.

"If a local church closes, they ask (Nicholson's) family if there is anything of his in it that they would want back," Hedland notes.

Nicholson's work has ranged from the large, intricately-carved cross presented to First Presbyterian Church in 1972 to a gift of smaller, hand-carved crosses which he distributed to every member of the congregation years ago.

"The fact that he carved a small cross for each member of the congregation is noteworthy," Dikken says. "It is so very special that Reverend Nicholson would make these things for churches.' However, the nine-foot cross, which has

hung in the sanctuary for 50 years, makes a particularly striking statement.

'When it first came here, we were all in awe," Dikken remembers.

The cross's surface bears 12 carved symbols. "The symbols on the cross are (Jesus's) 12 disciples," Hedland explains.

One such symbol, a large 'X' carved near the top of the cross, represents a disciple who was called, along with his brother, to be a 'fisher of men,' and who allegedly requested to be crucified on an X-shaped cross.

Another symbol, an inverted cross with two crossed keys, represents a disciple who was crucified upside down, and who reportedly held the keys to heaven.

'It's just a unique cross," Hedland concludes. "I'm not sure if people look at it and know what it represents."

Dikken and Hedland add First Presbyterian Church's building, which is celebrating its 125th birthday this year, is full of historic relics.

"It is a magnificent building," Hedland says. "Several people I know have come to this church their entire lives."

Hedland adds, "There are a lot of interesting things about it that people never knew."



Jacqui Dikken, above, left, and Connie Hedland, above, right, are full of stories about Blue Earth's First Presbyterian Church, pictured bottom, left. Their most recent story is of an intricate cross crafted and donated by Reverend Kenneth M. Nicholson 50 years ago, below, right, which still hangs in the church's sanctuary.









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Education Focus

BEA math contest results

The results are in and senior Calvin Farrow earned the top score among Blue Earth Area students in the 2022 American Mathematics Competition, which was held Nov. 16, 2021, in the Performing Arts Center at BEA.

It was Farrow's fourth consecutive win in the local competition, which is split into two age categories. The AMC-12 is for juniors and seniors while the AMC-10 is for students in grades 8-

Farrow also placed first in the AMC-12 as a junior and won the AMC-10 as a freshman and sophomore.

Farrow's winning score was 72 points. Placing second in the AMC-12 was question left blank earns senior Blake Ripley with 49.5 points. Fellow senior Gabe Haugh was third with 48 points.

Seth Mathews and Gage Barker tied for first place in the AMC-10 this year.

Mathews and Barker each compiled 45 points to lead the AMC-10 division. Freshman Sarah Dohm was third with 43.5 points.

The American Mathematics Competition is a very challenging 25-question, multiple-choice test given annually to students in the United States. It is the first step in selecting the US Math Team that competes internationally. A correct answer earns six points, a

one-and-a-half points, and a wrong answer gets zero points. Thus, students must wisely choose how many questions to answer, as random guessing dramatically reduces one's score. No calculators are permitted on the

The AMC-12 (previously known as the AHSME) has been given in the Blue Earth/Blue Earth Area school systems since 1958.

The very first winner of the local competition in 1958 was James Johnson.

BEA has only been taking the AMC-10 since 2000 when Kate Ellingson won the first and second years the competition was held.



Blue Earth Area High School students competed in the annual American Mathematics Competition on Nov. 16. Senior Calvin Farrow scored his fourth consecutive win in the competition, competing alongside the students pictured above. Left to right, front row, are Seth Mathews, Calvin Farrow, and Gage Barker. Left to right, top row, are Gabe Haugh, Sarah Dohm, and Blake Ripley. Mathews and Barker tied for first among students in grades 8-10.

Blue Earth Area Math League wins another one

The Blue Earth Area Math League team scored a big win in their latest competition on Tues., Jan. 25.

BEA won the Section portion of the meet by totaling 74 points to top Luverne, who finished second with 66 points.

Tri-City United took third place with 30 points,

Stattuck-St. Mary's was fourth with 28. Fairmont claimed fifth place with 26 and Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial was sixth with

"It was our most impressive meet to date," Math League advisor Plocker said. "The 74 points we tallied is a new school

Their margin of victory was large enough to give the Bucs the overall season lead in the Section with only one meet to go. The championship will be decided on Monday, Feb. 14.

In Division competition, BEA placed second behind Minnesota Valley Lutheran, who finished with 76 points.

"We did finish ahead of perennial power Mankato West," Plocker noted, referring to Mankato West's score of 68 points.

Calvin Farrow

again led the way for the Bucs with a near-perfect score of 12 points.

Lauren Bleess, Aaron Lorenz, Kylie Rosenau, Brady Lorenz and Gunnar Schultze each nabbed eight points during the competi-

"It was also nice to see a couple of senior rookies, Nick Frundt and Jazmyn Lunz, have their best-ever scores at the meet with six each," Plocker points added.



The Blue Earth Area Math League won their latest competition against Luverne on Jan. 25. Kneeling, left to right, are Marissa Benz, Clara Ziegler, Kylie Rosenau, Calli Ferguson, Jazmyn Lunz, Lilah Farrow, and Lauren Bleess. Standing, left to right, are Seth Stevermer, Brady Lorenz, Seth Mathews, Taylor Davids, Connor Espeland, Aaron Lorenz, Manav Chaudhari, Nick Frundt, Vern Johnson, Calvin Farrow, and Gunnar Schultze.



These six Blue Earth Area Elementary students were recognized as "Terrific Kids" by the Blue Earth Kiwanis Club in a ceremony held on Friday, Jan. 28. Pictured above, left to right, are Brantley Jagerson, Leila Rodriguez, Macy Neubauer, Drake Ertman, Adley Sturtz and Isa Serrano.











Skaare named new president



Submitted photo

Ken Skaare, of O/NE Realty of Blue Earth, was sworn in on Jan. 27, as president of the Realtor Association of Southern Minnesota, by Chris Galler, the CEO of the Minnesota Association of Realtors. This is the 75th anniversary of the association, and Skaare is the first president from Faribault County in those 75 years. The Realtor Association of Southern Minnesota covers 10 counties in south-central Minnesota and has over 400 members.



LAVERNE & LUCY





Bucs get overtime win over Titans

After rallying to defeat Windom Eagles 67-63 two days earlier

BY KEVIN MERTENS

Register Staff Writer

Though they only scored 13 points in the first half, the Blue Earth Area Buccaneers boys basketball team came home with a 61-58 overtime triumph over the Tri-City United Titans on Monday, Jan. 31.

Played in Montgomery, neither team seemed to be able to get the ball to fall through the hoop during the opening half. When the buzzer sounded to end the first 18 minutes of the game, the Titans held a 16-13 lead.

The second half was a nail-biter with six ties and nine lead changes.

BEA never led Tri-City United in the first half. In fact, the Bucs did not take their first lead of the game until Ashton Lloyd swished a 3-pointer to put BEA on top 32-30 with 9:19 left to go on the game clock.

Lloyd, who had struggled with his shooting earlier in the game, scored the last nine points for the Bucs in regulation time.

With the score tied at 36-36, Lloyd picked up a loose ball on the Titan's end of the court and took it in for a layup and a two-point BEA

The Titans scored the next four points to go up 40-38 with 3:15 remaining.

BEA turned to Lloyd again and the 6-foot-5 senior was fouled while putting the ball through the hoop. He made his free throw to give the Bucs a 41-40 lead.

Tri-City United's big man, Hank Holicky, copied Lloyd and completed his own conventional 3-point play to give the Titans a 43-41 lead.

BEA fed Lloyd the ball in the low post and he muscled his way to the basket for two more points to tie the game at 43.

The Titans' Adam Henze drew a foul and made both ends of a one-and-one to give the home team a 45-43 lead over the Bucs with 27 seconds on the clock.

Following a timeout, the Maroon and Gold set up their offense. With just under 10 seconds remaining, Jack Norman hit Lloyd on a back-door cut for an easy layup to tie the score at 45 apiece.



to get off a hurried 3-pointer which was off the mark and the game went into over-

The Titans scored the first basket to take the early lead in the five-minute extra

However, a trey by Lloyd put the Bucs out in front 48-

Holicky powered his way for two more points to once again give the Titans the lead at 49-48.

The Bucs responded with two big plays to take control of the game.

First, Abe Kokos drilled a 3-pointer from the left baseline to give BEA a 51-49 lead. Then, on the Titans' next trip down the floor, Lloyd blocked Holicky's shot which Jack Norman picked up and took in for a layup to give the Bucs a 53-49 lead.

Norman was also fouled on the play. He missed his chance to complete a 3point play but Kokos

Anthony Carr jumps high over the Windom defense to shoot for two points.

Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

Tri-City United was able grabbed the rebound. The ball eventually ended up in the hands of Lloyd who ripped the nets for another 3-pointer and a 56-49 BEA lead with 1:18 to go in the extra period.

The Titans had to deploy a strategy of fouling the Bucs, who made 5 of 8 free throws in the last minute to preserve the 61-58 victory.

