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WILLMAR, MINN.

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022 - SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

WCTRIB.COM

## Severe weather causes damage

By Tom Cherveney and Jennifer Kotila  
West Central Tribune

### Willmar

What the National Weather Service in the Twin Cities termed a "rare and extreme severe weather event" caused extensive damage throughout western and west central Minnesota on Thursday evening, May 12, 2022. The winds downed power lines, and damaged buildings and farm equipment in a wide area from eastern South Dakota into Meeker County in central Minnesota.

### Lac qui Parle County

Lac qui Parle County in far western Minnesota suffered widespread damage as winds topping 70 miles an hour whipped over the prairie. A wind gust of 94 miles per hour was recorded at the Madison Airport, according to the National Weather Service.

Blain Johnson, emergency manager for Lac qui Parle County, estimates that 80 percent of the county experienced minor or greater levels of damage.

No community escaped harm, but the city of Madison seems to have been hit the hardest.

There were a number of reports of funnel clouds. The National Weather Service was to survey the county to determine if there were any touchdowns. Most of the damage appears to be from straight-line winds.

WEATHER: Page A2



Macy Moore / West Central Tribune

An unidentified woman surveys damage on Friday at the Erickson farm outside Blomkest. Ryan Leif Erickson, 63, was killed on Thursday night on his farm when a grain bin was blown over by high winds and fell on him as he was preparing to leave his farm for storm-watching duty.

## VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER DIES

### Blomkest's Erickson dies while on his way to storm-watching duty

By Jen Kotila  
West Central Tribune

### Blomkest

A Blomkest volunteer firefighter who was on his way to storm-watching duty died Thursday evening as a result of the storms that passed through west central Minnesota.

Ryan Leif Erickson, 63, was identified Friday afternoon by Kandiyohi County Sheriff Eric Holien as the victim of Thursday night's storm.

Erickson died in the line of duty when a large grain bin was blown over by the high winds and fell on him as he was preparing to leave his



Erickson

farm to monitor storms.

The Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office received the call to the rural Lake Lillian address at approximately 7 p.m. Thursday reporting Erickson missing after the bin blew down, according to a news release from the Sheriff's Office.

Emergency responders arrived to search and discovered Erickson under the collapsed grain bin, according to the news release. Erickson's body was transported to the Midwest

Medical Examiner's Office in Ramsey.

Erickson was very involved in the Blomkest community, and had been since he was young man. He became a volunteer firefighter at 18 years old, according to Blomkest City Clerk Barbara Gilberts. He was also a former fire chief, serving in that position for approximately five years.

He was also the former owner of Erickson Plumbing and Heating, but sold his business recently and was working at Perkins Lumber, according to Gilberts.

ERICKSON: Page A2

## Carris Health changes its name

Name change to CentraCare will not involve loss of staff in Willmar, other locations

By Linda Vanderwerf  
West Central Tribune

WILLMAR — Carris Health has announced that it will be changing its name to CentraCare, beginning June 1.

Carris Health was created in 2018, a partnership of health care providers in Willmar, New London and Redwood Falls. It has operated as a CentraCare subsidiary with an emphasis on rural health care.

CentraCare is a nonprofit organization with hospitals in eight cities and more than 30 clinics, when Carris Health is included.

The name change reflects a cohesive focus as Carris Health and CentraCare have developed shared processes and strategies, including creating a Rural Health Division developed in 2021, according to a news release from CentraCare.

"CentraCare and Carris Health were already connected through our common culture, purpose and mission," Ken Holmen, president and CEO, said in the release. "Now, we will also be connected through one unified name — CentraCare."

Dr. Cindy Firkins Smith, senior vice president of rural health for CentraCare, said the partnership has helped providers give their

HEALTH: Page A9

## A smooth ride requires money, maintenance



Shelby Lindrud / West Central Tribune

Maintenance work, such as reclamation, overlay and crack sealing, help keep Kandiyohi County roads in above average driving condition. A project on County Road 41 in Willmar, pictured on Tuesday, is scheduled to begin on Monday.

### Kandiyohi County preparing for construction on County Road 41

By Shelby Lindrud  
West Central Tribune

WILLMAR — Every two years staff from the state's Office of Materials and Road Research drive every single state and federal aid road to grade the road's ride quality index, or how smooth the ride is on that particular roadway. That Minnesota Department of Transportation office then gives each county a report card on its road conditions.

"Drivers want a smooth road," said Kandiyohi County Public Works Director Mel

Odens, speaking May 4 at the Kandiyohi County Board's road and bridge meeting. "What do you consider a good road?"

The most recent road quality index report showed that 75 percent of Kandiyohi County roads are in average drivable condition, with ride quality indexes between 45 and 75. Another 23 percent are in above average condition, with indexes between 75 and 100. Only 2 percent of the county's state and federal aid roads are in the worst shape.

"The heart of the roads are above average," Odens said.

To keep roads in as good a condition as possible requires a constant stream of maintenance projects, ranging from complete road reconstruction

ROADS: Page A9

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**RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE**

Look for the keepsake section in Today's West Central Tribune

# ERICKSON

From Page A1

“He was very well-known because he took part in a lot of stuff. If there was something you needed a volunteer for, he was one of the first to volunteer,” Gilberts said, noting he

was a township board member and part of the rural electric board. “He was a promoter of small-town life. He loved his town and he was involved.”

She noted he was well-known for his creativity, and was always the last float in the Blomkest parade because of it. He also

loved golfing and could often be found on the golf course in his spare time, Gilberts added.

Erickson leaves behind his wife, Kelly, two grown daughters, and four grandchildren.

“For me, if you want to make a difference, you have to participate, and that’s what he did,” Gilberts said.

The Kandiyohi County Sheriff’s Office was assisted at the scene by the Blomkest Fire Department, Lake Lillian Ambulance, Willmar Fire Department, Kandiyohi County Rescue Squad, Kandiyohi County Emergency Management and the Atwater Police Department.

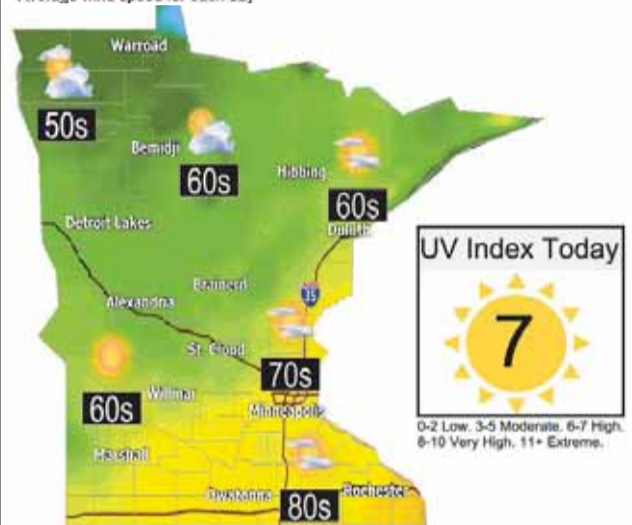


Jared Piepenburg, Jesse Ritka, Chief Meteorologist John Wheeler, Lydia Blume, Robert Poynter

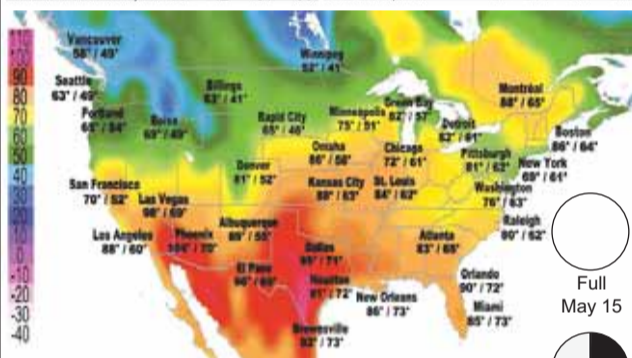
## StormTRACKER WILLMAR FORECAST

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
69/47 Sunny Wind: W 17 mph	71/47 Partly Cloudy Wind: W 16 mph	67/46 Mostly Sunny Wind: NW 18 mph	63/49 PM Showers Wind: E 10 mph
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
68/54 Partly Cloudy Wind: S 9 mph	71/55 PM Thunderstorms Wind: SW 14 mph	68/53 Isolated Thunderstorms Wind: NW 18 mph	63/47 Partly Cloudy Wind: NW 16 mph

\*Average wind speed for each day



Regional Weather	Today	Tomorrow	Regional Weather	Today	Tomorrow
Bemidji, MN	Hi 61, Lo 43	Hi 65, Lo 40	Marshall, MN	Hi 69, Lo 48	Hi 70, Lo 48
Duluth, MN	Hi 69, Lo 48	Hi 68, Lo 44	Minneapolis, MN	Hi 75, Lo 51	Hi 72, Lo 49
Eau Claire, WI	Hi 82, Lo 50	Hi 72, Lo 48	Rochester, MN	Hi 80, Lo 52	Hi 70, Lo 50
Fargo, ND	Hi 63, Lo 43	Hi 67, Lo 42	Sioux Falls, SD	Hi 72, Lo 52	Hi 70, Lo 49
International Falls, MN	Hi 63, Lo 42	Hi 61, Lo 38	St. Cloud, MN	Hi 70, Lo 48	Hi 69, Lo 47



### StormTRACKER Forecast

Sunny skies and breezy with highs in the mid to upper 60s.

Almanac Through 6 pm Friday

Temperature	High	Low
Friday	73°	59°
Avg. Wind Direction Friday	SW	
Peak Wind Speed Friday	24 mph	

Sunrise: 5:51 a.m. Moonrise: 7:08 p.m.  
Sunset: 8:41 p.m. Moonset: 5:30 a.m., May 15



### TODAY'S INFO

#### What's happening?

Do you know of something that might make a good story or photograph for the newspaper? Just give us a call at 320-235-1150, or stop in our office at 2208 Trott Ave. S.W., Willmar.

#### Corrections

If you have a question about accuracy of information in a news story, please call the news department at 320-235-1150.

If any corrections are necessary, they will be published on this page.

#### Lottery results

Winning numbers drawn Friday night are:  
Daily 3: 6-8-4  
Gopher 5: 3-14-26-40-42  
Northstar Cash: 14-15-18-21-24  
Mega Millions: 11-41-43-44-65  
Mega ball: 13  
Lucky for Life: 6-9-13-28-38  
Lucky ball: 18  
For more information, go to mn-lottery.com.

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Photos by Macy Moore / West Central Tribune

Lightning strikes illuminate the sky Thursday over the Middle Fork Crow River near Spicer. The storm brought down trees and infrastructure, causing multi-hour power outages in the area.

# WEATHER

From Page A1

The emergency manager reported a wide path of damage to houses, sheds and equipment on rural farmsteads in a path running from north of Madison toward Appleton.

The storms knocked out power throughout the county, and efforts were still underway Friday to restore power in a number of communities.

Sheriff Allen Anderson said Otter Tail Power estimates that it will take three days to fully restore power to all of those affected in its service area.

Winds knocked over grain bins at the Bellingham Elevator.

The county opened an emergency operations center after the storm. The County Board of Commissioners is holding an emergency meeting Sunday to seek a disaster declaration.

The winds also caused considerable damage in western Chippewa County. The straight-line winds blew over the Lac qui Parle State Park and caused damage to buildings at the Lac qui Parle Wildlife Headquarters.

The winds caused damage in the Canby area of western Yellow Medicine County, as well as other locations scattered about the county. Yellow Medicine County Sheriff Bill Flaten said restoring power and downed lines had been the focus of much of the recovery work on Friday.

### Swift County

Rural Swift County experienced widespread damage, with some of the worst damage in the Murdock area.

The wind storm brought widespread damage to the city of Benson, ripping shingles from roofs, tearing most of the roof off a house on Hall Avenue, and toppling trees throughout the community. Police Chief Ian Hodge estimates that about half of the taller pine trees in the community were destroyed.



John Zvorak of Otter Tail Power Company removes branches from power lines Friday morning in Murdock.

The Benson Fire Department contained a fire that erupted when a gas line apparently broke at the Case IH facility along U.S. Highway 12.

The storm's fury was felt most on the city's west side. The winds tore the roof off the old elevator over the seed storage area.

The storm knocked out power as trees fell on lines.

Benson Municipal Utilities fired up its backup generators around 8 p.m. Thursday and ran them until around 10 p.m. to provide emergency power after the city lost its outside power.

### Power outages

The storms left thousands of people throughout the region without power as winds knocked down power lines or dropped trees on them. Hardest hit were areas in the western portion of the state.

Agralite Cooperative, headquartered in Benson, reported extensive damages and outages throughout its entire system. Damages to the system included trees blown down on power lines, wind-snapped utility poles, and wind driven debris striking electric lines.

Agralite Cooperative crews were continuing to restore power in rural areas of Swift County on Friday. At mid-afternoon, the cooperative estimated that 65 percent of its customers were

without power and it was unsure when power would be fully restored.

More than 2,300 Xcel Energy customers in the New London area were without power Thursday night and Friday, as crews worked to restore downed lines and poles.

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, Willmar, was hoping to have its system fully restored by the end of the day Friday, but there will still be some work remaining Saturday. Ryan Nelson, CEO, said the cooperative's service crews worked late into the night Thursday and returned at daybreak.

The damage was widespread with trees and debris on lines. The worst of the damage was along a path running from southwest of Willmar to the Long Lake and Hawick areas.

### Renville County

Flooding along the Minnesota River is a concern in Renville County. Mike Hennen, emergency management director, said he will be asking the Board of Commissioners for an emergency declaration Tuesday.

The water level on the Minnesota River has led the county to close one bridge crossing it. There are also high-water problems on township and county roads in the river valley area, he said.

The emergency manager said he had also received reports

that winds caused significant damage to structures at the Buffalo Lake Central Cooperative facility in Buffalo Lake.

### Stevens County

With hundreds of power poles blown down by Thursday's storm, the majority of Stevens County remained without power Friday, according to Stevens County Sheriff Jason Dingman.

“Crews are working on it and making good progress,” Dingman said, noting that many homes were also damaged in the storm. Some of the damage to homes was severe, but most had light to moderate damage, he added.

There were also several commercial buildings damaged in the storm, including airport hangars in Morris, the Morris Fire Hall, the John Deere dealership, Riverview Dairy in rural Morris and numerous others, according to Dingman.

### Train derailment

Four rail cars derailed during the storms late Wednesday in Pennock, according to Lydia Underdahl of BNSF Railway.

At the time of the derailment, the train was stopped, and there were no injuries and no hazardous materials were involved.

As of 2:10 p.m. Friday, the incident scene had been cleared and BNSF's main line was back in service, according to Underdahl.

# Willmar School Board approves teacher contract

## Agreement includes salary, benefit increases of 10.48% over 2 years

By Linda Vanderwerf  
West Central Tribune

WILLMAR — The Willmar School Board approved a new contract for the district's teachers.

The agreement with Education Minnesota — Willmar includes a 10.48% increase in salary and benefits over two

years. It covers 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years.

The total cost of the contract is about \$3.25 million over the two years of the contract, said Human Resources Director Liz Windingsstad.

The salary increase is about 3% each year. The contract settle-

ment includes changes to the lanes in the salary schedule to equalize the changes from one lane to another.

The salary schedule determines pay in a steps-and-lanes grid. Those who complete post-graduate college credits can move into a new lane with higher pay. Each lane has steps

with raises given for years of experience.

In the previous contract, salary differences between steps were adjusted to make them more even, Windingstad said.

In this contract, the differences between lanes were adjusted. For that reason, raises could vary this year as the

adjustments are made, Windingstad said.

Several changes in contract language were made.

The rules on determining seniority in the event of staff layoffs were changed in the contract. Bonuses offered to employees who do not use their personal leave days during a school

year were adjusted. The bonuses are paid into employees health savings accounts or retirement accounts.

The equivalent of 364 full-time teachers are employed by the district. Because some teachers are part-time, the number of teachers is higher. It is the largest employee group.

### BRIEFS

### Motorcyclist dies south of Benson on Thursday evening

BENSON — A Benson man died when he lost control of his motorcycle on Minnesota Highway 29 south of Benson around 8:19 p.m. Thursday.

Michael Allen Fifield, 49, was identified by the Minnesota State Patrol as the victim.

He was driving a 1997 Kawasaki motorcycle northbound on Highway 29 at 60th Street Southeast in Cashel Township of Swift County when he lost control and entered the ditch, according to the Minnesota State Patrol.

Alcohol was not a factor, and he was not wearing a helmet, according to the report.

The crash remains under investigation. The accident report lists the

weather conditions at the time of the accident as severe wind and rain.

The Swift County Sheriff's Office and Benson Fire, Ambulance and Police responded.

### County Road 41 to close Monday

WILLMAR — County Road 41 in Willmar be closed starting Monday, May 16, from Park Avenue to Kandiyohi County Road 24.

According to the Kandiyohi County Public Works Department, construction crews will begin removing the road surface Monday and will continue for the next several weeks with construction operations on the road commonly referred to as the radio station road.

During construction, the road will be open only for access to adjacent residents and busi-

nesses. According to the news release, Rau Park and the east entrance to the Kandiyohi County Fairgrounds and KRA Speedway will also be closed at this time.

A detour will be in place for all other traffic.

Weather permitting, the road is expected to be open to traffic by July.

West Central Tribune

### Willmar City Council to meet Monday

WILLMAR — Willmar City Council at its meeting Monday, May 16, will be considering whether or not to approve a country music festival to take place at Robbins Island on Saturday, Sept. 10.

According to the agenda materials, the request from Steve Peppin would be for an event to run from 4 to 10 p.m. He met with city staff and

provided information on liquor sales, private security, traffic control, etc.

If council approves, a lease agreement for the festival would include that estimated city costs of \$12,300 be paid to the city up front, including insurance, security, sanitation and damage deposit.

Other items on the agenda Monday include welcoming the new city operations director Kyle Box, a discussion regarding Willmar Meals on Wheels, setting a public hearing for assessments for street projects, rescheduling the public hearing for MinnWest Technology Campus' abatement request and considering members for the newly created Mayor's Housing Task Force

The full agenda and other materials can be

found on the city website at willmarmn.gov.

The council meets at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the board room at the Kandiyohi County Health & Human Services Building in Willmar.

Jennifer Kotila

### Kandiyohi County Board to meet Tuesday

WILLMAR — The Kandiyohi County Board of Commissioners is set to begin its search for a new county administrator at its meeting on Tuesday. Current administrator Larry Kleindl will be retiring in early 2023.

The board meeting is at 9 a.m. Tuesday, May 17, in the board room of the Kandiyohi County Health & Human Services Building in Willmar.

The board will hear two presentations from the county Human Resour-

ces Department regarding options for the search. The county can either run the search itself or hire an outside search firm.