Lloyd led all players with 26 points. He also had eight rebounds, three steals and two blocks.

Gabe Torres finished the game with 19 points. He utilized his quickness to drive the lane for layups, pull-up jumpers or to pass the ball to open teammates for easy baskets. He scored seven of the Bucs' 13 points in the opening half. He also had seven rebounds, five steals and four assists.

Austin Skaden added eight points and five steals.

The Titans outrebounded the Bucs 41-30 but BEA forced TCU to turn the ball over 25 times while the Bucs only had 12 turnovers.

The non-conference win improves the Bucs' record

BEA basketball,

page 16

Wrestlers go 3-0 at Sibley East Duals

Returned to Big South Conference action on Feb. 4 in Waseca

BY KEVIN MERTENS

Register Staff Writer

The Blue Earth Area wrestling team went undefeated in the Sibley East Duals held on Saturday, Jan. 29.

defeated Waterville-Elysian-Morristown/Janesville-Waldorf Pemberton, Sibley East and Trinity School at River Ridge to go 3-0 for the day.

BEA 54, WEM-JWP 21

Waterville-Elysian-Morristown/Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton grabbed an early 6-0 lead with a pin in the 106-pound match but Blue Earth Area won the next four matches by falls to go on top 24-

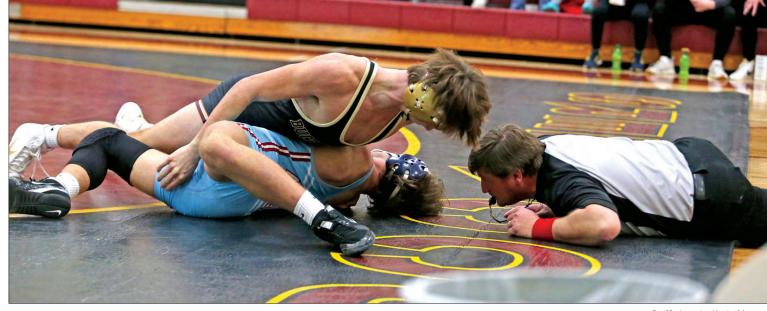
Cooper Peterson scored an 18second fall over Charles Adams in the 113-pound match for the Bucs' first points.

Carson Sturtz needed 1:29 to win by a fall over Zach Quast at 120 pounds.

Caleb Langager put Ben Root's shoulders to the mat in 16 seconds at 126 pounds.

In the 132-pound match, BEA's Ben Anderson pinned Patrick Adams in 1:41.

WEM/JWP won by a fall at 138



Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

Parker Meyers works for a pin during a match against Albert Lea earlier in the season. Meyers and his teammates won all three of their contests at Sibley East Duals on Saturday, Jan. 29. They defeated WEM-JWP, Sibley East and Trinity School.

pounds and a decision at 145 pounds to cut BEA's lead to 24-

Kade Gaydon picked up six team-points for the Maroon and Gold when he pinned Isaac Quast in 40 seconds at 152 pounds.

WEM/JWP picked up a deci-

sion in the 160-pound match to make the score 30-18 in favor of

Kean Hicks got BEA rolling again when he pinned Maddox Moreno in 1:21 at 170 pounds.

Corey Kitchel's pin in 27 seconds over Avery Breyer at 182 pounds increased BEA's lead to

Adam Schavey received a forfeit at 195 pounds and Kale Frank pinned Sam Carlson in 45 seconds to give BEA a 54-18 lead.

WEM/JWP scored the final three points of the match on a decision, making the final score 54-

BEA 43, Sibley East 22

The Sibley East Wolverines jumped out to a 10-0 lead when they won by a pin at 106 pounds

BEA wrestling, page 16

BEA gymnasts tally 131.6 points

But it is not enough to overcome New Ulm's score of 136.85

Register Staff Writer

The Blue Earth Area gymnastics team faced New Ulm in a home meet held on Friday, Jan. 28, at 6 p.m.

Though both teams scored high, New Ulm topped the Buccaneers' 131.6 score with their score of 136.85.

Buccaneer Addison Armstrong snagged a second place all-around score of 34.6, and Tailor Douglas's 32.925 all-around score was good for third place. The Bucs' Haley Kalis scored 32.25 in the all-around.

"We had about as good of a night as we could get, with only a few minor issues to fix," head coach Rachel Cole reported.

She added, "There were a couple minor injuries, but they (the girls) are okay."

Cole shared the team continues to perform well on vault and bars.



"Our vault and bars were consistent again," Cole noted.

Armstrong earned second place on vault with a score of 8.825, and Kalis's 8.7 secured third place. Buccaneer Adrianna Reddick tallied an 8.625, Douglas earned an 8.575, and Annika Ihle scored an 8.5.

Armstrong also snagged second place on bars with a score of 8.025. Kalis earned a score of 7.725, while Douglas tallied a 7.525 score. Ihle finished with a 7.325, and Buccaneer Jazmyn Lunz earned a 6.4.

Cole shared the team continues to improve on beam.

Gymnastics, page 16

Blue Earth Area Bucs' gymnast Jazmyn Lunz concentrates as she competes on the beam.

Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

Girls lose by one to MCW Mavericks

After struggling against the LCWM Knights and New Ulm Eagles

BY KEVIN MERTENS Register Staff Writer

Trailing 27-19 at halftime, the Blue Earth Area Buccaneers' girls basketball team fought hard to close the gap during the second half of their game against the visiting Martin County West Mavericks on Monday, Jan. 31.

With 1:07 remaining in the contest, a 3-pointer by BEA's Lola Lundquist brought the Bucs to within one point of the Mavericks.

BEA's defense did the job and got the ball back. Following a timeout at the 21-second mark, the Bucs worked for a good shot. They managed to get off three shots from inside the paint during the last 10 seconds, but none of them would fall through the hoop and Martin County West went home with a 41-40 victory.

The first half saw the game tied at 12-12 before the Mavericks closed out the opening stanza on a 15-

BEA reduced the MCW lead to four points a number of times in the second half, but it wasn't until there was 6:28 left in the game that the Bucs knocked the deficit down to two points.

A Kate Armon to Maddie Schiltz pass led to an easy bucket and made the score 32-30 in favor of the Mavericks.

The teams then exchanged buckets over the next three minutes with MCW holding on to a 36-34

A 3-pointer by the Mavericks was matched by a 3pointer by Lundquist to make the score 39-37 with 2:28 showing on the game

MCW scored two more points with 1:23 left before Lundquist hit her 3-pointer to pull the Bucs to within one point.

Lundquist and Schiltz each scored 10 points for the Bucs and Sophie Keister had six rebounds.

LCWM 70, BEA 21 Blue Earth Area went down to defeat when they



traveled to Lake Crystal on Saturday, Jan. 29, to take on the Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial Knights.

LCWM made almost 60 percent of their 2-point attempts from the field on their way to a 70-21 triumph over the Buccaneers.

The Knights built a 34-16 lead through the opening stanza and then held BEA to just five points in the final half of the game.

Turnovers were a huge problem for the Bucs. The Knights forced BEA to turn the ball over 32 times and they had 26 steals.

The Bucs made only 32 percent of their 2-pointers and only 13 percent of their shots from outside of the

LCWM also held a 30-22 edge in rebounding.

Sophie Keister was the leading scorer for the Bucs with 12 points. Maddie

Kate Armon (3) drives by the MCW defender to go in for a layup in BEA's 41-40 loss to the MCW.

Keister also led the team with five rebounds. Kate

Armon finished with five. LCWM improved their record to 11-3 for the year

while BEA dropped to 4-13. New Ulm 72, BEA 28

The Bucs traveled to New Ulm on Jan. 27 for a Big South Conference clash with the Eagles.

New Ulm led 42-15 after the opening half and cruised to a 72-28 victory over BEA.

The Eagles shot over 62 percent from inside of the arc while the Bucs only made 27 percent of their 2point attempts.

New Ulm's pressure defense forced BEA into 26 turnovers

The Eagles also dominated the rebounding statistics with 39 rebounds to only 21 for the Bucs.

Kate Armon put up nine points for the Maroon and Gold. Fellow guard Lola Lundquist tallied eight points.

Erika Gaydon led BEA with six rebounds.

USC boys rally to defeat St. Charles

But come up short in their game against Blooming Prairie, 70-64 ing Prairie 41-33 in the sec-

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

The United South Central boys basketball team was trailing St. Charles at the end of the first half, but ended up winning the contest 68-53, on Monday, Jan.

Four of USC's players reached double figures in the contest. Luke Pederson had 16 points, Zale Bushlack 15, and Johnny Martinez and Colten Quade each had 10 points.

St. Charles came out hot to start the game with three 3-pointers in the first four minutes, according to head coach Adam Walker. It went pretty back and forth, with USC leading most of the way, but St. Charles went on a quick run to end the half with a two point lead,

"We played very well to start the second half, going on a 10-0 run to start,' coach Walker said. "After a timeout, St. Charles tied the game at 41 with about 12 minutes left in the game, but we started pulling away to win 68-53.

As a team the Rebels shot 27 of 49 (55 percent) from 2-point range, 2 of 16 for 3-pointers (13 percent) and 8 of 17 for free throws

(47 percent). St. Charles was 14 of 27 for 2-pointers (52 percent), 5 of 19 for 3-pointers (26 percent) and 10 of 14 for



"Johnny Martinez sparked us big time with his ley and Luke Pederson both

coach added. "Taybor Con-

well, scoring inside and making plays on the defensive end.'

The Rebels and the Saints each had 28 rebounds. USC had 18 assists to St. Charles' 10, 17 steals to their six, two blocks to their one and 11 turnovers to their 28.

The Rebels were set to host Faribault Bethlehem Academy on this past Friday, Feb. 4. This week they will travel to Maple River

on Tuesday, Feb. 8, and go to Hayfield on Friday, Feb.

Blooming Prairie 70,

USC 64 It was another slow start, and a game of trying to play catch up, that did in the United South Central Rebels on Friday night, Jan.

The Rebels lost to the Blooming Prairie Blossoms by a score of 70-64.

USC outscored Bloom-

ond half, but had trailed 37-23 at the end of the first

"This was the fourth straight game where we've trailed by double digits without scoring our first point," head coach Adam Walker said. "We had to play catch-up throughout once again."

The coach said the game felt like deja-vu from a game against Waterville-Elysian-Morristown just three days earlier, at least in how the game went.

"We made a couple nice runs in the second half to pull within five, but could not get a few more stops in a row in order to complete the comeback," the coach explained. "Luke Pederson was very impressive tonight with five 3-pointers for a game high 27 points, as well as pulling down eight rebounds."

Besides Pederson's 27 points. Nick Bushlack had 14 points and Zale Bushlack had 13. Colten Quade added six points and Johnny Martinez four.

"We could not stop Blooming Prairie's big man, Drew Kittelson, as he went for 25 points," Walker said. "He also collected 24 rebounds, which actually matched our total rebounds for the night."

As a team, the Rebels shot 12 of 32 for 2-pointers (38 percent), 10 of 24 for 3pointers (42 percent), and 10 of 15 from the freethrow line (67 percent).

The Blossoms were 21 of 44 for 2-pointers (48 Percent), 5 of 14 3-pointers (36 percent) and 13 of 24 free throws (54 percent).

The Rebels had 24 rebounds to the Blossoms' 49, 17 assists to their 19, three blocks to their five and both teams had 10 steals.



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Torres did it all in BEA's win over Tri-City United on Jan. 31. The senior guard scored 19 points and had seven rebounds, five steals and four assists in the Buccaneers' 61-58 overtime victory over the Titans.

Blue Earth Area Athlete of the Week

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Maple River/USC success continues

Wrestlers finish in first place at Rochester Century Invitational

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

The Maple River/United South Central wrestling team took first place at the Rochester Century Panther Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 29. There were 11 teams participating in the tourney.

MR/USC had a total of 198.5 points to claim the first place title. In second with 154 points was Plainview/Elgin Millville, Waseca was third with 146 points, Stewartville fourth with 132, Fillmore-Lanesboro fifth at 126, Mahtomedi sixth with 119.

Burnsville seventh at 97.5, Rochester Century eighth at 80. Richfield ninth at 62.5, St. Paul Highland Park 10th at 41 and Rochester John Marshall 11th with 21 points.



Simon

MR/USC had three wrestlers take first place in their weight

Boden Simon took first at 132 pounds. He won the championship match with a fall over Isaak Dougangdy of Rochester

Ethan Evenson placed first at 145 pounds. He won the championship match with a fall over Kaden Johnson of Waseca.

At 160 pounds, Cooper Ochsendorf took first with a 1-0 decision over Christian Rodriguez of Waseca in the championship

MR/USC had two wrestlers take second place.

Byron Getchell took second at 138 pounds when he lost the first place match to Xavier Ripplinger of Burnsville by a close 3-2 score.

At 170 pounds, Noah Ziegler had to win a match for true second, winning a 16-1 technical fall over Nevan de Gafferelly of Rochester Century.

There were also two third place finishers for MR/USC.

At 120 pounds, Braxton Simon took third with a pin over Logan Douangdy of Rochester Century in the third place match.

Ethan Elvebak, at 126 pounds, took third with a fall over Nolan Pfeilsticker of Plainview/Elgin Millville in the match for third place.

MR/USC wrestlers Three placed fourth, when they lost their third place matches. Those three were Wyatt Walters at 106 pounds, Kolt Bullerman at 113 and Thayne Decker at 220.

Isaiah Gonzales took fifth place at 106 pounds when he pinned Keegan Thoma of Rochester Century in the fifth place match. Robert Bordan took sixth place when he lost his 152 pound match for fifth place.

MR/USC Quadrangular

The Maple River/United South Central wrestling team won two matches and lost one at a quadrangular held on Thursday, Jan. 27 at

They defeated Waterville-Elysian-Morristown/Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 61-12, and St. Clair-Mankato Loyola 60-10, and lost a close one, 36-27 to St. Peter.

MR/USC 61, WEM/JWP 12

The MR/USC wrestlers won the first 12 matches on their way to a 61-12 win over WEM/JWP in the first bout of the evening.

Wyatt Walters won by a 7-2 decision at 106 pounds to get things going. Isaiah Gonzales won by a fall at 113, Kolt Bullerman won by a fall at 120, Braxton Simon won by a fall at 126 and Ethan Elvebak won by a fall at 132.

Boden Simon took a 13-0

major decision at 138 pounds, 36-27. Byron Getchell won a 14-0 major decision at 145 and Ethan Evenson took a 16-0 technical fall at

At 160 pounds Konner Harpestad won with a 4-1 decision, Cooper Ochsendorf won by forfeit at 170, Noah Ziegler won by forfeit at 182 and Collin Van Cleave won by a fall at 195.

MR/USC lost by a forfeit at 220 pounds and Colten Berkner lost by a fall at 285

MR/USC 60, St. Clair-Mankato Loyola 10

The MR/USC team won seven matches by forfeit against SC/ML. Those included Kolt Bullerman at 113, Boden Simon at 132, Konner Harpestad at 152, Cooper Ochsendorf at 160, Noah Ziegler at 170, Collin Van Cleave at 195 and Colten Berkner at 285.

In addition, Wyatt Walters won by a fall at 106 pounds, as did Byron Getchell at 138 and Ethan Evenson at 145.

SC/ML won by a major decision at 120 and a fall at 126 for their 10 points.

St. Peter 36, MR/USC 27

It was a close battle all the way, but in the end it was St. Peter pulling out the win over MR/USC

Wyatt Walters got things going for MR/USC with a 10-8 decision over Brock Guth at 106 pounds. But the Saints came back with Ryan Moelter pinning Kolt Bullerman at 113.

MR/USC then had three wins in a row. Braxton Simon pinned Charlie Born at 120 pounds, Ethan Elvebak pinned Deontre Torres at 126 and Boden Simon took a 3-0 decision over Evan Walter at 132 for an 18-6 lead.

Byron Getchell lost a 4-3 decision to Nakive Mercado at 138 pounds, but Ethan Evenson came back with a 6-0 decision over the Saints' Taylen Travaille at 145 making it 21-9.

Konner Harpestad lost a 4-3 decision to Harold Born at 152 pounds, Cooper Ochsendorf lost 7-3 to Brogan Hanson at 160, Noah Ziegler lost by a fall at 170 to Kole Guth and MR/USC forfeited at both 182 and 195, putting MR/USC behind 33-21.

Collin Van Cleave lost a 6-0 decision to Kemper Eli at 220 pounds, but Colten Berkner came back with a pin of Haadi Ahmed at 285, making the final 36-27.

Rebel girls triumph over the Knights

Team wins by 18 points to pick up their first victory of the season

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

The United South Central girls basketball team had a big game last Monday, Jan. 31, and scored their first win of the season.

The Rebel girls came through with a 61-43 victory over the Alden-Conger/Glenville-Emmons Knights, making their

season record

The Knights

now posted a

record of 4-12.

now

1-15.

"This was a huge win for

us this afternoon," head

coach Paul Meyer said after

the game. "We have been

making some strides and it

was great to finally get the

monster game, scoring 25

points to lead the Rebels.

She made 9 of 15 shots

from 2-point range and was

7 of 10 at the free throw

Mayo Zebro also had a

great shooting game, scor-

ing 17 points, as well as

grabbing 15 rebounds for a

Meyer added nine points

was to have a good first half and that is exactly what we

did," Meyer said. "In the

second half I was very im-

pressed with how we dealt

with ACGE's pressure.

Early we had some

turnovers, however, we did

not lose our focus and were

able to keep their runs

points and Lexi Johnson

Macy Zebro added four

small.'