Also on the meeting agenda are a resolution to approve the county all-hazard mitigation plan, approval of the 2023 budget timeline, and a resolution to approve an application for ballot drop boxes.

The commissioners will also meet in a work session, starting at about 10:15 a.m., to discuss the funding the county received from the American Rescue Plan Act. The work session will include discussion about timelines, eligible uses, what the county has already spent and what is left, commissioner recommendations and priorities.

Shelby Lindrud

# Minn. GOP delegates will endorse candidates by electronic vote

By Alex Derosier  
West Central Tribune

ROCHESTER, Minn. — Delegates to the Minnesota Republican Party's state convention will vote electronically after a controversy over the voting system threatened the party's candidate endorsement process for statewide offices such as governor and attorney general.

Ahead of the convention in Rochester, Minnesota, some campaigns asserted paper ballots would ensure greater integrity in the voting process than an electronic ballot voting system. Minnesota Republican Party Chairman David Hann said the claims were a ploy to disrupt the convention.

"They're doing so because they know it'll make it likely impossible to endorse a candidate," Hann told delegates Friday, May 13, as they took up the issue for debate on the floor of the convention.

Some delegates in favor of paper ballots said it would be hypocritical of Republicans to use electronic voting as many candidates are skeptical of electronic voting and campaigning on promises to ensure "election integrity."

Ultimately the convention overwhelmingly backed electronic voting in a standing vote on the convention floor.

The start of the convention Friday morning was delayed, and the original 10 a.m. start time pushed back past 11:30 a.m. as organizers struggled to register attendees on schedule, a majority of whom are attending the state convention for the first time, according to a GOP poll.

Besides the six candidates for governor, the roughly 2,200 delegates were set to vote on party endorsements for attorney general, secretary of state and auditor. There are a total of 13 candidates in the four separate contests, and delegates



Convention co-chair Sen. David J. Osmek speaks at the Minnesota State Republican Convention on Friday at Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, Minnesota.

have until 6 p.m. Saturday to make endorsements.

It's likely the delegates will have to vote multiple times to reach the 60% support threshold for an endorsement, but as the convention opened there was some indication that some of the delegation could delay the endorsement process with a fight over the convention's voting rules.

### The candidates

Republican candidates for governor have pledged to honor their party's endorsement. That means the one who gets the most votes from delegates would be the party's candidate on the ballot in the primary election Aug. 9. The winner of the primary would run against incumbent Democratic-Farmer-Labor Gov. Tim Walz in November.

Candidates vying for the GOP governor endorsement in 2022 include former Minnesota Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka; Scott Jensen, a family practice physician and former senator who opposes vaccine and mask mandates, and Kendall Qualls, a businessman running as a political outsider.

Other candidates include former Hennepin County Sheriff Rich Stanek, Lexington Mayor Mike Murphy, and Neil Shah, a physician who opposes COVID-19 vaccination mandates. State

Sen. Michelle Benson withdrew from the race at the end of April.

Four of the five candidates for attorney general are seeking the endorsement at the convention: 2018 candidate and MyPillow general counsel Doug Wardlow, attorney Jim Schultz, former judge Tad Jude and attorney Lynne Torgerson. Candidate Dennis Smith is not seeking the convention endorsement.

The endorsement process for state auditor



Photos by Traci Westcott / Post Bulletin

Thousands attend the Minnesota State Republican Convention Friday at Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, Minnesota.

and secretary of state is expected to be a more straightforward affair. The auditor endorsement is uncontested, with Ryan Wilson set to receive the endorsement Friday afternoon. Kim Crockett and Kelly Jahn-Byrne are the only two candidates seeking the Republican endorsement for secretary of state.

Delegates are likely to take up endorsements for secretary of state

and attorney general on Friday and governor on Saturday.

### Affiliate groups

On Thursday the state central committee for the Republican party failed to vote on recertifying GOP-affiliate groups, putting their status of being able to participate as delegates at the convention in jeopardy. Those affiliates include groups such as the Log Cabin Republicans, an LGBT Republi-

can group, and the Young Republicans.

Many delegates with GOP-affiliate groups had already traveled to the convention and had planned to participate before the state party effectively removed their affiliate status. Ultimately delegates voted to allow the affiliate groups to participate in the endorsement process.

Follow Alex Derosier on Twitter @xanderosier or email aderosier@forumcomm.com.

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## AMERICAN OPINION

### Gov. Greg Abbott has gone too far on migrant children

Gov. Abbott, you have gone too far. When you made securing the border a key public initiative and spent billions of dollars in taxpayer funds, we were reluctant to criticize you, despite questionable execution of your plans and thin results in return.

We agreed with you time and again that the federal government has done too little for too long to slow the flow of thousands of migrants a day across the southern border. We called for better enforcement and greater resources for the humane and timely processing of asylum claims.

But we cannot accept this cruel and short-sighted suggestion that Texas should challenge long-established law that requires the state to provide a public education to unauthorized immigrant children.

You are not wrong, governor, that the federal government should share in the cost. The burden should not fall squarely on taxpayers in border states. Had you stopped there in your comments and thoughts, you likely would have had our support.

But in the safe embrace of right-wing radio, where going too far is never far enough, you revealed a far more concerning thought — one that would be harmful to children, to Texas, to the United States and to the home countries that immigrants fled in fear of violence and in hope of a life not defined by threats and poverty.

You are wrong, governor, politically, legally and morally that Texas should challenge Plyler v. Doe and attempt to upend the precedent requiring the education of unauthorized immigrant children.

Politically, you wandered well outside the mainstream, where we believe most Texans will not follow you. Further, you lent credence to precisely what Justice Samuel Alito, in his leaked draft opinion overturning Roe v. Wade, went to great pains to write would not happen, and that is the idea that long-established precedents of the court would be subject to the same scrutiny being given to Roe.

Conservatives who oppose Roe can now watch you be cited as the first example of that very thing happening.

Legally, you failed to recognize that Justice William Brennan and a court majority were correct in their interpretation of the law in Plyler that immigrant children are indeed people “in any ordinary sense of the term” and are entitled to protection under the 14th Amendment.

Brennan was also right when he wrote that education plays “a fundamental role in maintaining the fabric of our society.” It is a basic tool by which “individuals might lead economically productive lives to the benefit of us all.”

Morally, you have called on Texans to turn our backs on those who can most benefit, not only themselves but Texas and the world, from education. The large majority of Texans will not accept that.

We believe in a secure border. We believe in the right of nations to enforce the law when it comes to immigration.

But, governor, at long last, sir, enough is enough.

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### The pendulum is swinging back, reversing freedoms and civil rights

By Rebecca L. Davis  
Los Angeles Times

The leaked Supreme Court opinion by Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr., which would overturn Roe v. Wade, marks a devastating setback for reproductive justice in the United States. It also highlights how bound up the right to abortion is with other fundamental sexual freedoms and civil rights. Whatever happens in the wake of this likely decision, we are already witnessing the undoing of more than a century of successful efforts to expand and protect individual rights to sexual and gender self-expression.

A decision nullifying Roe could threaten protections for other sexual rights. The majority opinion in Roe in 1973 relied on a right to privacy first established in Griswold v. Connecticut (1965), which lifted a state ban on contraceptive access for married people. Recognition of a right to privacy also underpinned the court's decision in Lawrence v. Texas (2003) to overturn state anti-sodomy statutes. The majority opinion in Obergefell v. Hodges (2015) likewise cited a right to privacy among its reasons for requiring all states to legalize marriages for same-sex couples. All those cases marked wins for individual liberty, human rights and civil rights.

Whether or not federal protection for abortion rights disappears this year, the erosion of sexual freedoms is already well underway. Although a majority of Americans support abortion rights, several states have passed extraordinarily restrictive abortion laws. School boards have banned books with LGBTQ content. And state legislatures have authorized retaliation against transgender people and their allies — even investigating the parents of children who receive trans-affirming health care.

It is not a historical accident that a likely Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe has coincided with these other assaults on sexual freedom and gender identity. The legal right to abortion is but one issue — if a critical one — at the heart of a much larger struggle for sexual autonomy.

That struggle took shape in the wake of another devastating attack: the passage of the Comstock Act in 1873, championed by Anthony Comstock of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice. Officially the Act for the Suppression of Trade in, and Circulation of, Obscene Literature and Articles of Immoral Use, the law prohibited sending “obscene, lewd, or lascivious” items through the U.S. mail or across state lines. The act defined reproductive technologies and all printed material about contraception as obscene.

Many states had started to outlaw abortion procedures in the 1850s, often due to pressure from (male) physicians determined to undermine a measure typically provided by (female) midwives. The Comstock Act made even the possession of abortifacients a federal crime.

Prudish, sanctimonious and often cruel, Comstock was a “fire and brimstone” Protestant who considered any sex outside of marital reproduction to be sinful. He succeeded in convincing the federal government to impose his religious values on all Americans.

But Comstock's law did not affirm the status quo. It sought to thwart increasingly permissive sexual values.

Contrary to caricatures of the era, the 19th-century United States was not prudish about sex. A prolific pornography industry enjoyed unprecedented success. Bigamy and divorce had become more common, and Indiana served as the “divorce mill” that Nevada would become decades later. Same-sex couples and queer people lived openly in communities where what mattered was not whether someone conformed to a strict sexual morality but whether they caused any trouble for their neighbors. Most people placed a high premium on privacy.

When Comstock and Congress determined that they had the authority to decide which kinds of sex were moral, and which were not, they upended that equilibrium by authorizing agents of the state to police Americans' erotic and reproductive lives.

A century of activism defending the individual's right to sexual self-expression followed. Across multiple movements and battlegrounds, activists have made clear that an overwhelming majority of Americans wanted to make their own decisions about their sexual desires and relationships.

Birth control activists distributed informational pamphlets and opened clinics in defiance of Comstock's bans on contraception. Lawyers and advocates gradually won carve-outs for physician-directed birth control and the sale of condoms. Bar owners and LGBT activists fought back in court and in the streets against liquor boards and vice squads, eventually refuting the idea that a gathering of LGBT people was by definition obscene. Filmmakers, publishers and others challenged the government's censorship powers. And by the 1960s, activists took direct aim at laws that criminalized abortion, insisting that sexual freedoms were meaningless if women could not make decisions about whether to carry a pregnancy to term.

Many of us who have benefited from those movements have grown to adulthood expecting to be able to express our gender identities, our sexual desires and our reproductive decisions according to our own consciences. The revelation of the draft opinion to overturn abortion rights should animate anyone in the U.S. who values sexual freedoms. The decision would impose a minority's interpretation of Christian morality on the nation and render all non-marital non-reproductive sexual expressions vulnerable to policing and prosecution.

The activism that undid the Comstock Act transformed American culture. It ingrained values of sexual autonomy across our social institutions, laws and popular culture. Americans today overwhelmingly support marriage equality, access to contraception, comprehensive sex education and abortion, and they consume sexually explicit material in staggering quantities. In a country where we have grown so accustomed to seeing our sexuality as a core part of our humanity — and as an arena of freedom and expressiveness — we can only hope that it will require far less than a century to undo the damage of an end to Roe.

Rebecca L. Davis, a professor of history at the University of Delaware, is the author of “Public Confessions: The Religious Conversions That Changed American Politics” and is writing a history of sexuality in the U.S. ©2022 Los Angeles Times. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

### It's time to learn how to occupy the center politics

The right-wing takeover of the Republican Party, symbolized by the end of Roe v. Wade, offers the Democrats the rare opportunity so artfully exploited by



SUSAN ESTRICH

President Emmanuel Macron in France: that is, the chance to occupy the middle of the political spectrum. Ideologues may wring their hands, but the general rule in American politics is that the center holds. That

is, clearly, how Joe Biden won and how Barack Obama and Bill Clinton each won twice. They did not win by writing off the middle the way the Republican Party is doing right now.

Gov. Gavin Newsom asked the right question: Where is the Democratic Party?

Listen to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. She isn't just talking about abortion. She's talking about the whole host of issues that fall under the rubrics of reproductive freedom, sexual autonomy, personal privacy. That is the middle talking. Deciding to terminate a pregnancy is just a small part of the picture, taking away that right is the first tear in the fabric of freedom.

The Republican Party self-consciously defined itself as the party of family values, which they turned into a straitjacket that left most modern families out. But did we take them on, or did we cower, afraid that being pro-woman somehow made us anti-family? I know. I was there.

We have been on the defensive since day one — engaged in trench warfare, fighting for every inch of protection, organizing and then litigating, decade after decade, fighting for the rights of the poor and disenfranchised who have always been the first to have no choice at all.

In what kind of family is the victim of incest required to bear a child? What family is that?

In what kind of family is a 14-year-old rape victim expected to become a mother and raise her rapist's child?

In what kind of family should a woman be forced to carry to term a pregnancy inconsistent with life? Imagine receiving that kind of diagnosis and then being told that the state, not you and your doctor and your family, decides what happens next?

In what kind of family does a state legislator know better than a woman and her doctor and her family?

And Donald Trump? This is the man who is the standard-bearer for the paragons of virtue? How can that be?

We tried. We pushed and cajoled. I will never forget working with “the women” to put reproductive freedom in the party platform for the first time, 1980. That's where the Democratic Party has been.

But we lost. We lost the 2016 election, and we lost the Senate, and we lost the court. And now we must put aside what divides us as Democrats, put aside ideological purity in favor of family values, turning the Democratic Party into the big tent that Republicans never could create, so beholden were they to the right. We cannot repeat their mistakes. If the center holds, we Democrats win, and there is no reason that it should not. If we let it.

Susan Estrich can be reached at sestrich@wctrib.com.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Knights of Columbus

WILLMAR — The Knights of Columbus will serve an omelet breakfast from 8 a.m. to noon Sunday, May 15, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Willmar. Adult tickets are \$12, ages 8-16 are \$6, under 8 are free, with a family maximum of \$30. Cash or checks only.

Church Calendar submissions should be emailed to news@wctrib.com with "Church event from (name of church)" in the subject line. Church news will be printed each Saturday for all events within the next 15 days. The deadline is noon Wednesday. Topics include suppers, festivals, auctions and bazaars to raise money; monthly meetings, programs and visiting musicians outside of regular services. Special speakers and musicians during Sunday morning services will not be published.

# The solidarity in The Lord's Prayer

Our church council meets one night per month to discuss business and ministry. Council members are elected from our parishioners and serve (more or less willingly!) for a few years to guide the church's operations.

One of my favorite moments as a pastor each month is that at the close of the council meeting, the 10 of us stand and together recite "The Lord's Prayer."

The prayer is dear to Christians because Jesus, the son of God, teaches us to pray in this fashion. And while there are variations depending upon the Christian denomination,



DEVLYN BROOKS  
Finding Faith

the prayer has remained fairly consistent in wording for hundreds of years:

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory

forever and ever. Amen."

It has been reported that Fuller Seminary professor Clayton Schmit said of "The Lord's Prayer": "there is a sense of solidarity in knowing that Christians around the globe are praying together ... and these words always unite us."

And that is why this moment at the end of the meeting gives me chills: After we adjourn, we all rise, fold our hands and in unison recite the prayer.

In that moment, there is electricity in the air; the space around us grows still; and all the other worldly sounds disappear. Time gets suspended, and as we pray, the 10 of us

inexplicably through God's will are united with all of the other faithful people in the world ... past, present and yet to come!

To hear the various timbres, tones and variations spoken of these holy servants, together in one voice lifting up this ancient and common prayer asking God to be present among us and to care for the corporate needs of the entire body of Christ ... is breathtaking.

Standing in our church library, after having witnessed the council members take time out of hectic schedules to do the work of the church, and then see this small group reaffirm their faith in an abundant and

loving God is nothing short of holy.

They become as one, and none of their differences matter as much as the fact that they are reaching out together in supplication to their beloved God. ... Just as saints before them have for hundreds of years, and the saints after them will for hundreds more!

That moment stirs joy in my heart every single month, no matter how many times I participate in it!

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

## Man shall not live by bread alone

One of the popular topics that readers contact me about are concerns associated with food shortages and higher costs. I realize that no one has a crystal ball to see into the future, but we have plenty of websites that are encouraging everyone to stockpile food and water.

The prepping movement has been warning the public for years to prepare for such a crisis and, of course, many have created profitable businesses by selling everything a person would need if something like this were to happen. I'm sure many of you are like us that have friends and family members who have food and water reserves, and my wife and I believe it's wise to have some extra provisions in case of an emergency.

The prices of food and fuel are rising, and many families are feeling even more financial stress. I'm involved with a weekly food distribution ministry in my hometown where we receive food from area grocery stores and a local co-op three times a week, then we give it out to homeless shelters, the elderly and those in need.

Our team has a burden to make sure that everyone in our community can at least have something good to eat. It's one thing to tell someone to be blessed and something else to activate our faith and make sure they have the provisions they need. Jesus said in Matthew 25 that when you give to the needy, you have given to Him.

We know that political wars and sanctions can disrupt food chains, as weather, plant diseases, fuel and fertilizer costs, and pestilences can also contribute to shortages. By the way, I've often wondered why governments pay farmers not to grow their crops.

We read in Matthew 24:6 about the scarcity of food, "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places." And Revelation chapter 6 talks about a quart of wheat costing a day's wage and implies there will be a time when war and famine will give way to inflation due to supply and demand.

For those who love God, we know we can trust Him in the difficult times and that He hears our prayers and will provide for our needs. Paul related in Philippians chapter 4 about maintaining

contentment and being at peace with God in times of need or prosperity.

There is an amazing story found in I Kings chapter 17 where God

intervened for the prophet Elijah and miraculously provided food and water. The Lord commanded ravens to bring him meat and bread twice each day and also supplied him with fresh water from a brook called Cherith.

When fear surrounds us and life feels uncertain, it's easy to doubt that our Creator is really with us, but the same God who is with us during good times is the same God who is with us during times of uncertainty. This example should encourage us to know that He is always watching over us and desires to take care of us like we take care of our own children.

In closing, may we remember that famines and food shortages are not only about empty shelves at our local market, but there is also a spiritual famine happening today with God's word and it will only become worse. Most people are not really interested in having their conscience being convicted of sin, but believe there is no such thing as a universal standard of divine truth.

Even many religious individuals would rather listen to inspirational messages that compromise and justify living however they want. Things that are socially accepted today would have been an outrage in the Christian world just 50 years ago.

Instead of God's followers taking a stand and defending His foundational realities, the majority now makes excuses and negotiates to make everyone happy. II Timothy chapter 4 warned us this would happen, and it has.

John 6:33-35 Jesus says, "For the bread of God is he which comes down from heaven, and gives life unto the world. Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that comes to me shall never hunger; and he that believes on me shall never thirst."

And in Matthew 4:4, "But he answered, it is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Dr. William F. "Billy" Holland Jr. is an ordained minister, community chaplain and author of the "Living on Purpose" faith column. He lives in central Kentucky with his wife, Cheryl. Read more at billyhollandministries.com.

## Photographer gives pope famous 'Napalm Girl' picture

By Philip Pulella  
Reuters

VATICAN CITY - Award-winning photographer Nick Ut on Wednesday gave Pope Francis one of the 20th century's most famous and consequential news pictures, that of a 9-year old Vietnamese girl running naked from a napalm attack in 1972.

The girl in the picture, Phan Thi Kim Phuc, now 59, also was at the pontiff's general audience in St. Peter's Square and both chatted with him for a few minutes.

Ut, 71, who as working for the Associated Press at the time, won numerous awards for the photo, called "The Terror of War" but sometimes referred to as the "Napalm Girl." They included the 1973 Pulitzer Prize.

The attack near Kim Phuc's village was carried out by Vietnamese forces. She tore off her burning clothes and ran. Ut and other photographers took her to a hospital.

The photo ran on the front pages of many newspapers in the United States, and its brutal imagery became a powerful force in the anti-war movement around the world.

Audio tapes of White House conversations released in 2002



Vatican Media / Handout via Reuters

Photographer Nick Ut shows to Pope Francis his 1972 picture "The Terror of War", also known as the "Napalm Girl", next to a woman, left, featured in the picture as a child, during the weekly general audience Wednesday at the Vatican.

by the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration revealed that then-President Richard Nixon was so concerned about the effect the photo could have against the Vietnam war that he wondered if it was a fake.

Francis opposes all forms of war. In the past, he has given visitors a picture showing a Japanese boy carrying his dead

brother after the atomic bomb blast at Nagasaki in 1945.

Kim Phuc moved to Canada after the war and is now a UNESCO ambassador. Ut moved to Los Angeles and became a Hollywood photographer. She and Ut are in Italy for an exhibition of his pictures called "From Hell to Hollywood."

# CHURCH LISTINGS

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Youth Website: www.epik.us  
Sunday Services: 9 & 11 am  
Online Sunday Services 9 & 11 am  
WRAC-8 Channel 180 Cable 9 & 11 am  
Also Friday at 11 am and 8 pm

**ROCK OF LIFE CHURCH**  
1708 8th St SW, Willmar  
320-235-3060 willmarcrg@gmail.com  
rockoflifecrg.org  
Pastor: Jeff Vanderhooft, Youth Pastor Travis Berry  
Sunday: Worship Service - 10:00 am  
Fresh Encounters Prayer Service - 4:00 pm  
Monday: Open Rock - 6:30 pm  
Tuesday: Burgers & Brats - 6:00 pm  
Wednesday: HS Solid Rock - 7:00 pm at Unity  
Please visit our website for updated information

**FIRST COVENANT CHURCH**  
801 Willmar Ave SW, Willmar  
320-235-3010 office@fccwillmar.org

Sun: Worship in Worship Center & YouTube Live Stream at 9 am  
Wed 6:30 pm: Children's Family Ministry (Fellowship Hall)  
Wed 6 - 7:30 pm: D/C - Junior High (the LOFT)  
Wed 7 - 8:30 pm: Senior High (the LOFT)

**LIVING HOPE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**  
1305 19th Ave SW, Willmar  
320-235-4317 skelly@efreewillmar.org  
www.livinghopewillmar.org  
Pastor: David Capistrant  
-Saturday-  
1 pm Engaging with God  
-Sunday-  
9 am Discipleship Hour (all ages)  
10:30 am In-Person/Livestream Worship Gathering  
10:30 am Senior Grad Commissioning  
2 pm In-Person/Livestream Spanish Esperanza Viva Worship Gathering  
-Monday-  
All day Living Hope Fasting & Prayer  
-Thursday-  
9 am White Cross  
3 pm Prayer Matters  
6 pm Hope 4 Recovery  
-Friday-  
6:30 am Men's Bible Study  
8 am-5 pm Mom's Munchkin Market - Rummage sale  
-Saturday-  
8 am to noon Mom's Munchkin Market continues  
More Resources and Updates at livinghopewillmar.org

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)**  
411 Becker Avenue SW, Willmar  
320-235-5450 elizabeth@bethelinwillmar.org  
www.bethelwillmar.org  
Pastor: Jonathan Dahl, Kathy Hartley, Bob Dahl  
Visit us on the web for more information!  
www.bethelwillmar.org  
Sunday: 9:15 am Worship Service  
In-Person and Livestreamed on Facebook  
Wednesday: 10:00 am Worship Service  
Services on WRAC 180 Sundays: 1:30 & 6:30 pm & Tuesdays: 9 am & 6 pm

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA**  
302 Olena Ave, Willmar  
320-235-2508 calvarylutheran@calvarywillmar.org  
www.calvarywillmar.org  
Pastor: Naomi Mahler, Dean E. Johnson, David Severtson, Ingrid Skilbred  
Faith Formation Coordinator: Janet Skindeliien  
-Saturday-  
5:30 PM Chapel Worship  
-Sunday-  
8:00 AM & 10:15 AM Worship  
Sunday Worship Services can also be found on the following:  
Radio - KWLM (1340AM & 96.3FM) at 10:45 AM  
TV - WRAC 181 Tuesdays at 9:30 AM, 6:30 PM and the following Sunday at 1 PM & 8 PM  
YouTube - at Calvary Lutheran Church Willmar or follow the links on our Website home page

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**  
1401 6th St SW, Willmar  
320-235-4685 ischroeder@redeemerwillmar.org  
Pastor: Rev. Matthew Canion  
Rachel Jeppesen - Preschool Director/Teacher  
Cassie Drenkow - DCE  
www.redeemerwillmar.org  
Sat., 7 am Men's Bible Study  
Sat., 9 am Women's Bible Study  
Sun., 6 am Lutheran Hour  
8 & 10:30 am Worship Service w/Lord's Supper and Graduate Recognition  
9 am Sundae Sunday & Bingo  
9:15 am Small Groups  
11:30 am Potluck  
Mon., 10 am Staff Meeting  
7 pm Scouts  
Wed., 6:00 pm Supper  
6:30 pm Last Confirmation  
Thurs., 6:00 pm Preschool Graduation/Musical

**VINJE LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)**  
1101 Willmar Ave SW, Willmar  
320-235-1441 vinje@vinjechurch.com  
www.vinjechurch.com  
Pastor: Justin Ask, Dane Skilbred, Andres Albertsen & Erika Buller  
All Are Welcome  
Sunday: 9:30 am Worship  
Please tune into KWLM (1340AM) at 9:30 am on Sundays or find recordings of all services on Vinje's Website.

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www.theopendoorc.com  
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Main Campus: 12720 51st St. NE, Spicer  
North 40 Campus: 516 4th Ave. SW, New London  
Admin Campus: 17 Ash St. NE, New London  
Sundays: Worship 8:45 & 10:30 am at Main Campus  
Live streamed on Facebook, YouTube and www.theopendoorc.com/live  
Tuesdays: Men's Group 6:00 am at Admin Campus Basement  
Women's Group 6:00 am at North 40 Campus  
Young Adults 7:00 pm at Main Campus  
Wednesdays: PreK-4th Grade 6:00-7:30 pm at Main Campus  
Adult Study 6:00-7:30 pm at Main Campus (Hillside Bldg.)  
7-12th Grade 6:00-8:00 pm at North 40 Campus  
Fridays: Recovery Church 7:00-8:30 pm at North 40 Campus

# 2 deaths reported as storms sweep across Minn., SD

By Andrew Krueger  
MPR News

ST. PAUL — At least two people died as severe storms packing winds in excess of 100 miles per hour swept across eastern South Dakota and much of western and central Minnesota on Thursday.

One person died near Blomkest, Minn., south of Willmar. The Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office said deputies were called to a home at about 7 p.m. Thursday "about a missing adult male in the area of where a large grain bin had just blown over by storms."

"Emergency responders arrived and began a search which eventually led to the discovery of the deceased man under the collapsed grain bin," the sheriff's office reported in a news release. The man's name has not been released.

The Argus Leader reported at least one person died in Sioux Falls, S.D., as storms moved through that area. KELO-TV reported there also were people critically injured as the storms moved through South Dakota.

More than 70,000 homes and businesses remained without power across the region early Friday as damage assessment and cleanup continued after the second straight night of widespread severe weather.

The National Weather Service office in the Twin Cities said it was sending two survey teams to western Minnesota to assess the damage — including whether any of it may have been caused by tornadoes.



Storm clouds hover over Birch Avenue in Milton, Minnesota, on Thursday evening in this submitted photo. Severe thunderstorms surged through Minnesota and South Dakota on Thursday, causing widespread damage and fatalities.



A fallen tree crashed into this boat in Verndale, Minnesota, on Thursday as a powerful storm ripped through the area.

## Hurricane-force winds

There were several reports of funnel clouds and possible tornadoes

on Thursday — including one near Pillager in central Minnesota, and another at Castlewood in eastern South Dakota.

But widespread, hurricane-force straight-line winds appear to have caused most of the damage.

A weather station at Tripp, S.D. — southwest of Sioux Falls — reported a wind gust of 107 mph as storms moved through Thursday afternoon.

A 102 mph wind gust was reported near Gary, S.D. — near the Minnesota state line. Wind gusts of 94 mph were reported at the airport in Madison, Minn., as well as at Verndale, Minn., in Wadena County, on Thursday evening. A weather station at Alexandria, Minn., reported an 87 mph gust.

Those winds picked up dirt from farm fields, creating a dust cloud as

the storm front swept across eastern South Dakota and into western Minnesota. Ominous, rolling shelf clouds rolled across much of the state.

The winds caused widespread damage to buildings, power lines and trees across the region.

A dispatch to the National Weather Service on Thursday night from near Long Prairie in Todd County, Minn., reported "house fine, shed and barn missing at the moment. Trees and power lines down all over the county."

Airplane hangers were damaged at the airport in Morris, Minn.

A spotter report from Chokio, Minn., noted "power poles snapped at

base, live wires, 3.5 feet in circumference trees snapped and on houses."

Building damage also was reported in Osakis, Alexandria and Hollo-way, among other Minnesota communities.

The strong winds also overturned semis along Interstate 94 near Alexandria, forcing a closure of the eastbound lanes. The freeway has since reopened — though there are ongoing reports of flooding covering some roads in central and western Minnesota due to heavy rain.

Heavy rain also was reported in northeast Minnesota, where a flood warning is now in effect until next Tuesday for the North Shore as rivers are running extremely high.

The National Weather Service says 1 to 2 inches of rain fell overnight, adding to rivers already swollen by past rainfall and snowmelt. River gauges along the North Shore are showing a sharp uptick in water levels, and Cook County is reporting some wash-outs along county roads.

Authorities are asking residents and visitors along the North Shore to use extra caution around the fast-moving water.

Flood warnings also continue in the Rainy River basin along the Canadian border, and in the Red River valley.

The Twin Cities metro area — which was hit hard by severe storms on Wednesday night — was largely spared by Thursday night's storms. Winds gusted to 53 mph at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport as storms moved through late Thursday.

# Powerful storm causes widespread damage in Alexandria area

By Al Edenloff

Alexandria Echo Press

ALEXANDRIA — A severe thunderstorm with wind gusts of 80 miles per hour ripped through Douglas County Thursday night, May 12.

Accompanied by sheets of rain, the winds toppled decades-old trees, power lines, transformers, boat lifts, sheds and other structures.

One of the hardest hit areas was South Darling Drive NW, where houses were flattened, boats turned over, roofs torn away, a camper tipped over, and vehicles were damaged.

The National Weather Service is sending a team to the Alexandria area today to survey the reports of damage it's received. A wind gust of 87 mph was reported by a sensor on I-94 near Alexandria, and a wind gust of 72 mph was recorded at the Alexandria airport Thursday night, according to Michelle Margraf, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in the Twin Cities.

Damage to buildings and/or downed trees were reported in Alexandria, Garfield, Osakis and Carlos.

The National Weather Service will have more information after the survey is completed.

Along Donna Drive, Darling Drive and Meadow Lane in northwest Alexandria, dozens of trees in soggy soil were uprooted. Many of them toppled into the street.

A home at the corner of Donna Drive and Meadow Lane was ripped apart. The wind blew away the roof, some siding and col-



A boat overturned, a garage collapsed and trees went through a house on South Lake Darling Drive owned by Chad and Heidi Schroeder. A storm hit Douglas County shortly after 7 p.m. Thursday. Many areas around the county were hit hard and damage is widespread.

lapsed a garage. Trees and debris fell on the vehicles inside. The homeowner, who didn't want to be identified, said he and his wife were in the basement when the winds picked up around 7:15 p.m. and they were not injured.

The homeowner had just installed new siding and windows a few months ago.

Alexandria firefighters were called to that area and removed a large tree that had toppled onto another house.

Travel was also affected, with trees blocking roads and streets. Also, shortly before 9 p.m., eastbound Interstate 94 was temporarily closed near Alexandria due to overturned semis from high winds. The Minnesota Department of Transportation said motorists should use Exit 103 and follow the signed interstate alternate routes.

Other damage reports from throughout the

county came across the police scanner.

At 7:01 p.m., the National Weather Service and Douglas County Code Red issued a severe thunderstorm warning for Douglas, Pope, Chipewa, Stevens, Swift and Kandiyohi counties until 7:45 p.m.

At 6:59 p.m., severe thunderstorms were located along a line extending from 6 miles west of Herman to near Kensington to near Glenwood to near Cosmos, moving northeast at 70 mph.

The storm hit Alexandria at about 7:10 p.m. and then moved on to Evansville and Brandon.

The National Weather Service warned that the storms for Alexandria and Willmar were destructive and packed winds of 80 mph. It said flying debris would be dangerous to those caught without shelter and mobile homes may be heavily damaged.

"Expect considerable



The owners of a home on the corner of West Meadow Lane and Donna Drive in northwest Alexandria look at what's left of their home after a storm whipped through the area Thursday.

damage to roofs, windows, and vehicles," the National Weather Service said. "Extensive tree damage and power outages are likely."

Other locations impacted by these severe thunderstorms included Glenwood Airport, Swift Falls, Alberta, Garfield, Willmar Airport, Villard, Blomkest, Fish Lake, Miltons and Holmes City.

The storms also posed a destructive hail threat, the National Weather Service said.

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The Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra  
Musical Director, Stephen J. Ramsey

## Young Artists' Concert

**Saturday, May 21, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Willmar Education and Arts Center • 611 SW 5th Street Willmar

Featuring the Young Artists' Competition Winner  
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on Cello

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# Where fishing dreams begin

## How rolls of aluminum in New York Mills become anglers' boats of choice

**New York Mills, Minn.** Lund boat begins as a roll of aluminum. Just a large coil of extremely heavy-grade foil, if you want to look at it that way.

The rolls sit at the start of the manufacturing line in the south plant of the five-building Lund complex in this Minnesota town about 75 miles east of Moorhead.

From there, the aluminum is cut, bent, shaped, assembled and painted — with dozens of other components like flooring and electronics added, of course — before it emerges at the other end of the factory as a fishing boat, ready to wreak havoc on Minnesota and North Dakota walleyes.

Or not, as luck and skill would have it.

With Minnesota's annual walleye fishing opener Saturday attracting about a million anglers to the state's lakes and rivers and North Dakota's season ramping up as the weather (presumably) improves, it's a safe assumption tens of thousands of the boats on the water began as a roll of aluminum in New York Mills.

Lund boats are the top-selling fishing craft in the Upper Midwest. Crestliner, another popular aluminum fishing boat, is also based at the Lund complex. Both brands are owned by Illinois-based Brunswick Corp., the largest maker of pleasure boats in the world.

"We'll go through 8 million pounds of aluminum in a year," said Jason Oakes, marketing director for Lund.

That's a lot of boats, although Lund won't reveal how many it manufactures in a year. Lund also offers a fiberglass line of boats, but those are made in a different location.

Oakes led me and Forum photographer Dave Samson on a 90-minute tour of the Lund factory last week, walking us through the process of how a coil of



MIKE McFEELY

aluminum becomes a Tye, Pro-V, Impact or Adventure.

A couple of quick takeaways:

1. The men and women who make Lund and Crestliner boats are skilled and work hard. Appreciate the company's 600 employees when you're on the water having fun.

2. A boat is manufactured from dozens of pieces of aluminum, large and small, and hundreds of components overall. Way more than a layman might think. It was fascinating to see a boat come together from nothing but flat pieces of aluminum.

(Disclaimer: I own a Lund, an Impact 1775 purchased new 10 years ago. Prior to that, I bought a 16-foot Alumacraft, purchased new in 1990, that I still have. Both have proven to be excellent boats.)

Lund Boats started 75 years ago in New York Mills in the garage of founder Howard Lund. Its most famous product continues to be the no-frills red fishing boat first crafted in the 1950s — often propelled by a single-digit horsepower Johnson, Evinrude or Mercury motor — that became synonymous with Minnesota fishing.

The company still makes the iconic red boat available in 12-, 14- and 16-foot versions.

Lund now has five buildings, including two plants in which boats are made. The south plant handles bigger product lines while the north plant makes the smaller boats.

"Everything just keeps growing," Oakes said. "We just kind of keep creeping out, bigger and bigger."

These are busy times in the recreational boat industry. The COVID-19 pandemic spurred Americans to discover or rediscover the outdoors, and they



Photos by David Samson / The Forum

Finished boats are ready to be wrapped at the Lund Boat Company in New York Mills, Minnesota.

are buying boats. U.S. boat sales hit record highs in 2020 and were well above average in 2021, according to the National Marine Manufacturers Association. Strong sales continue into 2022.

In the case of Lund and Crestliner, it all begins at the start of the line where the coils of aluminum are rolled in.

The rolls of raw sheet aluminum are uncoiled and, with computerized machines, cut into all the individual pieces that'll eventually be assembled to make a boat. Smaller, detailed pieces are laser-cut.

Workers then bend the cut parts, shaping the raw components.

From there, the larger pieces are riveted together (welded, in the case of Crestliner) to form the hull, sides and transom. Riveting is a two-person job, with one person driving the rivets with a gun on the outside and another underneath the upturned hull bucking (or backstopping) the rivets.

"The buckers live underneath the boat all day long," Oakes said.

Riveting is a noisy job, doubly so for the person underneath the boat because the sound is trapped. Lund uses 31 tons of rivets in a year.

The support beams go in next, and the boats are floated in a test tank to make sure there are no leaks.

Next comes the foaming. A worker sprays an expandable foam in the bottom of each boat. The foam comes out goey but eventually hardens and becomes buoyant. It's a safety feature, making sure the boat will float even if the hull is



Crestliner boats are assembled at the Lund Boat Company in New York Mills, Minnesota.

pierced or the boat flips over on the water.