"One of our main focuses

Hannah

double-double.

and six rebounds.

Taylor Schroeder had a

- Paul Meyer,

"It was a great team effort in every aspect of the game and was a huge win for us."

USC basketball coach

"Defensively we made

team totals.

added four rebounds to the

ACGE work for shots and overall we rebounded very well, not allowing them second chance opportunities," the Rebel mentor added. "Offensively we moved the ball very

well which gave us some great under the basket shotswhich we took advantage of, scoring 20 of our

31 first half points from within five feet of the bas-

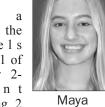
Handling pressure has been something the team has struggled with all year, the coach said, adding he was very happy how the girls handled it in this game.

"It was a great team effort in every aspect of the game and was a huge win us,"

Meyer concluded.

As the team Rebels were 21 of 37 for 2point shooting, 2 of 13 for 3-

pointers



7ebro

and 13 of 19 for freethrows. They had 30 rebounds, four assists, nine steals, two blocks and 22 turnovers.

The Rebel girls' next game was set for Friday, Feb. 4, at Faribault Bethlehem Academy. This week they will be at Southland on Monday, Feb. 7, and at Hayfield on Friday, Feb. 11.

Blooming Prairie 52, USC 21

The United South Central Rebel girls took on the Blooming Prairie Blossoms on Friday, Jan. 28, at home and lost 52-21. The loss dropped their season record to 0-15.

The Rebels started off playing well defensively, but their shooting was cold. While Blooming Prairie shot well, over 50 percent, the USC girls were under 10 percent and the Blossoms took a 41-6 lead.

"We took a big step forward tonight against a very good Blooming Prairie squad," coach Paul Meyer said. "The team came out and played the best half we have played so far, in the second half. We had made some adjustments at halftime, but the key was refocusing our goals of high energy and communication, especially on the defensive end, and it was key to the second half.

The Rebels outscored the Blossoms 15-11 in that second half.

Leading the scoring for USC were Maya Zebro and Taylor Schroeder with six points each. They also led

in rebounds with five each. Madison Klingbeil added three points and Macy Zebro had four rebounds.

"Offensively, although we didn't put up big numbers, we moved the ball and got a good rhythm going. If we continue this, the shots will fall eventually," the Rebel coach said. "I'm excited that we have almost everyone back and healthy and the team can move into the last one-third of the season and get some momentum going.'

The Rebels were 4 of 24

for 2-point shooting, 2 of 10 for 3-pointers and 7 of 18 from the line. They had 16 rebounds, six steals, three blocks and 20 turnovers.

Medford 64, USC 27 The United South Cen-

tral girls basketball team took on the Medford Tigers on Thursday, Jan. 27, and came away with 64-27



Despite the loss, head coach Paul Meyer thought ward against Medford, even though the score did not reflect it. "Offensively we were much more aggressive and

the team took a big step for-

we took the ball to the hoop better than the last few games," he said. "Our defense was better, however we had a couple spurts in the first half where we did not box out and Medford took advantage of that."

Macy Zebro led the team with nine points, Taylor Schroeder added six and Hannah Meyer five.

Schroeder had seven rebounds, Macy Zebro six, Maya Zebro five and Hannah Meyer four. "If we continue to move

the ball on offense, the shots will keep opening up,' coach Meyer said. "After a really tough few games, it was great to move forward again. I'm excited to see how this continues. The girls work hard in practice every day and now we need to put it all together into the

As a team the Rebels were 8 of 40 for 2-point shooting, 2 of 12 for 3pointers and 5 of 9 from the free-throw line. They had 33 rebounds, six assists, six steals and 23 turnovers.

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Register Staff Writer

Get up. Get out. Get active! A club to enable people to share their enthusiasm for the great outdoors held their initial meeting on Thursday, Feb. 3, in Blue Earth.

The idea is to have one meeting to organize some groups with the hope it will build from there.

'We are trying to find a way for people to connect with others who share some common interests in outdoor activities," David Kittleson, one of the organizers of the club, says. "We are looking for people of all ages, interests and abilities who enjoy being active outdoors."

Among the possible activities are cross country skiing, snowshoeing, running, walking, kayaking and biking.

"This is meant as a way to introduce people so they have an avenue to form groups to plan outdoor activities together," Kittleson mentions.

Kittleson, an avid bike rider, has experience being part of an outdoor group.

'When I came to Blue Earth many years ago, another gentleman and I started a biking group,"



he notes. "We have had people join and people quit over the years, but it is still going."

Kittleson spoke on some of the benefits of forming these groups.

"If you are new in town, this would provide you with an opportunity to get to know others who share a common interest," he shares. "Plus, many times it is easier to get out and do some of these activities when you know you are not alone."

Networking, a common phrase in today's society, is really at the heart of making these associations

"It is up to each group how they want to communicate, whether it is by "group texting," emailing or some other method," Kittleson comments. "The group can decide how to communicate and then let the others know what is being planned."

Kittleson says the idea was to get things in motion now, before spring arrives.

"If you want to join in with the people who ride bike, then spring is a good time," he notes. "We are all out of shape coming out of winter so we are riding pretty easy when we first start up in the

But, he says, the groups can

adapt to what people want.

"Maybe some people will want to ride their bikes at a fast pace and some want to go at a leisurely rate. The same might be true with runners," he shares. "We might have some joggers and there may be others who want to go faster."

Even if you did not know about the meeting on Feb. 3, or you were unable to attend, Kittleson stresses anybody can still join in at any time.

"If people need help making connections because they missed the meeting, they can call the Community Education office," Kittleson offers. "Their number is 507-526-3172 and they will be happy to get people the information they need to connect with the group of their interest."

Although the physical aspects are one of the pluses of being in an outdoor active club, Kittleson believes there are other benefits as

"I think it is good to be active and experience being outside no matter what season of the year it is," he states. "It can be relaxing as well, being surrounded by na-



Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

Gabe Torres goes in for a basket against the Windom Eagles on Jan. 29, in a game played in Blue Earth. The Bucs defeated the Eagles 67-63.

BEA basketball, from page 13 -

to 8-7 while the Titans drop to 3-14.

BEA 67, Windom 63

Things were not looking good for the Blue Earth Area boys basketball team in their contest against Windom on Saturday afternoon, Jan. 29. But, a late rally by the host Buccaneers enabled them to pull out a 67-63 triumph over the visiting Ea-

BEA and Windom had been locked in a close battle through the first 32 minutes of the game.

The largest lead either team had through the first 14 minutes of the second half was five points. But, with just over four minutes remaining in the game, the Eagles scored five straight points to take a 57-49 lead.

The teams traded baskets with Windom maintaining a 59-51 advantage.

Ashton Lloyd's basket at the 3:14 mark closed the gap to 59-53. The Eagles

made one of two free-throw attempts to push their lead to seven points at 60-53 with 2:57 showing on the game clock.

BEA guard Gabe Torres drove the lane for a basket to cut Windom's lead to 60-55. The Bucs' defense held and Abe Kokos nailed a baseline trey to cut the Eagles' lead to 60-58 with 2:05 remaining in the game.

Windom went to the charity stripe again, but made only one of two attempts to hold a 61-58 lead.

Torres weaved his way to the basket again for two more points and the Bucs trailed by one point, 61-60.

A scramble on Windom's end of the court resulted in a jump ball with the possession arrow in BEA's favor.

This time Torres drove the lane but dished the ball to Lloyd for two points and a 62-61 Bucs' lead with 1:03 left to play.

Windom missed a shot

and BEA rebounded with 38 seconds remaining.

The Eagles had three fouls to give before putting the Bucs in the one-and-one situation. With 28.8 seconds left

the Eagles fouled Jack Norman who went to the line to shoot a one-and-one. Norman's shot bounced

off the rim but Lloyd grabbed the rebound and put it through the hoop for a 64-61 BEA lead. Lloyd would add a free

throw to put the Bucs on top 65-61 before the Eagles scored with 6.5 seconds remaining to cut BEA's advantage to 65-63 Windom fouled Lloyd

again with 5.4 seconds to go. This time, Lloyd made both free throws to ice the game and give the Bucs the 67-63 victory.

BEA had a good shooting night from the field. They made 61 percent of their shots from inside of the arc

and 35 percent of their shots from outside of the arc. Meanwhile, Windom

shot 43 percent on their 2pointers and 37 percent on their 3-pointers. Neither team had an out-

standing night at the freethrow line. The Bucs made nine of 16 shots from the charity stripe and the Eagles converted eight of their 13 free throw attempts.

BEA had 37 rebounds compared to 25 for Win-

Lloyd recorded another double-double in the vic-

The 6-foot-5 junior tallied 28 points and pulled down 22 rebounds to lead the Bucs in both categories.

Norman finished with 12 points, six rebounds and six assists while Torres added 11 points and six assists. Abe Kokos contributed eight points and Waylen Douglas had five.