The boat is given a primer coat and painted in an enclosed booth before going into an oven to be baked — 20 minutes at 230 degrees. It decreases the curing time for the paint, increasing production.

"It's kind of like a cookie. We put them in and bake them until they're done," Oakes said. "It makes the paint nice and firm and hardens it onto the aluminum."

Most boats have at least two colors, considering many hulls are painted gray. Lund offers 11 different colors for its boat lines.

"There's quite a bit of detail and even artwork that our paint people need to perform," Oakes said. "They do impressive work."

The boats move to the "plumbing" area where livewells and gas tanks are installed. Then it's on to the finishing section where floors, consoles, electric wiring and windshields are added.

The final touch: Workers put the appropriate decals on



Boats are riveted at the Lund Boat Company in New York Mills, Minnesota.

each boat — this is where "Lund" goes on each side.

Brunswick Corp. also owns Mercury Marine, so familiar black Mercury motors are mounted on the transoms before the boats are shrink-wrapped for protection and put on semi-

trailers. They're shipped to dealers and, eventually, sold to anglers.

Someday, there might be a walleye flopping on the floor or swimming in the livewell.

And it all began as a roll of aluminum in the factory in New York Mills.

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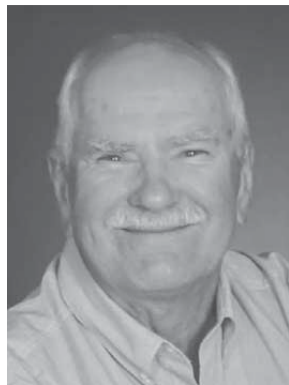
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## OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES

**Dave M. Neiber**

 Dave M. Neiber, age 76, of New London, passed away Tuesday, May 10, at Carris Health Rice Memorial Hospital.



Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 17, at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church in Spicer. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery. Military honors will be provided by the Willmar American Legion Post #167. Arrangements are entrusted to the Peterson Brothers Funeral Home. [www.petersonbrothers.com](http://www.petersonbrothers.com)

David "Dave" Michael Neiber was born on April 25, 1946, in Breckenridge, Minnesota, the son of Joseph and Frieda (Elmore) Neiber. Dave grew up in Breckenridge and graduated from Breckenridge High School in 1965. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Viet Nam from 1966-1967. Following his service, Dave attended Wahpeton School of Science and earned a certification in plumbing. On November 2, 1974, Dave was married to Gloria Zeilinger. They lived in Willmar and later moved to New London. He did his apprenticeship at Lundquist Plumbing and Heating prior to owning and operating Kandi-Plumbing for over 40 years. Dave was a member of Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church.

During the 1960's, Dave and his father built the family cabin on Big McDonald Lake in Ottertail County near Perham. This is where many family memories have been made. Dave's hobbies include fishing, landscaping, gardening, putzing in his workshop and just being outdoors, especially at the lake.

Dave will be best remembered for having a big heart, huge smile and wonderful sense of humor. He was truly a loving and caring husband and father.

He is survived by his loving wife, Gloria; two daughters, Lisa Neiber of Hopkins and Megan (and Nick) Snidarich of St. Louis Park; and one brother, Dan (and Renee) Neiber of Lubbock, TX, besides other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister in infancy.

**Roger Sweep**

Roger J. Sweep, 83, of Clara City, died Wednesday, May 11th at his home. His memorial service will be at 11:00 am, Monday, May 16th at Bethany Reformed Church in Clara City. Visitation will be one hour prior to his service. Burial will be at Bethany Reformed Cemetery in Clara City. Memorials are preferred to Carris Health Hospice or American Cancer Society. Arrangements are with Harvey Anderson Funeral Home in Clara City. [www.hafh.org](http://www.hafh.org)



Roger Sweep was born June 12, 1938, to John "Jack" and Margaret (Aalfs) Sweep. He was baptized and later confirmed at Bethany Reformed Church in Clara City. Roger attended school in Clara City, where he graduated from High School in 1956. On June 10, 1960, Roger was united in marriage to Susan McNeil at United Methodist Church in Montevideo. To this union three sons were born: Troy, Chad and Shaun. They made their home in Clara City. Roger enjoyed the outdoors. He enjoyed hunting and fishing and especially taking his family on trips. They went to South Dakota for pheasants, and also hunted deer and fished. He also enjoyed wood working, baking bread, making jam and homemade wine, and gardening. Roger was active at Bethany Reformed Church where he was a Deacon, Elder and Vice President of Consistory, baked bread for Soup for the Souls, made wooden crosses for Cross Ministry and also drove church bus. Roger always appreciated the sunrises and sunsets and that God gave him the privilege of seeing. He was a loving husband, father, grandpa and friend.

Roger is survived by his wife, Susan; children: Troy (Janet) Sweep of Clara City, Chad (Sharon) Sweep of St. Cloud, and Shaun Sweep of Clara City; grandchildren: Allison (Bryan) Pauling, Alex (Lindsey) Sweep, Mandi (Joel) Ellerbroek, Maggie (Tony) Lysfjord, Justin (Courtney Struckman) Sweep, Krista (Caleb) Murphy, and John (Jessica) Sweep; 16 great-grandchildren; and sister, Bonnie (Jim) Miller of West Norway Lake.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother in infancy, Allen Sweep and parents-in-law, Earle and Amanda McNeil.

**Corey W. Hansen**

Corey W. Hansen, age 49, of Atwater, passed away Friday evening, December 24, at his residence.

Memorial trapshooting event for Corey Hansen will be held on Saturday, May 21, from 1-3 pm at the Grove City Gun Club. Family and Friends are welcome to visit during this time with a Celebration of Corey's life to follow at 3:00pm.

In lieu of flowers or house plants we would encourage a donation to your local animal shelter for Corey's love of rescuing dogs.

In case of inclement weather, the trapshooting event will be canceled and the visitation and service will be in held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Atwater MN. (same times)

**Timothy Juetten**

June 25, 1951 -  
Jan. 4, 2022

WILLMAR, Minn. - Timothy Juetten, 70, Willmar, Minn., died Tuesday, Jan. 4, in his home from Covid-19.

A memorial service will be 11 a.m. Thursday, May 19, at First Covenant Church in Willmar.

**Peter Aus**

May 22, 1942 -  
May 9, 2022

WHITE BEAR LAKE, Minn. - Peter Aus, 79, White Bear Lake, Minn., died Monday, May 9, in his home.

Arrangements by Bradshaw Funeral and Cremation Services.

## SERVICES

**Barbara Benson, 81,** of Granite Falls, died May 6. Service 11 a.m. May 20 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Granite Falls. Wing-Bain Funeral Home, Granite Falls.

**Manuel Cuellar Garcia, 79,** of Brooklyn Park, formerly of Willmar, died May 7. Service 11 a.m. May 19 at Church of St. Mary, Willmar. Peterson Brothers Funeral Home, Willmar.

**Suzanne Dyer, 72,** of Spicer, died March 14. Service May 15 at the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center, Spicer. Harvey Anderson Funeral Home, Willmar.

**Kenneth Gode, 81,** of Clontarf, died May 7. Service 10:30 a.m. May 17 at St. Francis Catholic Church, Benson. Zniwski Funeral Home.

**Corey Hansen, 49,** of Atwater, died Dec. 24, 2021. Memorial trap shoot 1 to 3 p.m. with service at 3 p.m. May 21 at the Grove City Gun Club.

**Colleen Hinrichs, 80,** of Willmar, died April 29. Service 11 a.m. May 16 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Montevideo. Wing-Bain Funeral Home, Montevideo.

**Rick James, 80,** of Willmar, died Nov. 15, 2021. Service 1 to 3 p.m. May 14 at the American Legion in Willmar. Peterson Brothers Funeral Home, Willmar.

**Timothy Juetten, 70,** of Willmar, died Jan. 4. Service 11 a.m. May 19 at First Covenant Church, Willmar.

**James "Jim" Nelson, 80,** of Ft. Myers, Florida, formerly of Spicer, died April 8. Service 2 p.m.

May 14 at First Lutheran Church, New London. Peterson Brothers Funeral Home, Willmar.

**Donald Neubauer, 92,** of Bird Island, died May 2. Service 1:15 p.m. May 23 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Bird Island. Dirks-Blem Funeral Service, Olivia.

**James Rieth, 82,** of Spicer, died May 4. Service 10:30 a.m. May 14 at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Olivia. Dirks-Blem Funeral Home, Olivia.

**James Ruter, 69,** of Prior Lake, formerly of Renville, died May 6. Service 11 a.m. May 14 at Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church, Prior Lake. Ballard Sunder Funeral Service, Shakopee.

**William "Will" Schwandt, 39,** of Litchfield, died May 9. Service 2 to 6 p.m. May 14 at Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home, Eden Valley.

**Roger Sweep, 83,** of Clara City, died May 11. Service 11 a.m. May 16 at Bethany Reformed Church, Clara City. Harvey Anderson Funeral Home, Clara City.

**Joyce Swenson, 89,** of Willmar, died May 12. Service 1 p.m. May 16 at the Evangelical Covenant Church, New London. Harvey Anderson Funeral Home, Willmar.

**Joan Wild, 87,** of Hudson, Wisconsin, formerly of Willmar, died April 9. Service 11 a.m. May 14 at the Church of St. Mary, Willmar.

This funeral services listing is presented as a public service by the West Central Tribune.

**Joyce Swenson**

Joyce Swenson, 89, of Willmar, died Thursday, May 12, 2022, at Glen Oaks Care Center in New London.



Her funeral service will be 1:00 p.m. Monday, May 16, at the Evangelical Covenant Church in New London. Interment will be in the Spicer City Cemetery.

Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at Harvey Anderson Funeral Home in Willmar and will continue one hour prior to the service at the church on Monday.

Joyce Annette Nell (Edman) Swenson was born March 20, 1933, in Arctander Township to Bennie and Eleanor (Swenson) Edman. She grew up on the family farm and graduated from New London High School. On June 5, 1954, she was united in marriage to Donald Swenson in New London. This union was blessed with one daughter, Michele. Joyce and Donald worked together on their dairy farm in Dovre Township until their retirement in 1998.

Joyce was an active member of the Evangelical Covenant Church. She thoroughly enjoyed time spend with family and friends. She enjoyed cookbooks and baking lefse and delicious treats to share.

Joyce is survived by her daughter: Michele (Charles) Nefstead; granddaughter: Nicole Nefstead (Chris); niece, Roxane (Mike) Hartkopf; nephew: Rick (Marna) Kallevig; grandnieces: Lindsay (Jerod) Johnson, Brittany (Jacob) Olson, and Jenna (Spencer) Wynia; grandnephew: Tim (Anne) Kallevig; great-grandnieces: Cali, Piper, Collins, Rylie, Madison, Libby, Ava, and McKenna; great-grandnephews: Benjamin, Hunter, and Chase; and her beloved granddog: Frankie.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband: Donald in 2017; her father-in-law and mother-in-law: Gustaf and Petra Swenson; sister: Joann Kallevig; and brother-in-law: Orville Kallevig.

**William "Will" K. Schwandt**

A Celebration of Life will be from 2:00-6:00 p.m. Saturday, May 14, 2022 at Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home in Eden Valley for William "Will" Schwandt who passed away Monday at the Buffalo Hospital from injuries received in a motorcycle accident. There will be a time of sharing at 5:00 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home. The family requests everyone who attends to wear casual attire.



William Keith Schwandt was born April 26, 1983 in Hutchinson to Keith & Bonita (Knisley) Schwandt. He lived in Hawick, Wellington, KS, New London, Eden Valley, Paynesville, and Litchfield. Will worked as a Crane Operator for Kraemer for over 15 years and was a member of Union Local 49. He enjoyed the outdoors, horseback riding, kayaking, hiking, and snowmobiling. Will could fix anything with wheels and motors, and was working on obtaining his pilot's license. He was sweet, hard-working, had a great sense of humor, and was a big kid with an even bigger heart. Most importantly he enjoyed spending time with family, sitting down for family dinners, and would do anything for anyone. His kids meant the world to him.

Survivors include his children, Devin of Willmar, Morgan of Spicer, and Cash (German Shepherd); father, Keith (Leah) Schwandt of Mayfield, KS; girlfriend, Erin Nelson of Forest Lake; sisters, Jessica (Brandon) Burke of Derby, KS, Amanda Schwandt of Litchfield, and Ashley Schwandt of Wellington, KS; nieces and nephews, Trevor, Emma, Ava, Luke, Kate, Brett, and Leighton; numerous aunts and uncles; and the mother of his children, Shelly Hess of Spicer. Will was preceded in death by his mother, Bonnie; and his grandparents.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred. Obituary, Guest Book, and Video Tribute available online: [www.williamsdingmann.com](http://www.williamsdingmann.com)

**Barbara Benson**

Feb. 20, 1941 -  
May 6, 2022

GRANITE FALLS, Minn. - Barbara Benson, 81, Granite Falls, Minn., died Friday, May 6, in Granite Falls Health Care Center.

Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 19, at Wing-Bain Funeral Home in Granite Falls. Visitation will continue from 10-11 a.m., followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m., Friday, May 20, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Granite Falls.

Arrangements by Wing-Bain Funeral Home.

**Manuel Cuellar Garcia**

Jan. 6, 1943 -  
May 7, 2022

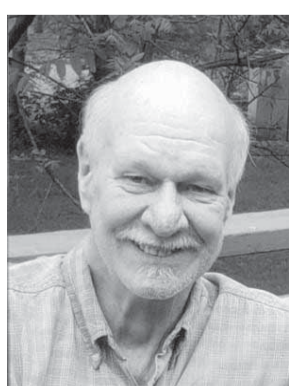
ROBBINSALE, Minn. - Manuel Cuellar Garcia, 79, Brooklyn Park, Minn., formerly Willmar, Minn., died Saturday, May 7, in North Memorial Hospital.

Visitation will be from 10-11 a.m., followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m., Thursday, May 19, at Church of St. Mary in Willmar.

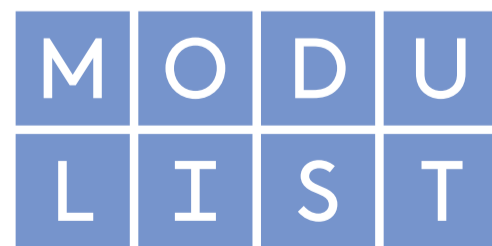
Arrangements by Peterson Brothers Funeral Home.

**James Ruter**

James Ruter, 69, of Prior Lake and a native of Renville, passed on May 6. Visitation on May 13, 4-7pm at Ballard Sunder Funeral and Cremation in Shakopee. Funeral Service on May 14, 11am at Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church in Prior Lake with one hour visitation



prior to funeral from 10-11am. James is survived by Son, Shawn (Ashley Naus) Ruter; Life Partner, Bach Tong; Siblings, Susan (Rick Lorence) Adams, Roger Ruter, Laura (Brent) LaFavor; and many other loving friends and family. James is preceded by Parents; Harold and Alice; Son, Sam Ruter; Siblings; Bruce Ruter and Nancy Ruter.

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# COVID cases continue rise in area, across state

By Linda Vanderwerf  
West Central Tribune

WILLMAR — Two deaths related to COVID-19 and 599 new cases were reported in west central Minnesota, according to updates from the Minnesota Department of Health.

Of the new cases, 314 of them were reported in Stearns County, the largest of the 11 counties tracked by the West Central Tribune during the pandemic. Another 100 cases were reported in Kandiyohi County, the second-largest in the area. Pope County added 49 cases during the week.

Cases have been growing across Minnesota, and so has the positive test rate.

The positivity rate was 11.9% Wednesday, May 11, according to the Mayo Clinic website. The rate was 10.5 percent a week earlier and 4.1% April 11.

Two deaths were reported in updates in the past week — a person in the 75-79 age category in Stearns County and a person age 80-84 in Redwood County.

In the situation update from the Minnesota Department of Health, the state reported 12 newly reported deaths and 2,919 new cases Friday. The report is

released five days a week at 11 a.m. and includes cases reported as of 4 a.m. the previous business day.

The state's cumulative number of cases is now 1,479,047, which includes 1,410,344 total people testing positive and 68,703 reinfections. The state reports the number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 again more than 90 days after an initial lab-confirmed positive test.

Case numbers reported in Health Department updates are preliminary and reflect positive test results reported to the state. At-home test results are not included.

The state's current total number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 is now at 12,559, which includes 34 more deaths than a week ago. Of that total, 5,733 deaths, 45.6%, have occurred in long-term care or assisted living facilities.

In a report of its response capacity to the pandemic, the Health Department reported that 35 people with COVID-19 were in ICUs across the state as of Thursday, and 356 people with COVID-19 were hospitalized but not in an ICU.

The state also reports the hospital capacity

of adult and pediatric beds. Of the state's eight pediatric ICU units, two reported having zero staffed beds available. Of the 36 with non-ICU pediatric units reporting, 18 hospitals, 50%, said they had zero staffed non-ICU pediatric beds available.

Of 68 adult ICUs reporting, 29 of them, 43%, said they had zero staffed beds available. Of 130 non-ICU hospitals reporting, 40 hospitals, 31%, said they had staffed zero beds.

Since the start of the pandemic, the number of COVID-19 cases among residents confirmed to reside in area counties and the number of deaths includes:

- ▶ Big Stone County: 1,425 cases; 9 deaths
- ▶ Chippewa County: 3,128 cases; 48 deaths
- ▶ Kandiyohi County: 13,649 cases; 139 deaths
- ▶ Lac qui Parle County: 1,764 cases; 29 deaths
- ▶ Meeker County: 5,998 cases; 75 deaths
- ▶ Pope County: 3,119 cases; 17 deaths
- ▶ Redwood County: 3,985 cases; 54 deaths
- ▶ Renville County: 3,783 cases; 56 deaths
- ▶ Stearns County: 51,693 cases; 368 deaths
- ▶ Swift County: 2,313 cases; 33 deaths
- ▶ Yellow Medicine County: 2,580 cases; 29

deaths

The state also reports daily vaccine administration numbers. As of Friday's report, 3,911,728 Minnesotans have received at least one dose and 3,706,216 have completed the vaccine series statewide. The number of people listed as being up-to-date with their vaccines, meaning they have had booster shots, is 2,553,511.

The vaccine data web page is updated at 11 a.m. weekdays, but there is a delay between a vaccine being given and when it is reported to the Minnesota Department of Health.

The state releases an updated list of school buildings that have reported five or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in students or staff who were in the building while infectious during a two-week reporting period. There are no area school buildings listed on the weekly update issued Thursday.

School buildings listed may not have ongoing transmission. If they have not reported a new case for 28 days, they are removed from the list. If five or more cases are reported again in the future, they will be placed on the list again.