BEA wrestling, from page 13 -

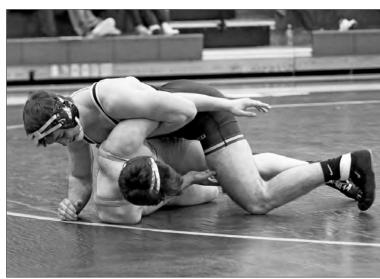
and a major decision at 113

Carson Sturtz picked up a pin over Roberto Palma-Martha in 55 seconds in the 113-pound match to make the score Sibley East 10,

Caleb Langager won a close 7-6 decision over Josh Sotelo at 126 pounds and Ben Anderson pinned Christian Sotelo at the 2:50 mark of the 132-pound match to give the Bucs their first lead of the contest at 15-10.

The Wolverines picked up two consecutive wins with a decision at 138 pounds and a pin at 145 to take a 19-15 lead over the Bucs.

Kade Gaydon's 4-2 decision over Jathen Mendoza at 152 pounds narrowed Sibley East's lead to 19-18.



Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

Adam Schavey is in control against his opponent from Albert Lea at a match in January. Schavey went 3-0 at Sibley East.

A 9-0 major decision by Parker Meyers over Owen Utendorfer in the 160-pound match put the Bucs back in the lead, 22-19.

The Bucs increased their lead to 25-19 when Kean Hicks earned an 8-5 decision over Giovani Govea at 170 pounds.

Adam Schavey pinned Aaron Elseth in 1:50 at 185 pounds. BEA now led 31-19.

Cory Kitchel at 195 pounds and Kale Frank at 220 each received forfeits to increase the Bucs' advantage to 43-19.

The Wolverines won by a decision at 285 pounds to make the

final score 43-22 in favor of BEA. BEA 73, Trinity School 3

The Tri Hawks were no match for the Bucs with BEA winning 13 of the 14 matches.

Winning by pin for the Bucs was Timmy Nagel at 106 pounds, Ben Anderson at 132, Blair Lunz at 138, Kade Gaydon at 152, Parker Meyers at 160 and Kean Hicks at 170.

Receiving forfeits for the Maroon and Gold were Carson Sturtz at 120 pounds, Cory Kitchel at 182, Adam Schavey at 195, Kale Frank at 220 and Nick Lawrence at 285.

BEA's other victories were by Cooper Peterson with an 11-2 major decision at 113 pounds and Ethan Oppedal with a 7-2 decision

at 145 pounds. BEA traveled to Waseca on Feb. 4 to take on the Bluejays. Look for the results of that contest

in next week's Faribault County Register.

Gymnastics, from page 13

"We only had to count be a m two falls on beam." Cole said. "We will be working to clean up routines more and perfect our connections more over the next week."

Armstrong secured another second place finish with her score of 8.45 on

"We will be working Douglas to clean up routines earned an 8.25 more and perfect our beam, connections more Buccaneer over the next week." Lauren Survis — Rachel Cole,

BEA gymnastics coach

and finished with a 7.25 score. "As for floor, we had

there

7.575, Kalis

a good night

too,

tallied a 7.4, concluded. Lunz Armstrong pulled off an-

other second place finish on floor with a score of 9.3. Douglas scored an 8.575, Kalis scored an 8.425, and Ihle pulled off an 8.3.

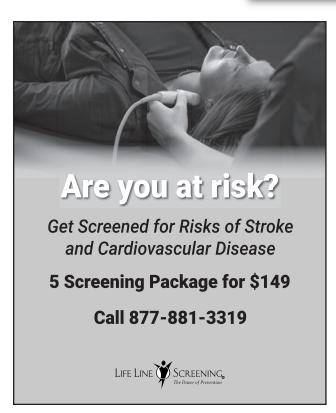
with only one fall," Cole

The Bucs' junior varsity

team was bested by New Ulm's junior varsity team, who scored an 118.25 to the Bucs' 106 points.

The Bucs' Lizzv Uecker's all-around score of 28.75 snagged her the third place junior varsity all-around slot.

The Blue Earth Area gymnastics team faced Jackson County Central High School in another home meet held on Thursday, Feb. 3, at 6 p.m. Look for the results in next week's issue of The Faribault County Register.



earned a





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Faribault County Court Records

Arika R. Ziegler (DOB 12/04/1993) Delavan – Traffic - DWI - third degree driving while impaired, one aggravating factor, local confinement 30 days, supervised probation two years, fee: \$615.

Jose L. Fuentes (DOB 03/07/1991) Mission, TX – Open bottle in MV (consume), fee: \$185.

Adrian L. Medina (DOB 12/06/1991) Fairmont -Speed 60 Zone 86/60, fee: \$285; driving after revocation, fee \$200; Driver/ owner allow open bottle, fee: \$100.

Parker G. Stennes (DOB 02/21/1995) St. Louis Park - Speed 60 Zone 75/60, fee: \$145.

Danielle A. Sabin (DOB 08/23/1990) Frost - Trafficdrivers license- driving after revocation, fee: \$285.

Timothy W Franks (DOB 10/22/1993) Blue Earth -Speed 60 Zone 78/60, fee: \$145; Fail to change address/name within 30 days, fee: \$20.

Justin P. Crowe (DOB 10/27/1987) Wells - Disorderly conduct - offensive/ abusive/boisterous/noisy/ obscene, local confinement 18 days, fee: \$85.

Cassandra L. Heimer (DOB 05/08/2000) La Crosse, WI - Speed 70 Zone 87/70, fee: \$145.

Joseph L. Johnson (DOB 01/31/1951) Georgetown, DE – Speed 70 Zone 80/70, fee: \$125; No or inoperative breakaway brakes, fee

Andres Vazquez (DOB 11/07/1999) Sioux Falls, SD - Seat belt required driver and passengers must use, fee: \$110.

Matthew A. Bartz (DOB 07/29/1985) Blue Earth -Drugs - fifth degree - possess schedule 1, 2, 3, 4 - not small amount marijuana, supervised probation three years, local confinement 30 days, fee: \$1,085; Domestic assault-GM- subsequent violation, local confinement 30 days, supervised probation two years.

Justin D. Price (DOB 03/09/1987) Blue Earth -Traffic regulation- failure to stop at stop signs or stop lines at entrance to through highway, fee: \$135.

Adeline E. L. Burtt (DOB 01/30/1985) Blue Earth -Traffic- careless drivingoperate any vehicle carelessly on street or highway, unsupervised probation one year, fee: \$460; Trafficopen bottle law; possession; crime described, fee: \$100.

Alissa R. Rush (DOB 06/15/1995) Minnesota Lake - Speed 60 Zone 73/60, fee: \$135.

Savannah S. Wight (DOB 09/28/1983) Winnebago -Front and rear license plates required, fee: \$115.

Martha I. Morgan (DOB 09/01/1971) Winnebago -Trespass- return to property

within one year, local confinement 12 days.

Jon D. Riley (DOB 06/11/1979) Cottonwood -Traffic- open bottle law; possession; crime scribed, fee: \$185.

Christina J. Blodgett (DOB 01/02/1971) Buffalo Center, IA – Speed 55 Zone 70/55, fee: \$145.

Loius A. Lezza (DOB 08/14/1967) Elmhurst, IL -Speed 70 Zone 79/70, fee:

Brandy L. Crail (DOB 06/21/1990) Lakota, IA -Traffic regulation - headlamps required on all motor vehicles, except motorcycles, fee: \$125.

Suzanne L. Beltran (DOB 02/05/1966) Chicago, IL -

Speed 70 Zone 84/70, fee: \$135.

Jose A. Fernando Hernandez (DOB 10/18/1990) Winnebago – Speed 70

Zone 80/70, fee: \$125. John P. Wander (DOB 03/03/1954) Elmore – Driving after cancellation, fee: \$285.

Brandon N. Torgerson (DOB 08/10/1994) Blue Earth – Traffic- drivers license- driving after suspension, fee: \$285; Drugspossess over 1.4 grams marijuana in motor vehicle, fee: \$150; Drugs- Possession of drug paraphernalia - use or possession prohibited, fees: \$50.

RATE INCREASE NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR CENTERPOINT ENERGY MINNESOTA CUSTOMERS

CenterPoint Energy has asked the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) to approve an increase to natural gas rates for distribution service. The requested increase is for about 6.5 percent or \$67.1 million per year. The requested increase would add about \$4.05 to a typical residential customer's monthly bill.

The MPUC may either approve or deny the requested changes, and may approve a lesser or greater increase than was requested for any customer class or classes of service.

The MPUC will likely make its decision on our rate request in the fourth quarter of 2022. If final rates are lower than interim (temporary) rates, we will refund customers the difference with interest. If final rates are higher than interim rates, we will not charge customers the difference.