## RECORDS

### Trees down

WILLMAR — Two trees were reported down, one on a garage and one on a house, Thursday evening in the 6600 block of 30th Street Northwest.

SPICER — A pine tree was reported down on a power line Thursday night in the 200 block of Lake Avenue North.

### Storm damage

SVEA — A motorist called for assistance early Friday morning after getting a flat tire due to debris on the road from a roof blown off a turkey barn at 135th Avenue and 15th Street Southwest.

WILLMAR — A power line was reported down in a yard along Willmar Avenue Southwest Thursday evening.

### Stoplights

SPICER — Stoplights were reported not working in the city of Spicer Thursday evening. Later in the night, drivers were reported to be "blowing through the intersection" at Minnesota Highway 23 and Lake Avenue South.

### Arrests

WILLMAR — A 23-year-old woman was arrested Thursday afternoon on warrants and drug possession charges.

She was in the Kandiyohi County Jail on Friday afternoon with a court appearance pending on drug possession and paraphernalia possession charges.

WILLMAR — A 59-year-old man was arrested Thursday evening after a crash at 19th Avenue and Fifth Street Southeast.

He was in custody Friday afternoon awaiting a court appearance on driving while impaired and obstructing the legal progress charges.

WILLMAR — A

31-year-old man was arrested Thursday evening after a report of domestic assault in the 400 block of Litchfield Avenue Southeast.

He was in custody Friday afternoon, waiting for a court appearance on assault and domestic assault charges.

### Fraud

WILLMAR — A Willmar resident reported receiving a phone call asking him to purchase gift cards and send the information about them to the caller. The man said he did not send any information.

### Assault

WILLMAR — A woman working at a hotel on U.S. Highway 12 East reported an assault Friday morning, saying that a guest had cornered her in a room she was cleaning.

### Kandiyohi County marriage licenses

Five couples filed for marriage licenses this week in Kandiyohi County.

▶ Ku Thay, Willmar; Paw Si Blut, Willmar

▶ Melvin Kerik Rodriguez Sevilla, Willmar; Maria Del Socorro Gurdian Rodriguez, Willmar

▶ Patrick Stanley Skornicka, Eden Valley; Julie Ann Stubblefield, Willmar

▶ Brittany Virginia Krogman, Willmar; Jordan Michael Steffer, Willmar

▶ Samantha Marie Smith, Atwater; Andrew Joseph Pauesick, Atwater

The Tribune publishes Records as part of its obligation to inform readers about the business of public institutions and to serve as a keeper of the local historical record. All items are written by Tribune staff members based on information contained in public documents from the state court system and from law enforcement agencies. It is the Tribune's policy that this column contain a complete record. Requests for items to be withheld will not be granted.

## LOCAL MARKETS

Local Corn Contracts					Corn	Soybeans	Wheat	Oats	
	May	June	July	Aug					
Farm Ser, Willmar	7.81	7.70	7.73	NB	Benson	7.66	15.96	NA	NA
Jennie-O TS, Atwater	NB	NB	NB	7.42	Bird Island	7.67	16.07	NA	NA
Country Pork, Prins	7.62	7.63	7.64	7.54	Clara City	7.65	16.06	12.77	NA
Bushmills, Atwater	7.57	7.57	7.64	7.77	Hanley Falls	7.66	16.12	12.95	NA
Granite Falls Energy	NB	NB	NB	NB	Holloway	7.66	16.01	NA	NA
CVEC, Benson	7.66	7.76	7.76	7.81	Montevideo	7.66	16.12	12.95	NA
					Murdock	7.66	16.01	NA	NA
					Renville	7.71	16.02	NA	NA

## HEALTH

From Page A1

patients "the right care, at the right time, in the right place."

Smith is a former CEO of Affiliated Community Medical Centers, one of the clinics that joined with other providers to form Carris Health. She is a dermatologist who has practiced in Willmar for 31 years.

When she was named CEO, she said, she was asked to "find a future" for ACMC. "Our ability to survive was limited," she said.

The future would be in working together to continue serving patients, she said. In researching potential partners, she said, CentraCare emerged from the field.

When Carris Health began, she did not expect that the organizational structure would change again, but few people anticipated a pandemic either, she said.

"COVID changed our vision and our purpose," she said.

During the pandemic, having that "nimble partnership" helped rural providers care for their patients. It gave

Carris Health and CentraCare a larger base to take care of their patients, she said.

Without the partnership, it would have been more difficult for the Willmar medical community to care for as many COVID-19 patients close to home as it did.

"It ensured we could take care of as many patients as we did," she said, and it helped more patients survive.

Having separate entities with their own policies and procedures in place could sometimes be a barrier to working together, however.

The new Rural Health Division "is Carris on steroids," Smith said, and its presence is a sign of CentraCare's commitment to rural health care and its regional hospitals and clinics.

The public will begin seeing changes in signage, appointment reminders, email addresses and patient correspondence beginning June 1. The transition to the single name is expected to take about a year.

Smith said the name change is not expected to result in the loss of jobs in Willmar or at other sites.

Something else learned during the pandemic is that employees can be in different communities and still work together, she added.



Shelby Lindrud / West Central Tribune

One of the 2022 road projects on Kandiyohi County's schedule is the reclamation of County Road 41 in Willmar, also known as the radio station road, pictured Tuesday. The county will be working with the city to complete the project with construction to start Monday, May 16.

## ROADS

From Page A1

and paving to crack sealing and shoulder reclamation. In 2022, the county plans to do 8.2 miles of reconstruction on portions of County Roads 1, 4 and 2 along with 17 miles of bituminous paving including portions of County Roads 4, 20, 44, 1, 41, 7, 2 and 116.

"We do about 25 miles per year," Odens said.

The county is also planning on 27 miles of seal coating, 37 miles of crack sealing and 211 miles of striping across the county. There has already been a start to shoulder reclamation — repairing the gravel shoulders that have spread out due to use. This will save the county about \$250,000 in gravel costs because reclaiming uses the material already out there.

"We're going to be busy now that the

weather is warming up," said Todd Miller, maintenance manager for Kandiyohi County Public Works.

All the work scheduled for this year is estimated to cost around \$14.3 million. Odens said it is normal for public works to "over-program" by about \$1 million, because usually the contingency fund and favorable bids make up the difference. This year will be a bit different, since high fuel and product costs are having an impact on the budget.

"We're still a half-million high," Odens said, adding the commissioners don't need to be concerned about the budget. "We will be using road and bridge reserves. I'm confident we have the money."

Coming up with the annual and five-year construction plans is a dance between funding and maintenance needs. Odens and his staff are always looking for

projects that give the county the best bang for the buck as well as keeping the entire county road system in good condition — all while are also preparing for major, costly improvement projects like a new bridge or the safety improvements at County Road 9 near New London.

There is also the question about which road needs the money more — the one in the worst condition or the one that with a bit of maintenance can have the life of its pavement extended.

"One of the worst things you can do is the philosophy of worst first," Odens said. "You'll never build yourself out of it."

Odens said public works focuses on the ride quality of its roads when deciding which roads to fix and is also aggressive when looking for additional funding such as state bonding or sales tax to

pay for those large and expensive projects.

"That was the importance of the local option sales tax," Odens said, which over the next several years will help fund projects the county might not have been able to undertake without it.

The goal of all the strategic planning Public Works does, both in regard to funding and project choice, is to make sure Kandiyohi County doesn't end up going backward when it comes to caring for its nearly 450 miles of paved roads and 210 miles of gravel.

"We weigh a lot of things, we care about a lot of things, we monitor the ride, we monitor a lot of things," Odens said.

While it may be an easy way to save some money in a cash-strapped year, pushing back road projects nearly always means more money spent in future years.

## MASTER GARDENERS

## Its' time to clean off garden tools, harden off plants started indoors

By Sue Morris  
Master Gardener

If you didn't clean up your garden tools last fall, this is something that needs attention now.

Many plant pathogens can survive from one season to the next on tools, trellises, stakes and pots that were used last year.

These can be cleaned using a 10% bleach/water solution — one part bleach and nine parts water. Dip or spray tools with this solution. This will kill fungi, bacteria and viruses almost immediately.

Bleach is corrosive to metal so it might not be a good choice for pruners or other cutting tools that require a sharp edge.

Lysol will eliminate bacteria, fungi and viruses. Do not dilute with water. This is not corrosive to metal so is good to use on pruners and cutting tools.

Rubbing alcohol is not an effective disinfectant for bacterial diseases, such as fire blight in apples.

We like to have different types of planters of annual flowers to brighten up outside our homes every year. It's a good idea to use new soil in the pots each year. You can dump out old soil into your garden when you till. Since pots are watered so frequently during the growing year, a lot of the nutrients are leached out.

There are a number of time-release fertilizers on the market that can be mixed into the soil when planting the pots. You can also buy a polymer product to add to the soil. This is similar to what is used in disposable diapers to absorb moisture. It is advertised as something



JulijaDmitrijeva / Getty Images / iStock photo  
Seedlings started indoors, such as these tomatoes, need to be hardened off outdoors. Start by putting them outside in the shade for a couple hours a day and gradually increase the time outdoors and into the sun. The same process should be followed if plants were purchased from a greenhouse.

that will aid in less watering of your plants. Potting mix with the fertilizer already added is also available.

If you started seeds indoors, now is a good time to start hardening them off outdoors. Start by putting them outside in the shade for a couple hours a day and gradually increase the time outdoors and into the sun. If you purchased plants at a garden center that were inside a greenhouse, these should be hardened off the same way.

Years ago, when Walls O' Water were first introduced, I planted my tomato plants in them directly in the garden and skipped the hardening off process. During the day the sun warmed the water inside the cells of the Walls O' Water and protected the plants from colder evening temperatures and also from the wind and other elements. I was able to put out tomatoes three weeks earlier than recommended and get

ripe tomatoes sooner.

I don't know if they are still on the market. Mine are now safely stored in the shed as I've gotten lazy about using them.

How long has it been since you took a soil test in your garden? Envelopes are available at the local Extension Office. The University of Minnesota's Soil Lab can perform a basic soil test. For complete instructions on how to do a soil test, information is available on the Extension web site. This test will provide recommendations for fertilizer based on the results of the soil test. This way you aren't wasting money on the wrong fertilizers. You can take a soil test any time of year but spring and fall are the best times.

Master Gardener Sue Morris has been writing this column since 1991 for Kandiyohi County newspapers. Morris has been certified through the University of Minnesota as a gardening and horticulture expert since 1983. She lives in Kandiyohi County. To consult with a Master Gardener, call your county Extension office.

## FARM, GARDEN &amp; OUTDOORS

## Farming

**Strategic farming:** Registration is open for the Strategic Farming: Field Notes program designed for farmers and ag professionals. The free, 30-minute University of Minnesota Extension webinar over Zoom began May 11 and continues weekly at 8 a.m. Wednesdays. Register for the live sessions at [z.umn.edu/strategic-farming](http://z.umn.edu/strategic-farming). The program will feature a live webinar with interactive discussion with attendees, addressing in-season cropping issues as they arise. Topics will include soil fertility, agronomics, pest management, equipment and more. The discussion-based series will be posted immediately following the webinar to podcast-streaming services.

**Summer Beef Tour:** July 12, 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., University of Minnesota Extension Beef Team and Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association will host the tour at the University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus with stops at the Andrew Boss Laboratory of Meat Science, the College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Forage Research plots. The tour starts and ends at the Minnesota Zoo where attendees will have exclusive access to the entire zoo from 4 to 8 p.m. Check-in opens at 6 a.m. at the zoo and the buses will leave at 7 a.m. Tickets are \$25 per person until June 15 at [z.umn.edu/MNSummerBeefTour](http://z.umn.edu/MNSummerBeefTour). Lunch and supper are included. Inquiries may be directed to Dr. Joe Armstrong at [armst225@umn.edu](mailto:armst225@umn.edu).

## Gardening

**High Avenue garden plots:** Summer plots are available at the High Avenue Gardens, south of the Willmar Community Center. Plots are 10 feet by 15 feet and are \$20 each. To reserve a plot, call 320-262-

5288.

**Willmar Avenue garden plots:** Summer plots are available at the Willmar Avenue Gardens, north of the bus garages. Plots are 11 feet by 16 feet and are \$20 each. To reserve a plot, call Mary at 320-212-3471.

**Wesley Community Garden plots:** Summer plots are available at the Wesley Community Garden at the United Methodist Church in Willmar. Plots are 15 feet by 15 feet and are \$20 each, which is refunded with certain conditions at the end of the season. To reserve a plot, call the church at 320-235-5403.

## Outdoors

**Volunteer water monitors:** The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is recruiting volunteers to measure water clarity in numerous lakes and streams — including several high-priority sites in the Willmar area — and then report back to the agency. Volunteers do a simple water clarity test in a body of water twice a month during the summer. Lake monitors boat or paddle to a designated spot in the lake to check the clarity, while stream monitors record data from the stream bank or a bridge over it. All equipment and training is provided, no experience is needed. The MPCA uses the data to help determine whether lakes and streams are meeting water quality standards designed to protect aquatic life and recreational activities like fishing and swimming. In some cases, the information gathered by volunteers is the only monitoring done on a particular lake or stream.

**Local work group meeting:** June 9, 10 a.m., Renville County Government Center, Olivia. The group provides a forum for partners, farmers, agribusiness, conservation groups and local community members to share conservation activities and discuss natural resource efforts and concerns that should be prioritized. The

group assists in guiding the Natural Resource Conservation Service in targeting farm bill funds for technical and financial assistance in Renville County in the future. For more information, contact the Renville County Soil and Water Conservation District online at [www.renvillewcd.com](http://www.renvillewcd.com) or by phone at 320-523-1550.

## Prairie Woods

**Environmental Learning Center:** Trails at the rural Spicer center may be used during daylight hours at no cost. A bathroom with composting toilets is open by the pavilion. Pets should be on a leash. All equipment rentals (fat-tire bikes, kayaks, canoes) will be handled on a reservation basis, made at least 24 hours in advance. To reserve equipment for the weekend, please call by noon Friday. Two-hour equipment rental is \$20 for adults, \$10 for members and \$5 for all youth. Call 320-354-5894.

► **Survival:** June 18, 9 a.m. to noon, grades 4 and up, \$20, advance registration required. Prepare to survive outdoors. Teamwork is key as your group builds a shelter using survival basics. Try to build a fire using a bow drill and flint and steel.

► **Climbing wall:** July 23, 9 to 10:30 a.m., \$20 per session, grades 3-8, advance registration required. Challenge yourself both physically and mentally at your own pace. Beginners can learn about the sport, exercise and have fun; experienced climbers can train and refine their skills. Center instructors will be there to help, and equipment is provided.

► **Climbing wall:** July 23, 10:30 to noon, \$20 per session, grades 9-12, advance registration required. Other details same as above.

Events and classes scheduled in the outdoors, gardening and farming run in this calendar on Saturday. Submit your event at [news@wctrib.com](mailto:news@wctrib.com) by noon on Tuesday.

## Last call until morning when coyotes come around

Last night, I let the dogs out for their last opportunity to do whatever they needed to do before bedtime.

Jag, the terrier, who had been sleeping on his bed in the garage after a hard day of guarding the place from attacking deer and squirrels, was still ready to go. Billie, the poodle, had been sleeping on the couch, exhausted from a hard day of playing ball, was not so anxious.

Billie moseyed toward the door while Jag danced on his hind legs waiting to get out. When I opened the garage door, it sounded almost like a scream coming from somewhere nearby.

The dogs, on full alert at the sound, both shot out into the darkness. It



WALTER SCOTT

was one of those, "what the heck was that?" moments as I stepped outside.

Immediately, I heard a coyote calling from near the south side of the house. That call was quickly answered by the another down by the garden.

A chorus of coyote calls erupted in unison as I stepped into the darkness trying to see what was going on. Billie was facing the garden at the limit his collar would allow, barking ferociously. The sound of Jag's barking was rapidly getting

fainter as he chased off into the blackness.

At this time of year, coyotes can be very aggressive. The females have either just had their pups or are getting ready to do so. The males are protecting their territory and the females are attempting to gain weight to nourish the nursing pups.

I can only guess at the motivation of two groups of coyotes getting this close to our house. Either our house is located at the edge of the territory claimed by two competing families, and it was a territorial dispute, or they thought they could drive the dogs out of what they claimed as theirs. Either way, I did not want the dogs to get involved. I was able to call

Billie back to me as I ran back into the house to grab a gun. My wife held him back while I ran back out into the yard and fired off a couple of rounds from my .45.

The coyotes got quiet, and I called for Jag. The little dog, being a terrier, has more courage than sense. He is convinced that he is the toughest animal around. He is wrong.

He would not have a chance against one coyote, and this was a group of several. I called for several minutes but to no avail. I went back into the house, hoping the gun

shots scared the coyotes off and Jag could not catch up with them.

If he did meet up with them somewhere out there in the darkness, he would not be coming home. I explained to my wife what was going on. She is well aware of Jag's hunting determination and understood the consequences if he did not come back soon. I waited about 15 minutes and went back out to see if he was back.

When he was not waiting at the door to go back to his bed, I was thinking the worst. I called a few times and listened. I heard

nothing.

I was ready to face the inevitable that Jag had pushed his luck too far when the little black dog appeared out of the dark night. He was panting with his tongue lolling out the side of his mouth, but he was unscathed and happy as he could be.

He got a drink and plopped down in his bed, all proud of himself for protecting us from the coyotes. The dogs did not get to go out again after that. If they had missed last call, it would have to wait until morning.

Walter Scott is an outdoors enthusiast and freelance writer from Drakesville, Iowa.

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This message funded in-part by the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

**The Mid-Minnesota Regional Transportation Coordination Council (MMTCC) is searching for Volunteer Drivers to assist our seniors, people with disabilities, and other non-drivers.**

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

# Why are food prices going up? Key questions answered

Reuters  
CHICAGO — Why are food prices rising?

Global food prices started to rise in mid-2020 when businesses shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic, straining supply chains. Farmers dumped out milk and let fruits and vegetables rot due to a lack of available truckers to transport goods to supermarkets, where prices spiked as consumers stockpiled food. A shortage of migrant labor as lockdowns restricted movement impacted crops worldwide.

Since then, there have been problems with key crops in many parts of the world. Brazil, the world's top soybean exporter, suffered from severe drought in 2021. China's wheat crop has been among the worst ever this year. Concerns about food security, heightened during the pandemic, have led some countries to hoard staples to ward off future shortages, limiting supplies on the global market.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in late February dramatically worsened the outlook for food prices. The U.N. food agency said prices hit an all-time record in February and again in March. Russia and Ukraine account for nearly a third of global wheat and barley, and two-thirds of the world's export of sunflower oil used for cooking. Ukraine is the world's No. 4 corn exporter. The conflict has damaged Ukraine's ports and agricultural infrastructure and that

is likely to limit the country's agricultural production for years.