If you move before a refund is issued and we cannot find you, your refund may be treated as abandoned property and sent to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Unclaimed Property Unit. You can check for unclaimed property at www.missingmoney.com. To make sure we can send you any refund owed, please provide a forwarding address when you stop service.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Administrative Law Judge Ann O'Reilly will hold two in-person public hearings and two virtual public hearings so that customers have an opportunity to comment on the company's request. Any CenterPoint Energy customer or other person may attend or provide comments at the hearings. You are invited to comment on the adequacy and quality of CenterPoint Energy's service, the level of rates, or other related matters. You do not need to be represented by an attorney. The hearings will begin at their scheduled time and adjourn after everyone present has had an opportunity to comment or ask questions.

Date	Time	Location	
February 22, 2022	6:00 p.m.	Golden Valley Library 830 Winnetka Ave N Golden Valley, MN 55427	
February 24, 2022	6:00 p.m.	EVENT CENTER 10 Civic Center Plaza Mankato, MN 56001	
March 1, 2022	1:00 p.m.	Virtual WebEx	
March 1, 2022	6:00 p.m.	Virtual WebEx	

Bad weather? Find out if a hearing is canceled - call (toll free) 855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit mn.gov/puc.

Virtual Public Hearings

Public hearings have been scheduled as follows to be held via video conference.

March 1, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Attend by Internet Connection (Audio and Video)

To join the virtual hearing using a computer, tablet or smart phone, where you will have audio and video capability, go to: https://minnesota.webex.com. In the gray box where it says, "Enter Meeting Information," type the Event Number in the box to the right for the public hearing date you are attending.

March 1, 2022 1:00 p.m.	March 1, 2022 6:00 p.m.	
Event Number: 2492 340 7866 Event Password, if needed: MnPUC!	Event Number: 2483 405 3637 Event Password, if needed: MnPUC!	

Directions for Appearing via WebEx.

- Log on 5 to 15 minutes before the hearing begins. You will be asked to join the hearing through a Webex application or through a plug-in for your web browser.
- Enter the Event Number shown in the box above.
- Next you will be asked to enter your name, your email address, and an event password (if required). After entering this information, click "Join Now" and you will be granted access to the virtual hearing.
- When you enter the hearing, your microphone will be muted. If you would like to ask a question or make a comment during the meeting, use the chat function to send a message to the meeting moderator, who will place you in the queue to comment. When it is your turn to comment, your name will be called and your line will be unmuted. You will then be able to ask questions or make a comment.

To Attend by Telephone (Audio Only)

If you do not have access to a computer, tablet, or smart phone, or if you would prefer to attend the hearing via audio only, you may join using any type of telephone. You do not need internet access to call into the hearing, however, you will only be able to hear (not see) the speakers.. You will still be able to comment and ask questions.

Use the information in the box to the right to dial into the hearing. You will be asked to enter the access code for the hearing, as set forth in the box to the right.

March 1, 2022 - 1:00 p.m.	March 1, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.
Phone: 1-855-282-6330	Phone: 1-855-282-6330
Access Code: 2492 340 7866	Access Code: 2483 405 3637

If you would like to ask a question or make a comment during the hearing, press *3 on your telephone. You will then be placed into the queue to comment. When it is your turn to speak, the last few digits of your telephone number will be announced by the moderator and your line will be unmuted, allowing you to be heard.

Public Hearing and Process Information

Administrative Law Judge Ann O'Reilly will preside over the public hearings and will provide the Commission with findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendations after the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing. The purpose of the public hearings is to receive public input on the proposed rate increase. At the public hearings, interested persons have the opportunity to: (1) ask questions of the utility and agency staff; and (2) offer verbal and written comments on the merits of the proposed rate increase. Members of the public may participate without needing to intervene as a party. Representation by legal counsel is permitted but not required. Please note that the public hearings will end when all attendees present have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded. You are encouraged to join the meeting at the scheduled start time to be placed on the queue to comment. Commenters will be called in the order they enter the queue. Therefore, it is advantageous to arrive at the beginning of the hearing.

Written comments may be submitted during the comment period before and after the public hearings. Follow the instructions below to provide written comment.

Please contact Charley Bruce at 651-201-2251 or charley.bruce@state.mn.us or Tera Dornfeld at 651-201-2195 or tera.dornfeld@state.mn.us if you have questions on how to participate or have trouble accessing the public hearing using telephone or internet

WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

You can still submit comments even if you do not attend a public hearing. Comments will be

Comment Period

- Comments will be accepted through April 11, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. • Comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the close date.
- Comments received after the comment period closes may not be considered.
- **How to Submit a Written Comment**

Written comments can be submitted via: (1) the Commission's eComments website; (2) electronic mail; (3) U.S. Mail; or (3) facsimile. To learn how to submit a comment in any of these ways, please visit mn.gov/puc, select "Consumers" from the dropdown menu on the right side of the page, then select "Public Comments and How to Participate." This will take you to the Public Comment page, where you will find a list of ways to comment. Be sure to reference PUC Docket No. 21-435 in the subject line of your comment.

If you do not have access to the internet, you may send or deliver your comment to:

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Ste. 350

St. Paul, MN 55101 For assistance in submitting comments, or if you have questions, contact the Commission's Consumer Affairs Office at:

Phone: 651-296-0406 or 800-657-3782 Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

Be sure to reference Docket Number 21-435

Important: Comments can be reviewed by the public on the MPUC's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The MPUC does not edit or delete personally identifying information or any other information from comments received.

EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Formal evidentiary hearings on CenterPoint Energy's proposal will be held on April 6, 7, and 8, 2022, starting at 9:30 a.m. each day. The evidentiary hearing will be held in Courtroom 1 at the Office of Administrative Hearings at 600 South Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota. Individuals who cannot attend in person, may attend via Microsoft Teams (Teams), a video conferencing platform. Members of the public who wish to attend the hearing through Teams may request an electronic invitation by contacting Judge O'Reilly's legal assistant at michelle.severson@state.mn.us. The purpose of the evidentiary hearing is to allow CenterPoint Energy, the Minnesota Department of Commerce – Division of Energy Resources, the Minnesota Office of Attorney General – Residential Utilities Division, and parties who have formally joined the contested case, to present testimony and to cross-examine each other's witnesses on the proposed rate increase. If you wish to formally intervene in this case, as a party to the litigation, you must serve and file a Petition to Intervene, pursuant to Minn. R. 1400.6200.

TO LEARN MORE

CenterPoint Energy's current and proposed rate schedules are available at:

CenterPoint Energy

505 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis MN 55402 Phone 612-372-4727 or 800-245-2377

Web http://www.CenterPointEnergy.com/RateCase

Minnesota Department of Commerce

85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101

Phone: 651-539-1534

Web: https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp Select (21) in the year field, type (435) in the number field, select Search, and the list of documents will appear on the next page.

Questions about the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's review process?

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Suite 350

St. Paul, MN 55101

Phone: 651-296-0406 or 800-657-3782 Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

Anyone with hearing or speech disabilities may call through their preferred Telecommunications Relay.

The table below shows the effect of both the interim and proposed rate changes on monthly bills for residential, commercial and industrial customers with average natural gas use.

Customer Type (usage in therms)	Avg monthly usage in therms	Avg monthly bill: current rates	Avg monthly bill: interim rates	Avg monthly bill: proposed rates			
Residential							
	74	\$68	\$71	\$72			
Commercial/Industrial							
up to 1,500/year 1,500 to 5,000/year 5,000 or more/year	67 255 1,440	\$69 \$210 \$1,096	\$72 \$219 \$1,131	\$80 \$230 \$1,136			
Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service							
up to 120,000/ year 120,000 or more/year	3,971 15,567	\$2,310 \$8,903	\$2,382 \$9,152	\$2,482 \$9,490			
Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service							
	42,091	\$23,466	\$23,981	\$24,403			
Large Gener	Large General Firm Sales Service						
	41,602	\$23,085	\$23,776	\$24,480			
Demand cha	Demand charge (per Peak Day)						
	3,110						



NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

I. Default has occurred in the conditions of the mortgage dated December 8, 1999, executed by Arnold R. Schroeder, a single person, as Mortgagor(s), to Wells Federal Bank, FSB, a federal savings bank, as Mortgagee(s), and filed for record December 14, 1999, in the Office of the County Recorders (the "Recorder"), Faribault County, Minnesota as document number 306498.

2. The Mortgage has been assigned as follows: No Assignments

3. The maximum principal amount secured by the Mortgage was: \$44.000.00.

4. No action or proceeding at law is now pending to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part thereof.

5. The holder of the Mortagae has complied with all conditions precedent to acceleration of the debt secured by the Mortgage and foreclosure of the Mortagae. and all notice and other requirements of applicable statutes.

6. At the date of this notice. the amount due on the Mortgage, and taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the Mortgage is: \$25.548.07

7. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortagge will be foreclosed, and the land described as follows:

A tract of land in the West half of Section 8. Township 103 North, Range 25 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, in Faribault County, Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 8. Township 103 North, Range 25 West in Faribault County, Minnesota; thence South 0 degrees, 00 minutes 00 seconds West (assumed bearing) along the East line of the West Half a distance of 2541.96 feet to the point of beginning: thence continuing South 0 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West along the East line of the West Half a distance of 250.00 feet: thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West a distance of 450.00 feet: thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 250.00 feet: thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 450.00 feet to the point of beginning. Abstract Property

will be sold by the sheriff of Faribault County on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the Faribault County Sheriff's Office, 320 Dr. H. Russ Street, Blue Earth, MN

8. The time allowed by law for redemption by the Mortgagor, the Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is 12 months after the date of sale.

9. THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY MORTGAGOR. THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR AS-SIGNS. MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SEC-TION 582.032. DETERMINING AMONG OTHER THINGS. MORTGAGED THE PREMISES ARE IMPROVED RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROP-ERTY USED IN AGRICUL-TURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

10. Unless the mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, the mortgagor and/or its assigns must vacate the property by 11:59 p.m. on February 24. 2023, or the next business day if the forgoing date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

Minn. Stat. Section 580.025. the undersigned hereby states that the following information is correct to the best of its knowledge: (a) The street address and tax

II. In order to comply with

identification number of the mortgaged property: 17503 505th Avenue, Easton, Minnesota 56025 Tax Identification Number: 19-008-0500

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(b) Transaction agent and transaction agent's mortgage identification number: N/A

(c) Residential mortgage servicer, broker and/or originator:

(d) Lender: Citizens Community Federal, N.A. successor by merger with Wells Federal Bank formally known as Wells Federal Bank, FSB, a federally chartered savings bank.

12. This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that pur-

Dated: December 27, 2021 By:/s/ David A. Lutz Attorney for Mortgagee 120 South 6th Street, Suite 1550 Minneapolis, MN 55402 612-424-2110 Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7, 2022

STATE OF MINNESOTA Before the **FARIBAULT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** SITTING AS THE DRAINAGE **AUTHORITY FOR COUNTY DITCH #58** In the Matter of: **Redetermination of Benefits** and Damages of County

Ditch #58 FINAL HEARING NOTICE PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Faribault County Board of Commissioners, sitting as the drainage authority for County Ditch #58 will hold a final hearing on the redetermination of benefits and damages of County Ditch #58. The Viewers' Report was filed with the drainage authority on January 26, 2022, and is available for inspection at the Faribault County Auditor's Office. 415 North Main Street, Blue Farth, MN. The hearing shall be held at 1:30 p.m. on February 15, 2022, at the Faribault County Board Room on the middle level of the courthouse building located at 415 North Main Street, Blue Earth, MN. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the hearing can be attended virtually via phone or computer. Contact the Faribault County Drainage Department at 507-526-2388 for more information on virtual attendance. At the final hearing, the drainage authority will accept public comment regarding the Viewers' Report. Any party having an interest in the proceedings may appear and provide comment. Written comments will be accepted at the hearing and by mail through the date of the hearing at the Faribault County Auditor's Office, PO Box 130, Blue Earth,

MN 56013. County Ditch #58 consists of several branches of tile. The following properties are affected by the Viewers' Report of benefits and damages:

Brush Creek Township, T 102N-R 25W, Sections: 22, 23, 26, 27, 28; all in Faribault County

The following owners of property are affected by in the Viewers' Report of benefits and

damages: Rlom M & Teresa E H Blom Revocable Tr: Dahl. Duane Revocable Trust & Carol Dahl Revocable Trust: Dahl, Eric & Shelly R; Donna Schobert Life Est Et Al C/O Debra K Redman; Ehlert, Brian Michael Corey John Ehlert; Ehlert, Elmer L & Kathryn K; Kraus Properties C/O Ron & Kathy Kraus; Legred, Nathan J Thomas L Legred; Legred, Nathan J Thomas L Legred; Leland, Carter & Gregory Leland; Leland, Gregory K & Carter M Leland; Miller, Craig; Mulder, Carl E & Luanne: South Central Minnesota Youth For Christ Inc: Timm. Dale A: Timm. Jodell R: Trust Agreement Of Roger A Johnson: Trust Aarmt Juanita H Bever & Jugnita H Bever Life Est Etal: Willmert. Sonia & James H

Larson. The following governmental entities are affected by the redetermination of benefits and dam-

Larson; Willmert, Sonja James H

ages of County Ditch #58: Brush Creek Township, Faribault County; Faribault County.

Copies of the Viewers' Report and Property Owners' Report are enclosed. Full Reports can be obtained by calling the Faribault County Auditor's Office at 507-526-6211 or may be found online at https://www.co.faribault.mn. us/drainage

Dated: 1/26/2022 **Darren Esser County Auditor-Treasurer-**Coordinator

Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 2022

STATE OF MINNESOTA Before the Citizens Community Federal FARIBAULT COUNTY BOARD **OF COMMISSIONERS**

SITTING AS THE DRAINAGE **AUTHORITY FOR COUNTY DITCH #74** In the Matter of: **Redetermination of Benefits**

and Damages of County Ditch #74

FINAL HEARING NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Faribault County Board of Commissioners, sitting as the drainage authority for County Ditch #74 will hold a final hearing on the redetermination of benefits and damages of County Ditch #74. The Viewers' Report was filed with the drainage authority on January 26, 2022, and is available for inspection at the Faribault County Auditor's Office. 415 North Main Street, Blue Earth, MN. The hearing shall be held at 2:00 p.m. on February 15, 2022, at the Faribault County Board Room on the middle level of the courthouse building located at 415 North Main Street, Blue Earth, MN. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic. the hearing can be attended virtually via phone or computer. Contact the Faribault County Drainage Department at 507-526-2388 for more information on virtual attendance. At the final hearing, the drainage authority will accept public comment regarding the Viewers' Report. Any party having an interest in the proceedings may appear and provide comment. Written comments will be accepted at the hearing and by mail through the date of the hearing at the Faribault County Auditor's Office. PO Box 130. Blue Earth. MN 56013. A repair informational meeting will follow the hearing to discuss the proposed repair of County Ditch #74 and cost estimate of the project.

County Ditch #74 consists of open ditch and several branches of tile. The following properties are affected by the Viewers' Report of benefits and damages:

Brush Creek Township, T 102N-R 25W, Sections: 30, 31, 32 and Emerald Township, T 102N-R 26W, Section: 36; all in Faribault County.

The following owners of property are affected by in the Viewers' Report of benefits and damages:

Fenske, Todd M; Hogstad, Ronald Rev Living Tr & Mary L Hoastad Rev Living Tr; K & S Malecha Investments: Logemann. Ruth S Revocable Living Trust C/O Dean Logemann: Olson, Charles J & Kimberly: Claire D ጼ Diane O'Rourke, John D C/O Thane O'Rourke: Oswald, Raymond N & Patricia: Patricia A Mccabe Disc Trust & Joshua D Amundson: Quade. Gloria A Life Estate & Loria Quade: Shirk.Corrine: The Sparky Management Co Llp Profit Sharing Plan & Trust C/O

Kenneth J Malecha Trustee. The following governmental entities are affected by the redetermination of benefits and dam-

ages of County Ditch #74: Brush Creek Township, Farib-

ault County; Faribault County. Copies of the Viewers' Report and Property Owners' Report are enclosed. Full Reports can be obtained by calling the Faribault County Auditor's Office at 507-526-6211 or may be found online at https://www.co.faribault.mn. Inc. us/drainage.

Dated: 1/26/2022 **Darren Esser** County Auditor-Treasurer-Coordinator Jan. 31. Feb. 7, 14, 2022

EMPLOYMENT

PERMITTING AND

INSTALLATION MANAGER

REMOTE CUSTOMER

SERVICE AGENT

from home taking inbound

CITY OF BLUE EARTH PUBLIC NOTICE

The Blue Earth Plannina Commission has scheduled a hearing at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. February 17, 2022, in the Council Chambers of City Hall to consider the following request of Steven Gesche, 1540 Industrial Drive, Blue Earth, MN.

The applicant request is for allowance of a simple lot split in the Highway Business Light Industry District, with a 286-foot lot width variance.

I) First Request to waive restrictions for the lot split in a business industrial district;

2) Second Request is for variance to waive the 400-foot lot tion 35, Township 103 North, width requirement and allow for

a 114-foot lot width. The property is legally described as: Commencing at the South Quarter corner of said Section7: thence on an assumed bearing of South 89 degrees 13 minutes 34 seconds west, along the south line of said section, a distance of 292,75 feet to the east line of Commerce Drive: thence North 0 degrees 31 minutes 51 seconds West, along the east line of said Commerce Drive, a distance of 739.96 feet to the easterly extension of the north line of industrial Drive: thence South 89 degrees 13 minutes 29 seconds West, along easterly extension and along the north line of said Industrial Drive. a distance of 364.85 feet to the Southeast corner of a tract as recorded in Document No. 263841: thence continuing South 89 degrees 13 minutes 29 seconds west, along the south line of said tract, also being along the north line of said Industrial Drive. a distance of 30.00 feet to an iron monument, said iron monument being the point of the beginning of the tract to be described: thence continuing South 89 degrees 13 minutes 29 seconds West, along the south line of said tract, also being along the north line of said Industrial Drive., a distance of 114.00 feet to the Southwest corner of said tract: thence North 0 degrees 31 minutes 51 seconds West, along the west line of said tract, a distance of 153.00 feet to an iron monument: thence North 89 degrees 13 minutes 29 seconds East a distance of 114 feet to an iron monument: thence South 0 degrees 31 minutes 51 seconds East a distance of

record in said county and state. The Planning Commission recommendation will proceed to consideration at the Regular City Council meeting held on February 22, 2022, at 5:00 P.M.