Some buyers are avoiding buying grains from Russia due to Western sanctions.

Indonesia banned most exports of palm oil in late April to ensure domestic supplies of cooking oil, cutting off supplies from the world's largest producer of the edible oil used in everything from cakes to margarine.

## What food prices are rising the most?

Throughout the pandemic, high vegetable oil prices have helped drive up broader food costs. Cereal prices also hit a record in March, a result of limited shipments of corn and wheat during the Ukraine war.

Dairy and meat prices reached a record in April, according to the U.N. food agency, reflecting continually increasing global demand for protein and high prices for animal feed — mainly corn and soybeans. In addition, bird flu in Europe and North America impacted egg and poultry prices.

In U.S. inflation data for March, the index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs increased 14% from a year ago while beef rose 16%.

## When will food prices come down?

It is hard to say, given that agricultural production depends on hard-to-predict factors like weather. U.N. Secretary-General

Antonio Guterres said in early May the problem of global food security could not be solved without restoring Ukrainian agricultural production and Russian food and fertilizer output to the world market.

The World Bank forecasts wheat prices could rise more than 40% in 2022. The Bank expects agricultural prices to fall in 2023 versus 2022. But that depends on increased crop supplies from Argentina, Brazil and the United States — by no means guaranteed.

The sharp rise in fertilizer prices, as countries avoid buying from major producers Russia and its ally Belarus, could discourage farmers from applying adequate crop nutrients to their fields. That could bring down yields and result in lower production, prolonging the crisis. As the climate warms, extreme weather is becoming more common — posing another risk to crop production.

## Who is most affected?

Food prices in March accounted for the greatest share of U.S. inflation since 1981, according to Fitch Ratings, while shop prices in Britain surged in April at the fastest rate in more than a decade. But the people most impacted by higher food prices live in the developing world, where a larger percentage of incomes is spent on food.

## Velde named to Minnesota FSA state committee

WILLMAR — Five individuals were recently named to Minnesota's Farm Service Agency state committee, including corn and soybean farmer Tim Velde of Granite Falls, according to a news release from Minnesota Farmers Union.



Velde

Velde raises corn and soybeans and participates in several Farm Service Agency programs, including the Conservation Reserve Program. He is vice president of the Yellow Medicine County Farmers Union and a former county president.

Velde is a rural electric cooperative director and was a delegate to the 120th annual National Farmers Union Convention.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency implements agriculture policy, administers credit and loan programs, and manages conservation, commodity, disaster and farm marketing programs.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack appoints members to the FSA state committees, each of which has three to five members. Committee members are responsible for the oversight of farm programs and county committee operations, resolving program delivery appeals from the agriculture community, maintaining cooperative relations with industry stakeholders, keeping producers informed about programs and operating in a manner consistent with USDA equal opportunity and civil rights policies.

Others named to the state committee are Eunice Biel, chairwoman, a dairy and crop farmer from Harmony in Fillmore County; Hannah Bernhardt, a beginning farmer and young farmer advocate from Finlayson in Pine County, Kurt Blomgren, a grain and livestock farmer from Butterfield in Watonwan County; and Lisa Brunner, a citizen of the White Earth Ojibwe Nation, from Mahnomen in Mahnomen County.

## Extension offers business succession class

ST. PAUL — University of Minnesota Extension beginning June 2 is offering a five-week course focused on business succession strategy, according to a news release from the University of Minnesota Extension.

It is estimated that approximately 50,000 businesses in Minnesota are

owned by individuals 55 years old and older. Experts recommend starting succession planning at least five years before handing a business off to new owners.

Not only is succession planning recommended as a way to prepare for retirement, but also as part of preparing for the "5 D's" that can occur: death, divorce, disability, disaster and disagreement.

The online course is designed to offer a supportive, confidential learning space for businesses of all types and sizes. Business leaders will learn about options, gain skills in strategy and learn from others in order to create a comprehensive succession plan.

The course was well received when it was offered earlier this year, with 90 percent of participants indicating they'd recommend it to other business owners. Another session will begin Oct. 6.

For more information see [z.umn.edu/BSTclass](http://z.umn.edu/BSTclass) or contact Michael Darger, [darger@umn.edu](mailto:darger@umn.edu) or 612-625-6246.

## Dowdey completes Weichert Leadership Academy

WILLMAR — Co-owner Jason Dowdey of Weichert, Realtors — Tower Properties of Willmar successfully completed the Weichert Real Estate Affiliates Inc. Leadership Academy training, a top-level program for real estate leadership training.

According to a news release from the company, the Weichert Leadership Academy is a week-long management training session held two to three times a year. Attendees include recently or soon-to-be franchised offices, new managers of existing or new branch offices, as well as any existing owners/managers interested in taking a refresher course.

Business Briefs are compiled by West Central Tribune staff.

Submissions and photos may be emailed to [business@wctrib.com](mailto:business@wctrib.com) by noon Tuesday for consideration to be published the following Saturday.

Topics such as the launch of a new business, a change in ownership or management, a new location or a significant expansion are welcome, as well as announcements about new employees or employees who have earned significant promotion. Photos may be submitted as well. Employees' continuing education, advanced certification and significant awards also may be considered for publication



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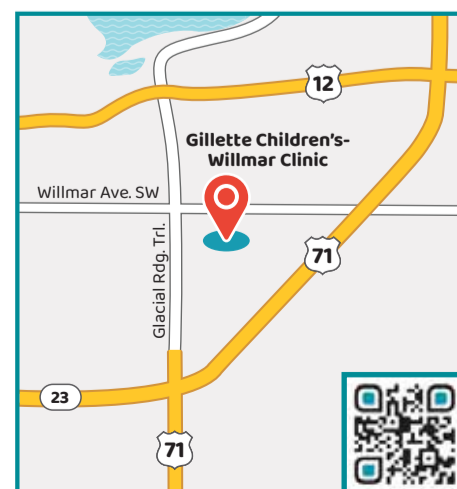
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# Maker of store-brand infant formulas expects shortages rest of year

By Jessica DiNapoli  
Reuters  
NEW YORK — Perrigo Company PLC, which makes store-brand baby formulas for retailers including Walmart Inc

WMT.N and Amazon.com Inc expects shortages and heightened demand to last for the "balance of the year," said CEO Murray Kessler in an interview with Reuters. Perrigo's formula

manufacturing facilities in Ohio and Vermont are now running at 115% of full capacity, Kessler said. At the request of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the company is making only four items,

the store-brand versions of Similac Pro Sensitive and Pro Advance and Enfamil Gentle Ease and Infant, Kessler said. The infant formula maker is also working with retailers including

Walmart and Target Corp so they "get something each week," Kessler said. Retailers' allocations are based on an average of what the retailers' received prior to "this crisis," he said.

The closure of an Abbott Laboratories infant-formula plant in Michigan exacerbated pandemic-related shortages, leading to empty shelves in big box stores and supermarkets.

# Wadena County declares natural disaster following severe storm

By Michael Johnson  
Wadena Pioneer Journal  
WADENA, Minn. — Wadena County declared a natural disaster Friday, May 13, after near 100 mph winds ripped through a portion of the county Thursday night.



A fallen tree crashed into this boat on the southside of Verndale on Thursday.

In Verndale, the wind peeled shingles off roofs, toppled mature trees, sent trampolines flying and collapsed a concrete block dugout at the Verndale School baseball field. Power remained out for much of the city Friday morning. Most homes saw at least a tree down. Many had damage to homes.

The Verndale Fire Department along with Wadena County Sheriff's Office deputies were actively handling damage assessments Friday morning. It appears much of the worst damage hit Verndale, where 94 mph winds were reported. Strong winds struck many other parts of the county too as it traveled north from Otter Tail and Todd counties.

The Wadena County board held an emergency meeting Friday morning to vote unanimously to declare the disaster. The declaration states that townships most hard hit appear to be Wadena, Aldrich, Leaf River and Wing River, but the

declaration covers all of Wadena County. Sheriff Mike Carr made the recommendation and said there were no reports of injuries or displaced people as of Friday morning. Some of the most severe damage included a mobile home with a roof ripped off and downed power lines along Hwy 104 between Verndale and Wadena. Other sightings included a toppled irrigation system on the south side of Verndale.

Commissioner Marilyn Kreklau was the only county commissioner able to make it to the meeting in person, others joined remotely. Kreklau reported sheds collapsed in his area near Sebeka in central

Wadena County. Crews were busy clearing roadways throughout the night and power companies were attempting to restore power.

Power outages are fairly widespread in central Minnesota, indicating the expanse of this powerful storm. Local power utility Todd-Wadena Electric noted 3,500 members were without power on Thursday night. Minnesota Power was working to restore power to the city of Verndale by 11 a.m. on Friday. Aldrich, Browerville, Bertha, Hewitt, Long Prairie and Little Falls were other regional communities in outages. According to PowerOutage.us, there



Photos by Michael Johnson / Pioneer Journal

The dugout at the Verndale School baseball field was tossed backwards as near 100 mph winds forced the structure over on Thursday.

were 52,000 reported outages in Minnesota on Friday morning. That includes 355 in Wadena County, 20% of Todd County, and 18% of Otter Tail County. It shows the path of the storm up from Nebraska, into southwestern Minnesota and waning after exiting Wadena and Cass Counties.

The Verndale School was closed on Friday due to the power outage and an unknown timeline of power being restored.



A spruce tree is toppled after winds sailed north down Hwy 71 in Wadena on Thursday.

## I'll buy you dinner at every game.

I'll also buy dinner for your friends, for your kids, for your aunts and uncles, for your neighbors, for anybody you say.

By Jordan Yessak  
Vice President of Ticketing

When something makes sense, it makes sense. That just made me sound like Yogi Berra, but for good reason. This really does make sense. We were thinking of families when we came up with this idea, but this also applies to friends, neighbors, whomever.



Here are the benefits that come with the Stingers 7-Game Plan:

### 1. I'll buy you dinner

At each of the 7 games, you'll receive a concession voucher good for (2) food items (cheeseburgers, brats, chicken sandwiches, hot dogs, pizza), a bag of chips, and a soda! These concession vouchers can be redeemed right after the gates open, or when you get up to do the 7th Inning Stretch!

### 2. Home Opener & Fireworks.

The Stingers 7-Game Plan starts out with a bang...literally. Each 7-game plan starts with the 2022 Home Opener presented by J.D. Kreps Financial Group featuring a post-game fireworks show!

### 3. Attend seven of the best nights of the 2022 season!

We've selected seven of our best, premium, home games throughout the season. That means you'll have a ticket for the best giveaways and theme nights on our promotional schedule!

### 4. "Never a wasted seat" exchange policy.

If you can't make it to one of the games in your 7-game plan, simply exchange your ticket prior to the game for any other 2022 regular season game (all ticket exchanges subject to availability).


It doesn't get any better than that. Oh wait, it does. Because the 7-Game Plan costs just **\$75 per plan**...That means that you can see potential major leaguers of the future and eat and drink for just **\$10.71** per seat per game!

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## Cine told to take charge at Vikings rookie minicamp

**By Chris Tomasson**  
St. Paul Pioneer Press

EAGAN, Minnesota — During organized team activities next week, Minnesota Vikings rookie safety Lewis Cine will learn under the likes of veteran defensive backs Harrison Smith and Patrick Peterson. But at rookie minicamp Friday, Cine was put in charge.



Cine was taken with the No. 32 pick out of Georgia in last month's NFL draft. He arrived in Minnesota on Thursday, signed his contract, and soon got an assignment from first-year head coach Kevin O'Connell.

"I told him (Friday), 'Hey, lead this group out here,'" O'Connell said. "There's a reason why you were our first-round draft pick and he's got that makeup and it comes naturally to him to lead by example. But I challenged him, take the rest of that DB group under your wing."

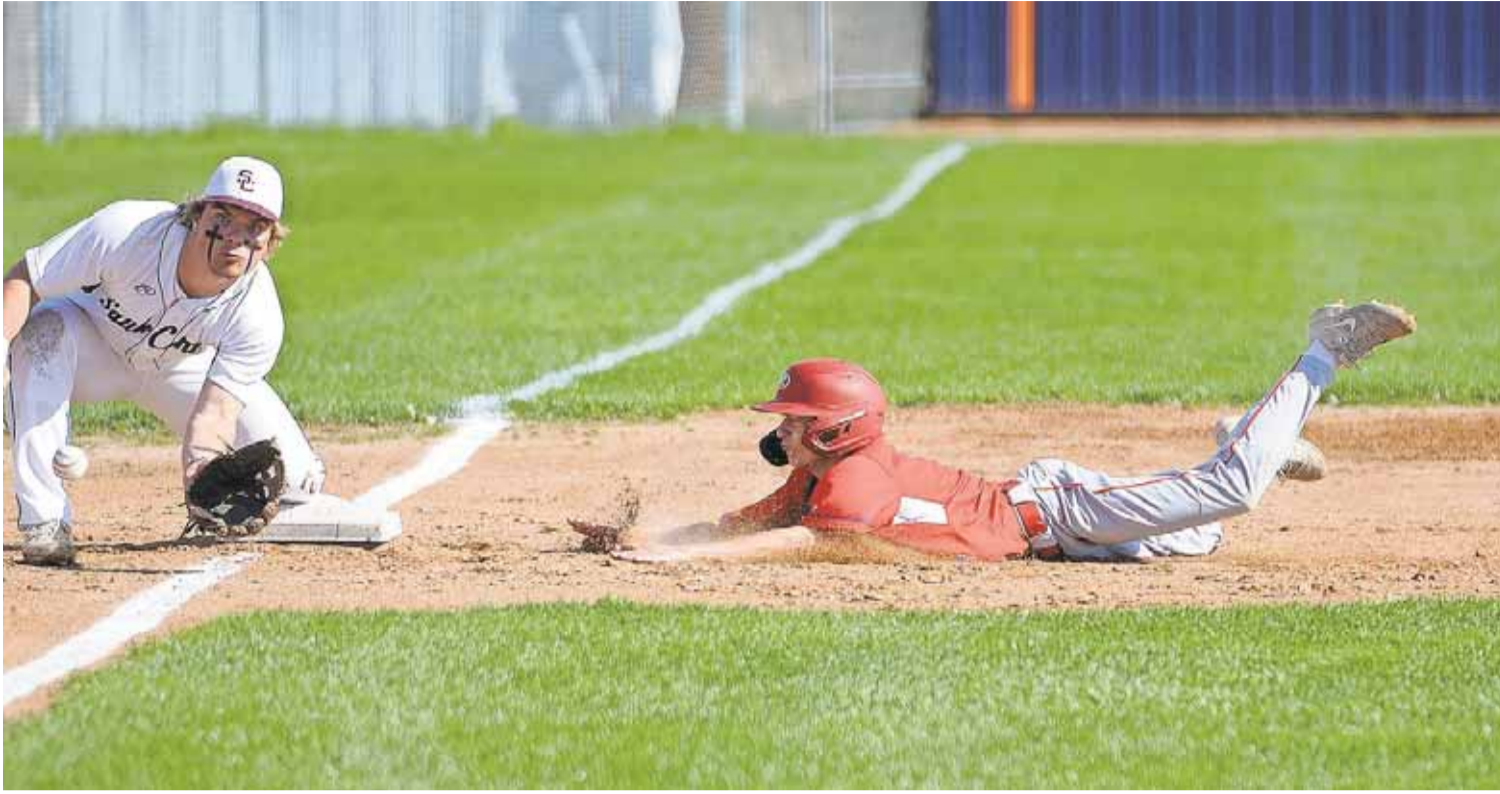
So Cine, 22, barked out instructions on the first day of the two-day minicamp at the TCO Performance Center to eight other defensive backs. The group included cornerback Andrew Booth Jr., a second-round pick who didn't participate in drills Friday as he continues to recover from hernia surgery, cornerback Akayleb Evans, a fourth-round selection, an undrafted free-agent signee and five tryout players.

Cine took the assignment in stride. "I'm a natural leader," he said. "I know that right away I don't have to do much. Just be myself. As long as I'm communicating with the guys generally, enjoying the game, leadership comes really easy after that."

When the Vikings open the season Sept. 11 against Green Bay at U.S. Bank Stadium, Cine could be in the starting lineup alongside Smith, a six-time Pro Bowl selection.

"He sent me a good text message, 'Welcome to the team,'" Cine said of Smith reaching out after the first round on April 28. "I sent something back. I'm really excited to get to learn under him."

Smith is the hardest-hitting player in Minnesota's secondary, and Cine is also known for dishing out blows. While nobody was wearing pads at Friday's workout, Cine called it a **CINE:** Page AB2



Photos by Joe Brown / West Central Tribune  
KMS sophomore Luke Jeseritz, right, slides into third successfully while Sauk Centre third baseman Elijah Fletcher looks to catch the ball in the MaxBat Classic on Friday at Saints Field in Elrosa.

# SAINTS FIGHT PAST 'STREETERS

KMS secures a 1-0 win over Sauk Centre in the MaxBat Classic

**By Joe Brown and Tom Elliott**  
West Central Tribune

**Elrosa**  
Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg made the most of its one opportunity. And the Fighting Saints made sure that Sauk Centre wasn't going to get on the board.

In the opening game of the MaxBat Classic on Friday, the KMS baseball team held on for a 1-0 victory at Saints Field.

In the top of the third inning, Fighting Saints freshman Luke Jeseritz came through for the game's only run. With two outs, Jeseritz, the No. 9 hitter, hit a bloop single to right field. He made it to second on an Isaac Rudningen single, then advanced to third on a throwing error. A wild pitch by the Mainstreeters' Matthew Warring allowed Jeseritz the time he needed to record the only run.

From there, KMS' defense was the star of the game.

In the bottom of the third, Sauk Centre appeared ready to score on a sac fly. But Fighting Saints center fielder

Alex Call caught the Warring pop fly then threw home to catcher Jared Cortez. Cortez chased down and tagged out Zach Bick for the final out.