153.00 feet to the point of the be-

ginning, containing 0.40 acres.

subject to easements now of

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

By Order of the Blue Earth **City Council** Mary Kennedy **Zoning Administrator** February 7, 2022

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICA-**IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME** PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN. that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: Mortgagor: Leslie Lloyd, a sin-

gle woman, and Jared Cyphers, a single man Mortgagee: Mortgage Elec-

tronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns

Dated: September 28, 2016 Recorded: October 18, 2016 Faribault County Recorder Document No. 372803

Assigned To: Quicken Loans

Dated: October 9, 2019 Recorded: October 18, 2019 Faribault County Recorder Document No. 381954

Transaction Agent: Mortagge Electronic Registration Systems,

Transaction Agent Mortgage

Identification Number: 100039033605464175

Lender or Broker: Quicken Logns Inc.

Residential Mortgage Servicer: Rocket Mortgage, LLC Mortgage Originator: Quicken Loans Inc.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF

PROPERTY: A tract of land in the West Half of the Southwest Quarter (W1/2 of SW1/4) of Section Thirty-five (35), Township One Hundred Three (103) North. Range Twenty-seven (27) West in Faribault County, Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Southwest Quarter of Sec-Range 27 West in Faribault County, Minnesota: thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East (assumed bearing) along the West line of the Southwest Quarter a distance of 1221.39 feet to the point of beainning, thence continuing North 0 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East along the West line of the Southwest Quarter a distance of 584.76 feet: thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 660.00 feet: thence South 0 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West a distance of 584.76 feet: thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West a distance of 660.00 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to an easement for public roadway right-ofway along the West line of the Southwest Quarter of Section

Said tract contains 8.860 acres including the aforementioned easement.

This is Abstract Property. TAX **PARCEL** NO.: 150350100

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 13248 410th Ave., Blue Earth, MN 56013

COUNTY IN WHICH PROP-ERTY IS LOCATED: Faribault **PRINCIPAL ORIGINAL**

MORTGAGE:

\$85,424.00 **AMOUNT** DUE CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE: \$103.320.26

OF

AMOUNT

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 24, 2022, 10:00 AM PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's

Office, 320 Dr. H. Russ Street, Blue Earth, MN

to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within 6 Months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or as-

DATE TO VACATE PROP-ERTY: The date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortage is not reinstated under Minnesota Statutes section 580.30 or the property redeemed under Minnesota Statutes section 580.23 is September 24, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then the date to vacate is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

MORTGAGOR(S) LEASED FROM FINANCIAL **OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:**

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY MORTGAGOR. THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR AS-SIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SEC-TION 582.032. DETERMINING. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED

Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROP-ERTY USED IN AGRICUL-TURAL PRODUCTION. AND

ARE ABANDONED. Dated: January 28, 2022 Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc.. **Assignee of Mortgagee** By: HALLIDAY, WATKINS & MANN, P.C.

> Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc., **Assignee of Mortgagee** 101 Fifth Street East, **Suite 2626** St. Paul, MN 55101 651-291-8955

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a

Attorneys for:

651-228-1753 (fax) THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A **DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED** FOR THAT PURPOSE. MN10860

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2022

FARIBAULT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SYNOPSIS JANUARY 18, 2022

 Anderson, Groskreutz. Roper, and Young were present. Loveall was absent. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

2. Approved synopsis and official proceedings of the January 4, 2022 regular and drainage meetinas.

3. No one appeared during public comment.

4. Set ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) work session for 1:00p.m. on February 16th, 2022 in the boardroom.

5. Adopted Resolution 22-CB-07 selling three tax forfeited properties to the City of Wells to correct blight. All voted yes. 6. Approved training request

from B. Gehrking to attend a 5day Dogs for Law Enforcement K9 Training seminar in Independence. Iowa. 7. Approved payment of

\$20,520 to Prairie Lakes Transit for Faribault County's share of the cost of renovations

8. Approved updating the jail fee schedule. 9. Adopted Resolution 22-CB-

08 for the Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant from the State of Minnesota for 2022-2023. All voted ves. 10. Approved training for Kilo,

the new K-9 officer, at a cost of \$4.000.00.

11. Approved payment of the following bills: Auditor warrants totaling \$5,968,734.61, ACHpayments totalina \$4,030,444.87; and audit/auxiliary totaling \$389,701.03.

Discussion was held concerning the following:

I. A. Nichols met regarding EDA business. 2. J. Monahan met regarding

transit business. 3. S. Adams met regarding

Sheriff's Office business. Complete minutes are on file the Central Service The meeting was adjourned

for January 2022. Greg Young, Chair Sarah Van Moer, Acting Clerk to the Board February 7, 2022

DEADLINE

Deadline for Public Notices is Wednesday at 12:00 Noon for the next Mondays issue. All legal copy should be delivered to the office by noon Wednesday to insure its publication.

If you need to place a public notice legal please email your legal to ptrue@faribaultcountvreaister.com or fcnews@bevcomm.net Or mail notice to: Faribault County

Register, PO Box 98, 125 North Main Street, Blue Earth, MN 56013 or fax to 507-526-4080. Thank you.

Faribault County Register website www.faribaultcountyregister.com



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660 Business Park Drive, Wells, MN 56097 Contact HR in the office at: 507-553-5848

Email resume to a secure inbox

at info@ronsphe.com

10 Announcements

1004 - Notices

Investigate Before You Invest. The Faribault County Register/ Town Crier does not knowingly accept knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly Investigate all 'Notices' and other ads which require an investment. If you have concerns conhave concerns contact the vendor. If you do not get results, you may choose to contact your local or state Better Business

15 **Employment**

1500 - Miscellaneous

FIRST DAY

Age 55 + workers needed for PT light custodial work at the Blue Earth Rest Areas. Contact Green View at 651-639-1913

GET THE SCOOP! place to look if you want a job. Call 507-526-7324 to place your help wanted ad. CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING BRINGS RESULTS! PHYSICAL
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1526 - Full Time

Wanted

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CLASSIFIEDS! For classified advertising call us at 507-526-7324. This newspaper supports fair housing and equal opportunity.

AA/EOE

Blue Earth Area Schools Position Opening: Evening Custodian (B-2-1)

2 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Applications available online or may be picked up at the **BEA District Office**



www.beaschools.org

Administrative Office Secretary/ **Financial Secretary**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wells, MN about 30 hours per week

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is seeking a faithfilled, experienced administrative office secretary to support our pastor, staff, council leadership and congregation. Applicants with clerical experience, strong phone, interpersonal and organizational skills, and experience working with a website, social media and a variety of computer programs and publication software are encouraged to apply.

Please send a cover letter and a resume to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 291 1st St. SW, Wells, MN 56097 or email to pr.olson723@gmail.com.

Questions may be addressed to Pastor Scott Olson 507-553-3513. A more detailed job description is available upon request.



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Qualified tenant must be over 62 years of age or disabled, and meet HUD's income level requirements.

New Life Manor Inc.

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Duties to include but not limited to supervising, safety, and security of inmates. Ability to understand, interpret, and apply policy and procedures as well as understand data privacy laws and inmate legal rights. Skillful and prompt operation of radio, computer, and telephones, with strong interpersonal communication skills preferred. Annual training required.

Annual contracted hours are 2,184. Work schedule will vary and is subject to change, but annual hours will not exceed the contracted hours.

Minimum qualifications: age 18 years or older, High School Diploma or G.E.D., and a valid driver's license. B22 (\$40,644 - \$52,066 per yr.) *Based on 2021 MNPEA Contract. 2022 wages to be determined.

Applications will be accepted through February 11, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. Applications may be obtained from the



Faribault County Central Services Office 415 N. Main St., PO Box 130

Blue Earth, MN 56013-0130 or downloaded from our website www.co.faribault.mn.us Phone (507) 526-6225 **Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer**

POSITION OPENING

Faribault County Central Services is accepting applications for MALE DISPATCH/JAILER

IN THE FARIBAULT COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Duties to include but not limited to supervising, safety, and security of inmates. Ability to understand, interpret, and apply policy and procedures as well as understand data privacy laws and inmate legal rights. Skillful and prompt operation of radio, computer, and telephones, with strong interpersonal communication skills preferred. Annual training required.

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• Repairs or replaces plant equipment or systems on a scheduled or emergency basis.

Performs preventative maintenance as required.

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