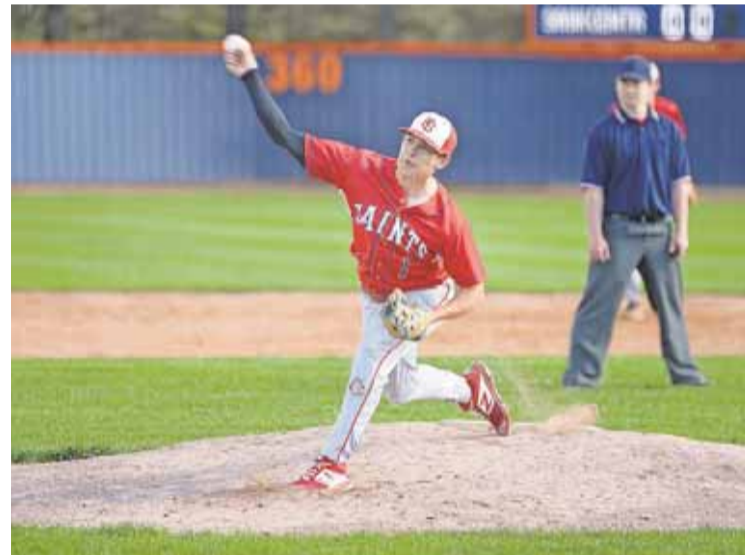
The Mainstreeters threatened again in the fourth with a runner on third before KMS pitcher Wylee Lottman got the strikeout for the third out. Call stepped onto the mound in the sixth two outs and runners on second and third. He got the strikeout to neutralize the threat.

Then in the seventh, the Fighting Saints picked off Ethan Nathe at third and threw out Bick at home for the final out of the game.

Lottman got the win after striking out five in four innings. Cortez got the hold after throwing 1-2/3 scoreless innings of relief while Call struck out two in the four-out save.

Rudningen, Call, Jeseritz and Jaiden Henjum each accounted for the Fighting Saints' four hits.

KMS (9-0) takes on Browerville/Eagle Valley at 1 p.m. Saturday in Day 2 of the MaxBat Classic.



KMS senior Wylee Lottman delivers a pitch in the MaxBat Classic against Sauk Centre on Friday at Saints Field in Elrosa.

### MaxBat Classic

#### KMS 1, Sauk Centre 0

**KMS** 001 000 0-1 4 3  
**Sauk Centre** 000 000 0-0 3 1  
**Hitting - KMS:** Isaac Rudningen 1-3, Alex Call 1-3, Jaiden Henjum 1-3, Luke Jeseritz 1-2 r ...  
**Sauk Centre:** Hunter Danielson 1-3, Matthew Warring 1-2 bb, Logan Meyer 1-2  
**Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - KMS:** Wylee Lottman (W) 4-2-0-0-3-5, Jared Cortez 1.2-1-0-0-0-0, Call (Sv) 1.1-0-0-0-2-2 ... **Sauk Centre:** Warring (L) 7-4-1-1-1-6

#### BBE 9, Browerville/EV 1

Will Van Beck pitched a

two-hitter, striking out 15 and walking one, to lead Belgrade-Broton-Elrosa to the victory over Browerville/Eagle Valley at Elrosa.

Van Beck also went 3-for-3 with a walk and four runs scored. Chase Wright was 3-for-4 with two runs and two RBI for the Jaguars.

BBE faces Sauk Centre at **SAINTS:** Page AB2

## A grand night for Lewis, Twins

Rookie shortstop hits first career homer as Twins rout Cleveland

**By John Shipley**  
St. Paul Pioneer Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The Minnesota Twins might have something to think about when Carlos Correa returns from the injured list.

Royce Lewis, the Twins' 2017 first-round draft pick, hit his first major league home run on Friday, a grand slam to break the dam on a 12-8 victory over the Cleveland Guardians in front of 18,711 at Target Field.

It's not so much that Lewis is ready to replace Correa, the Twins' big-ticket offseason acquisition, at shortstop. It's more that he's been pretty darn good since being called up for his first major league taste on May 6.

Gary Sanchez was 2 for 3 with a three-run home run, and Sonny Gray — making his return from a hamstring injury suffered April 16 at Boston, struck out a season-high



Jeffrey Becker / USA Today Sports

Minnesota Twins shortstop Royce Lewis (23) reacts with shortstop Nick Gordon (1) after hitting a grand slam home run off Cleveland Guardians relief pitcher Bryan Shaw (27) during the fifth inning Friday at Target Field in Minneapolis. It was Lewis's first career home run.

eight in 4 1/3 innings as the Twins' snapped a three-game losing streak and extended their American League Central lead on second-place Chicago to three games.

But Lewis, the first overall pick in the 2017 amateur draft, was Friday's star.

After getting his first big league extra-base hits on Friday — he doubled, homered and scored twice in the Twins' nine-run fifth inning — Lewis has hit safely in six of his seven big-league games, hitting .320 with four RBIs and

**TWINS:** Page AB2

### PREP SOFTBALL

## Sophomore delivers in KMS win over YME

Anderson goes the distance to beat YME, 11-1

**By Tom Elliott, Joe Brown and Donna Middleton**  
West Central Tribune

**MURDOCK** — Maddy Anderson got the complete-game pitching victory for Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg in its 11-1 Camden Conference softball victory over Yellow Medicine East on Friday.

Anderson, a sophomore right-hander, struck out six and walked one. She allowed six hits over six innings, allowing one earned run. She also went 2-for-4 with two RBI.

Bayli Sneller was 2-for-3 for YME.

KMS (10-4) has a busy week of games, beginning with a doubleheader Monday at Tyler against Russell-Tyler-Ruth-ton. The Fighting Saints then are host to a doubleheader

Tuesday against Renville County West/BOLD before playing Thursday at Benson.

### Camden

**KMS 11, YME 1**  
**YME** 001 000-1 6 5  
**KMS** 000 812-11 9 1  
**Hitting - YME:** Yansi Flores 1-3, Hannah Stark 1-3, Jenna Weir 1-2, Bayli Sneller 2-3, Alayna Almich 1-2 2b ... **KMS:** Shakira Olson 2-3, Kaitlyn Peters 1-4 rbi, Grace Collins 1-3 rbi-2, Emily Wagner 2-3 rbi, Elsa Gjerde 1-3 2b rbi-2, Maddy Anderson 2-4 rbi-2  
**Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - YME:** Weir (L) 3.2-3-6-5-1-5, K. Peters 2-7-5-2-2-2 ... **KMS:** Anderson (W) 6-6-1-1-1-6

### Wright County

**Rockford 14, NLS 1**  
Julie Houghton tossed a five-inning no-hitter as Rockford beat New London-Spicer at New London.

Houghton struck out two and walked three. Delaney Hanson, walked, stole a base and scored a run on a ground out by Abby Knudsen for the Wildcats.

It was Social Justice Night at the field. Players wore **DELIVERS:** Page AB2

SAINTS

From Page AB1

5:30 p.m. Saturday in Elrosa for Day 2 of the MaxBat Classic.

Browerville/EV 000 010 0-1 2 5
BBE 202 113 x-9 8 2
Hitting - Browerville/EV: H. Puck 1-3 r, R. Riedel 1-2 rbi ... BBE: Will Van Beck 3-3 r-4 bb, Chase Wright 3-4 r-2 rbi-2, Gavin Kampen 1-3 rbi-2 bb, Ashton Dingmann 0-3 rbi, Blaine Fischer 1-3 bb, Easton Hagen 0-3 r

Central Lakes

Game 1:

Willmar 4, Alexandria 3

Willmar scored the winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning at Knute Nelson Field in Alexandria.

Willmar coach Tom DeBoer called it "unconventional."

Mason Madsen smacked a single with runners on first and second with one out. Alex Schramm was sent home from second by DeBoer and called out at the plate. Cayden Hansen, the runner on first, kept running while Alex tried to make a play on Madsen, who was headed to second. Hansen scored the winning run.

"Cayden Hansen scored all the way from first base," DeBoer said. "A lot of players will sit and watch (when a runner is thrown out at home). But our guys kept going, like we want them to. I didn't send Cayden. He did that all on his own. It was a nice play.

"It went from a huge momentum play for Alex to a huge momentum play for us."

Ian Koonsman got the complete-game win, striking out 13 and walking two. He allowed four hits and three earned runs.

Alexandria 200 000 1-3 4 1
Willmar 002 100 1-4 5 1
Hitting - Alexandria: Lake Hagen-Koelbl 1-3 2b rbi, Jaxon Schoenrock 2-3 rbi sb, William Suchy 1-3, Reed Reisdorf 0-3 rbi bb, Brock Lerfeld 0-4 r sb, Nathan Knoll 0-0 r, Grady Anderson 0-0 r ... Willmar: Brandt Sunder 1-3 r rbi bb sb, Cayden Hansen 2-3 2b rbi-2 sb, Mason Madsen 1-4 rbi, Jason Malmgren 1-2 bb, Carter Schow 0-2 r, Sam Raitz 0-2 r bb

Game 2:

Willmar 8, Alexandria 4

Mason Madsen went 2-for-3 with a triple, a walk and two RBI for Willmar in its doubleheader sweep at Alexandria.

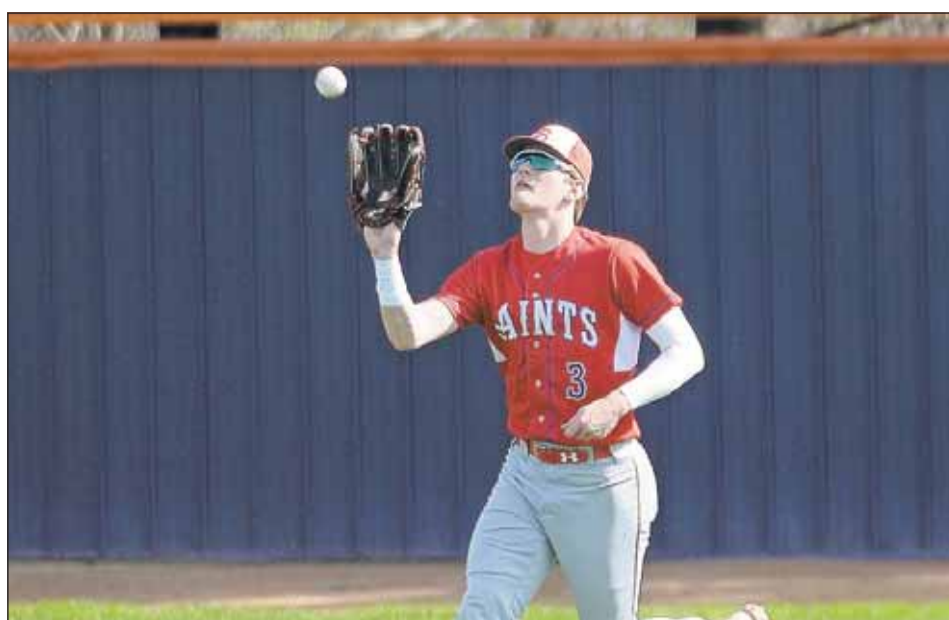
Madsen's two-run triple came in the fifth inning when Willmar was trailing 4-3.

"Mason had a really good day at the plate," Willmar head coach Tom DeBoer said.

Brant Sunder went 2-for-4 with an RBI. Ian Koonsman was 2-for-4 with two runs and an RBI for Willmar.

Cayden Hansen got the complete-game win on the mound, striking out six, walking no one and allowing one earned run.

Willmar (8-4) plays Monday at Fergus Falls.
Willmar 210 030 2-8 11 2
Alexandria 210 100 0-4 9 0
Hitting - Willmar: Brandt Sunder 2-4 r rbi, Alex Schramm 1-3 r-2, Ian Koonsman 2-4 r-2 rbi, Cayden Hansen 1-4 rbi-2, Mason Madsen 2-3 3b rbi-2 bb, Jason Malmgren 1-3 2b r, Carter Schow 1-1 rbi-2, Ridgley Hulstein 1-3 r, Sam Etterman 0-0 r ... Alexandria: Reed Reisdorf 1-4 r, Brock



Joe Brown / West Central Tribune

KMS senior center fielder Alex Call tracks down a liner for an out during a game against Sauk Centre in the MaxBat Classic on Friday at Saints Field in Elrosa.

Lerfeld 2-4 r sb, Caleb Runge 2-4, Jaxon Schoenrock 1-4 r, Jonathan Hennen 1-3, Nate Hammerback 2-3 rbi, Lake Hagen-Koelbl 0-4 rbi, Grady Anderson 0-3 r
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - Willmar: Hansen (W) 7-9-4-1-0-6 ... Alexandria: Parker Jendro (W) 4-1-9-6-6-0-6, Spencer Schmidt 2-2-2-2-1-2

West Central

Game 1:

Minnewaska 10, BOLD 0

Torii Johnson tossed a five-inning no-hitter to lead Minnewaska past BOLD at Glenwood.

The senior right-hander struck out eight and walked no one, hitting one batter. He also went 3-for-4 at the plate with a run and two RBI.

BOLD 000 00-0 0 0
Minnewaska 190 00-10 12 0
Hitting - BOLD: No hits ... Minnewaska: Jacob Blair 1-3 r-2 bb, Torii Johnson 3-4 r rbi-2, Dylan Alexander 1-3 r rbi-2 bb, Jack Larson 1-3 r rbi, Blake Andreas 0-1 r, Jack Majerus 2-3 r bi, Paul Johnson 0-3 r rbi, Noah Jensen 1-2 rbi bb, Hunter Johnson 1-1 rbi bb-2, Nathan Doll 2-3 r bi
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - BOLD: Rylan Gass (L) 1.1-6-9-3-2-1, Max Benson

2.2-5-1-1-4-2 ... Home: Torii Johnson (W) 5-0-0-0-0-8

Game 2:

Minnewaska 13, BOLD 1

Minnewaska completed the sweep over BOLD with another five-inning win at Glenwood.

Dylan Alexander went 2-for-3 with three runs, an RBI and a stolen base. Jacob Blair was 2-for-2 with a double, a run, a stolen base and two Rbi and PJ Johnson went 2-for-2 with a run, a walk, a stolen base and three RBI for the Lakers.

Hunter Johnson gave up one run over four innings for the pitching win.

Jack Kaise was 1-for-2 for the Warriors.
Minnewaska 520 33-13 10 0
BOLD 100 00-1 1 1

Hitting - Minnewaska: Jacob Blair 2-2 2b r rbi-2 sb, Dylan Alexander 2-2 r-3 rbi sb, Jack Larson 1-3 r-2 bb, Jack Majerus 1-1 r-2 rbi bb sb-3, PJ Johnson 2-2 r rbi-3 bb sb, Noah Jensen 1-4 2b rbi-2, Hunter Johnson 1-3 rbi-2 bb, Torii Johnson 0-4 r 0-0 r sb, Alex Panitzke 0-0 r bb, Ryland Martin 0-0 r ... BOLD: Jack Kaiser 1-2, Tate Sheehan 0-2 r bb sb, Carson Edwards 0-2 rbi
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - Minnewaska: Hunter Johnson (W) 4-1-1-1-3-2, Martin 1-0-0-0-0-3 ... BOLD: Sheehan (L) 3-7-9-7-4-0, Hayden Edwards 2-3-4-4-3-3

Melrose 7, Montevideo 3

Melrose got the home win over Montevideo in West Central Conference play.

The Thunder Hawks play host to New London-Spicer for a non-conference game at 4 p.m. Monday.

Camden

RCW 11, Canby 1

Tyler Froland hit a two-run home run for Renville County West in a five-inning victory against Canby at Sacred

Heart.
Tyler Amdsen was 2-for-2 with two RBIs and a run scored for the Jaguars. Carter Rice finished 2-for-4 with three RBIs and a run.

Froland also got the win on the mound, holding the Lancers to one run while striking out five over four innings.

Canby 001 00-1 1 5
RCW 231 14-11 7 2
Hitting - Canby: Easton Antony 0-2 r, Evan Engesmo 1-2 ... RCW: Camden Wohlman 1-4 r, Tyler Froland 1-2 hr r-2 rbi-2 bb, Tyler Amdsen 2-2 r rbi-2 bb, Carter Rice 2-4 r rbi-3, Caleb Hoff 1-3 r rbi bb
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - Canby: Colton Ruether (L) 2.2-3-6-3-6-6, Brady Hulzbos 2.0-4-5-3-2-2 ... RCW: Froland (W) 4-1-1-0-0-5, Brenden Peterson 1-0-0-0-0-2

Non-Conference

Litchfield 15, Maple Lake 3

Sophomore Hunter Schultz hit two home runs and freshman Anthony Estrada hit another in Litchfield's victory at Maple Lake.

The game was initially scheduled to be played in Litchfield, but was moved because of unplayable field conditions caused by Thursday's severe weather.

Caden Besemer got the complete-game, five-inning pitching win. He has three victories this spring.

Litchfield is 5-8 overall.
Litchfield 046 14-15 16 1
Maple Lake 003 00-3 4 2
Hitting - Litchfield: Bauer Wahl 3-4 r rbi sb-2, Hunter Schultz 3-4 hr-2 r-2 rbi-4, Daniel Estrada 2-4 r sb, Caden Besemer 1-4 2b r, Beau Weseloh 1-3 2b r-2 rbi, Connor Taber 1-3 2b r, Ashton Sullivan 2-3 2b r-2 rbi-2, Anthony Estrada 2-4 hr r rbi-3 sb, Jack McCann 1-2 r-2 rbi bb sb-2, Calvin Jones 0-1 r rbi sb, Chase Housman 0-0 r ... Maple Lake: J. Gendreau 1-2, N. Zander 2-3 2b rbi-2, N. Josh 1-2 r rbi, S. Marquette 0-1 r bb
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - Litchfield: Besemer (W) 5-4-3-3-3-3 ... Maple Lake: J. Faeu (L) 2.1-8-8-7-0-1, C. Scanlon 1.2-6-5-5-1-2, Jost 1-2-2-1-1-1

TWINS

From Page AB1

two runs scored while playing a solid shortstop.

Not bad considering he didn't play any games in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic and missed all of 2021 after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee during spring training.

"We're really seeing a young guy that's still working his way back from this injury," manager Rocco Baldelli said before Friday's game. "I mean, even if he's physically a hundred percent, the reps he hasn't had. But for a guy who hasn't had the reps, I think he's looked pretty good. ... We've seen some nice things for him."

That was before Friday night's performance. Lewis went 2 for 4 with a double, homer, two runs scored and four RBIs. In his first at-bat, with one out in the second, Lewis was robbed by Cleveland third baseman Jose Ramirez, who snared a liner that left Lewis' at 114 mph.

But with one on and none out in the fifth, he doubled to the well in left-center off Cleveland starter Aaron Civale (1-3), moving Ryan Jeffers to third. After Max Kepler's RBI single, Lewis, Jorge Polanco and Kepler scored on Sanchez's 425-foot home run to dead center off reliever Bryan Shaw to make it 8-2. With two out and the bases loaded later in the fifth, Lewis took a 1-0 pitch from reliever Shaw and shot it an estimated 395 feet into the left-center bleachers for an 11-2 Twins lead. The Twins sent 12 batters to the plate and scored nine runs in the inning.

Lewis became the first Twins player to hit a grand slam for his first career home run since Danny Valencia did it in Kansas City on July 26, 2010.

The Guardians, who had won five of their previous seven games, were playing without most of its major league coaching staff, including manager Terry Francona, because of a COVID-19 outbreak. They also were without first baseman Josh Naylor, who is leading the Guardians with a .347 bat-

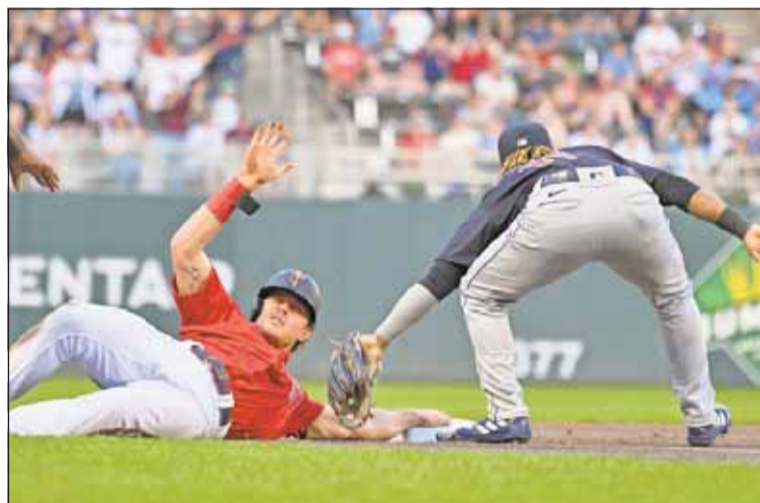
ting average and ranks second to Jose Ramirez with five homers and 22 RBIs. He was placed on the COVID injured list before the game.

Byron Buxton and Polanco gave the Twins a 2-0 lead in the first with solo home runs. Buxton's, a blast to the second deck in left-center estimated to have traveled 433 feet, was his 10th of the season and the seventh lead-off homer of his career.

Correa, on the 10-day injured list after being hit by a pitch on the middle finger of his right hand May 5 in Baltimore, is eligible to be activated when the Twins are in Oakland on Monday, but Baldelli said that appears unlikely.

"He's still feeling some soreness and some discomfort, so I wouldn't expect him to be back — but we've seen crazier things," Baldelli said. "He could come in and, if his symptoms subside, we could be out there. I wouldn't expect it, but I'm not ruling it out."

One of the best defensive shortstops in baseball, he struggled at the plate early but had been trending back to his mean before going down, hit-



Jeffrey Becker / USA Today Sports

Minnesota Twins right fielder Max Kepler (26) slides in safe in front of Cleveland Guardians third baseman Jose Ramirez (11) during the first inning Friday at Target Field in Minneapolis.

ting .328 with three doubles, a homer and 10 RBIs in the 15 games before he was injured.

Asked if Correa is performing baseball activities, Baldelli said, "It's more testing it out than really advancing it at this point," adding that he could require a rehab assignment — most likely in with Class AAA St. Paul.

"I think more than anything

it's, how much time is he going to miss?" the manager said. "You cross that line and then it makes too much sense to go (on assignment)."

Oscar Mercado was 2 for 4 with a two-run home run, and Ramirez was 2 for 5 with a pair of run-scoring singles and Andres Ramirez hit a two-run home run off Emilio Pagan in the ninth for Cleveland.

DELIVERS

From Page AB1

t-shirts that said: "Be Good People."
NLS plays Morris/Chokio-Alberta at 3:30 p.m. Monday in New London.

Rockford 406 04-14 0
NLS 000 50-1 4 3
Hitting - Rockford: Makayia Graunke 3-4 2b-2 rbi-2, Lily Jackson 3-4 rbi-2 ... NLS: Nyla Johnson 0-1 bb, Delaney Hanson 0-1 r bb sb, Sydney Feist 0-1 bb, Abby Knudsen 0-2 rbi
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - Rockford: Julie Houghton (W) 5-0-0-0-3-2 ... NLS: Emily Ruter (L) 5-14-14-11-1-1

West Central

Game 1:

Minnewaska 13, Montevideo 0

A nine-run fourth inning helped Minnewaska end its victory over Montevideo in five innings at Glenwood.

Olivia Richards went 3-for-3 with a double, a triple, a walk, two runs and three RBI for the Lakers. Breanna Larson got the complete-game win, tossing a three-hitter. She struck out one and walked one.

Amery Arends, Lily Eisenlohr and Kylie Cobb all had hits for the Thunder Hawks.

Montevideo 000 00-0 3 2
Minnewaska 220 9x-13 8 0
Hitting - Montevideo: Amery Arends 1-2, Lily Eisenlohr 1-2, Kylie Cobb 1-1 ... Minnewaska: Brooklyn Larson 1-1 2b r-4 rbi-2 bb-3 sb, Olivia Richards 3-3 2b 3b r-2 rbi-3 bb, Maddy Meulebroeck 1-4 rbi-2 sb, Brenna Larson 1-3 2b r, Leslie Murken 1-3 r rbi sb, Grace Larson 1-2, Ally Mogard 0-3 r rbi, Leah Hagen 0-2 r rbi bb, Jenna Drewes 0-1 r-2 bb sb-2, Grace Jensen 0-0 r sb
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - Montevideo: Kasey Pauling (L) 3.1-6-12-6-7-4, Taya Weber 0.2-2-1-1-0-0 ... Minnewaska: Bre. Larson (W) 5-3-0-0-1-1

Game 2:

Montevideo 14, Minnewaska 13

Mathea Jorgenson gave Montevideo the walk-off victory with a two-run double in Game 2 over Minnewaska in Glenwood.

Jorgenson finished the game 3-for-4 with a triple, three runs and two stolen bases. Kylie Cobb also had three hits for the Thunder Hawks, with two RBIs, two stolen bases and a run. Tenley Epema got the win after throwing 2-2/3 innings of relief.

Brooklyn Larson was 3-for-4 with three RBIs and a run scored for the Lakers.

Minnewaska 100 361 2-13 14 0
Montevideo 822 000 2-14 12 6
Hitting - Minnewaska: Brooklyn Larson 3-4 r rbi-3, Riley Eichens 1-3 rbi-2 bb-2 sb-2, Jenna Drewes 2-5 r-2 sb, Grace Jensen 1-5 r-2 rbi, Leslie Murken 2-4 r-3 bb, E Poegel 3-4 2b-2 r-2 rbi-4 bb sb, Leah Hagen 2-5 r-2 rbi, Olivia Richards 0-5 r sb-2 ... Montevideo: Mathea Jorgenson 3-4 2b 3b r-3 rbi-2 bb sb-2, Alyssa Sachs 2-3 rbi-2 bb, Amery Arends 1-3 r rbi sb, Lily Eisenlohr 1-3 2b r-2 rbi-2 bb sb, Keely Foley 1-3 r rbi sb, Kylie Cobb 3-4 2b r rbi-2 sb-2, Tenley Epema 1-4, Emily Brace 0-3 r, Kasey Pauling 0-3 r, Taya Weber 0-0 r bb, B DeJong 0-0 r-2 sb, Madyson King 0-0 r
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - Minnewaska: Jensen (L) 6-12-14-12-5-7 ... Montevideo: Weber 4.1-8-10-5-4-2, Epema (W) 2.2-6-3-3-1-0

Non-Conference

Dassel-Cokato 13, ACGC 0

Dassel-Cokato's Evelyn O'Brien threw a perfect game, striking out 10 in a win over Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City at Cokato.

ACGC 000 00-0 0 2
Dassel-Cokato 250 6x-13 10 0
Hitting - ACGC: no hits ... Dassel-Cokato: No starts available
Pitching (ip-h-r-er-bb-so) - ACGC: Kendall Miller (L) 1.2-4-7-6-9-2, Mikaili Johnson 2.1-6-6-5-2-2 ... Dassel-Cokato: Evelyn O'Brien (W) 5-0-0-0-0-10

CINE

From Page AB1

"dope process" stepping on the field in the "big leagues."

Cine wore No. 16 in college before the Vikings gave him No. 6 when he was introduced April 29 to the Minnesota media. Cine said then that No. 16 wasn't available, but he liked 6 because "single digits sell a whole lot."

The Vikings announced last Tuesday that Cine would be assigned No. 16, but a representative of his agency, Roc Nation Sports, told the Pioneer Press on Thursday he instead had decided to keep No. 6. That's what he wore Friday, and punter Jordan Berry, listed on the full team roster as No. 6, soon will change.

"They had great intentions in trying to get me 16, the coaches," Cine said. "But I talked to them and

it's like I'm comfortable with 6. It's a new beginning for me. And I'm staying with it. ... It's great for marketing."

If Cine develops the way the Vikings hope, he might have plenty to market.

"He's got a calm demeanor to him," said O'Connell, who is presiding over 42 players at the minicamp. "He's got that off the field where you're wondering, 'Is this the same guy I watched on tape?'"

But then, even though he's just in a helmet and isn't in shoulder pads and is not in full contact, you watch him step over the white lines and the Lewis Cine from tape comes out. How I saw it was the ownership of the information, the calls back there."

Cine got a four-year, \$11.494 million contract that is fully guaranteed. In the 2021 draft, only the top 28 selections had all four years guaranteed,

and Cine thanked Roc Nation Sports and the Vikings for the deal getting done quickly so he could "focus on football."

"I like being just a normal person," he said. "I talk with people. I laugh. I have a great personality. But I know once I'm on the field, it's work. I have to be serious about I'm doing, what's going to feed me, my family and everyone."

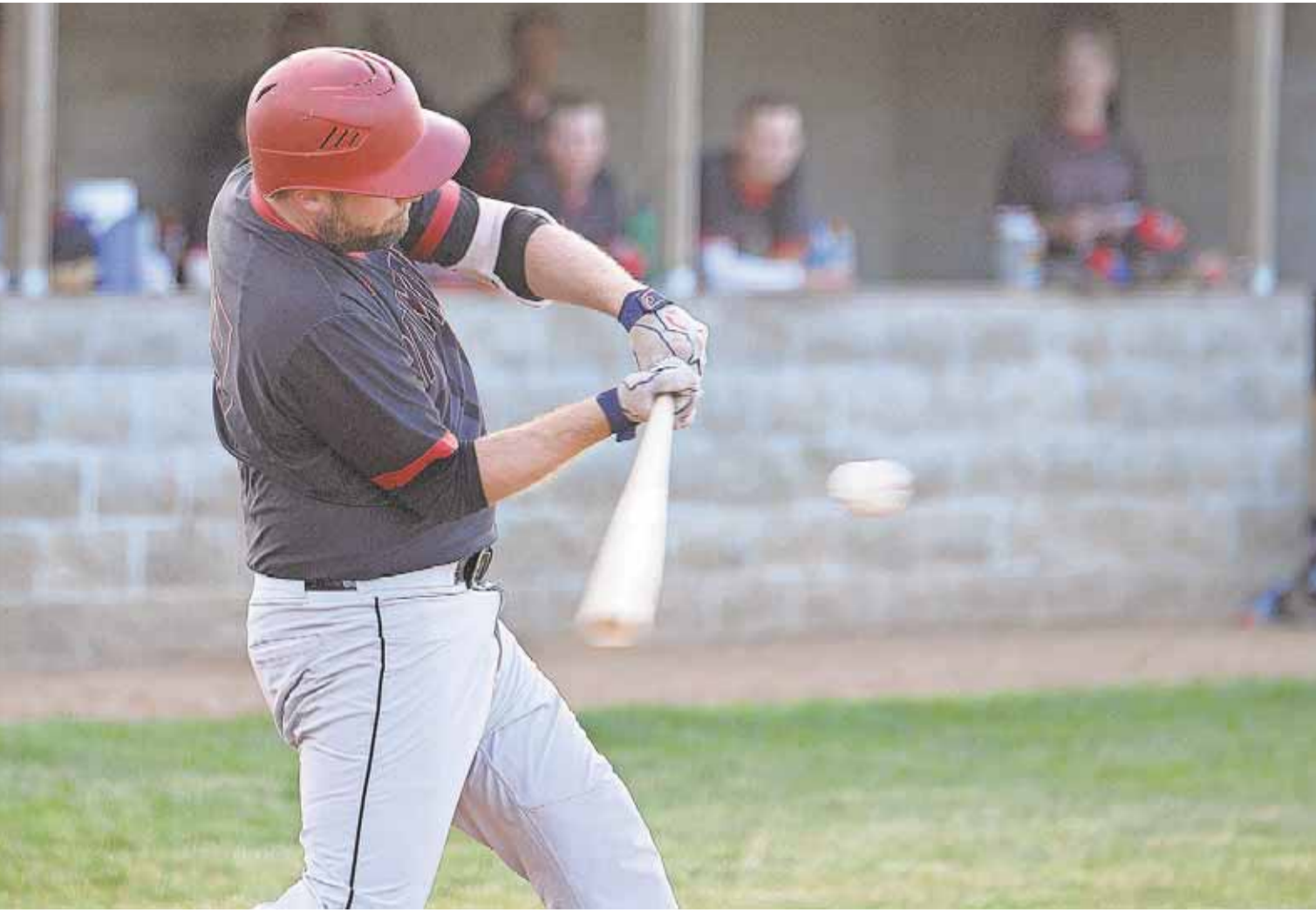
With O'Connell wanting Cine to be a leader, he is taking the role quite seriously. He said it extends to off the field, and he is making an effort to be "respectful" to everyone at the TCO Performance Center.

"I'm starting to get to know everyone's name, from people serving me my food, people I just see walking in the hallways," he said. "I'm introducing myself and getting their names because it might look small but that goes a long way."









Photos by Joe Brown / West Central Tribune

Raymond's John Sawatzky takes a cut at a pitch during a Corn Belt League game against Bird Island on July 7, 2021 at Raymond.

## Wild know that changes are coming

After failed playoff run, how will team be reimagined?

By Dane Mizutani  
St. Paul Pioneer Press

ST. PAUL — Usually extremely personable after wins and extremely accountable after losses, Wild alternate captain Marcus Foligno had trouble looking reporters in the eyes Thursday night in St. Louis. He powered through each of his answers, providing thoughtful responses despite the fact that he was still coming to grips with a once-promising season coming to a disappointing early end.

This group was not supposed to go out like this.

"It's tough to put into words right now," Foligno said after the Wild ended their season with a 5-1 loss to the St. Louis Blues in Game 6 of their first-round playoff series. "Just how close this group was and how positive the regular season was. It's just disappointing."

After the best regular season in franchise history — a 53-22-7 record and 113 points — the Wild looked primed for a deep playoff run heading into their series with the Blues. Understandably, the early exit left a sour taste as this version of the Wild couldn't escape the fate of so many Wild teams that came before it.

The toughest pill to swallow for everyone involved, players and coaches alike, was that this exact group of players will never be the same. It's the nature of the business in professional sports. So much changes season to season, and the Wild are no different.

While star winger Kirill Kaprizov is under contract for the foreseeable future, along with captain Jared Spurgeon, shutdown center Joel Eriksson Ek, emerging rookie Matt Boldy, and a handful of other key contributors, there are a lot of question marks heading into this offseason.

No matter how many players general manager Bill Guerin decides to bring back, it won't be the same roster when next season rolls around.

"It sucks," coach Dean Evason said. "They actually love playing together. There's no individuals. There's no (complaining) on the bench. There's no, 'I should get this ice time; I should be on the

WILD: Page B2

# TRACY ENGINEERS JOIN THE FRAY

Tracy becomes the 9th member of Corn Belt League as the 2022 season begins

By Tom Elliott  
West Central Tribune

Welcome the Tracy Engineers to the Corn Belt League.

The amateur baseball team was approved in January to join the Corn Belt, which includes teams in Willmar, Bird Island, Granite Falls, Raymond and Sacred Heart as well as Milroy, Marshall and Wabasso.

"It was primarily to cut down on our travel," said Tracy Engineer player/co-manager Anthony Rohlik. "We felt like we were traveling to much to places like Luverne, Adrian and Fairmont."

Tracy had been playing a busy schedule of Gopher and First Night League games.

### CORN BELT LEAGUE

Final 2021 standings

Team	W-L	Pct.	GB
Bird Island	11-3	.786	—
Milroy	11-3	.786	—
Raymond	10-4	.714	1
Willmar	8-6	.571	3
Marshall	7-7	.500	4
Sacred Heart	6-8	.429	5
Granite Falls	3-11	.214	8
Wabasso	0-14	.000	11

That also will slow down in the new league. The Corn Belt had 14 league games in 2021.

Tracy won five games last season. The Engineers have been under the current regime for four seasons. The team previously was known as the Tracy Express.

"Some of us decided, 'Let's give us a facelift.'"

The Engineers play their games at the high school field in Tracy. The Engineers were scheduled to open the 2021 season with Dawson last weekend. But like most



Raymond's Caleb Ditmanson fires off a pitch during a Corn Belt League game against Bird Island on July 7, 2021 at Raymond.

teams, the weather didn't cooperate. They are now scheduled to play the May 20 at Milroy against the Yankees.

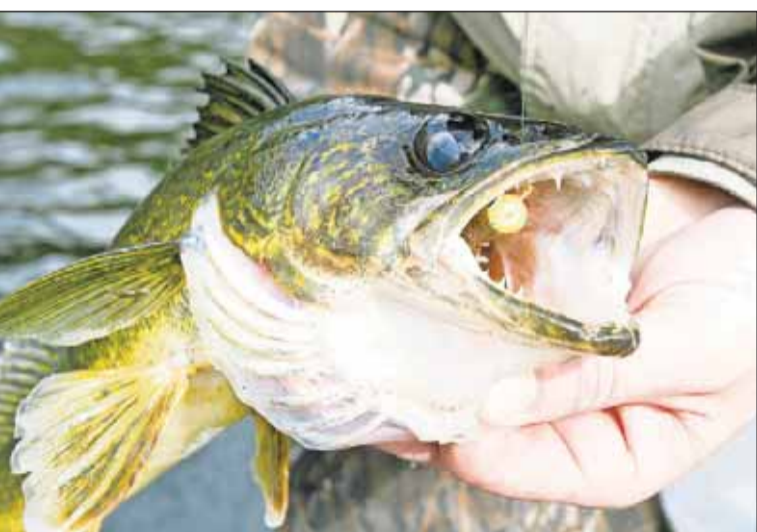
The Yankees are defending Corn Belt League co-champions with the Bird Island Bullfrogs.

Rohlik and D.J. Davis, a let-hander who played

NCAA Division III baseball in Illinois, are the Engineers' likely top pitchers.

"We're excited to be a part of the Corn Belt League," Rohlik said. "It'll be interesting to see where we stand with some of these teams."

TRACY: Page B2



Sam Cook / Duluth News Tribune

For some anglers, it's those sharp teeth, the spiny dorsal fin and the eyes that make the walleye such an appealing fish. Others say it's the flavor of the white, flaky flesh and the challenge walleyes sometimes can present when trying to catch them. Whatever the reason, there's something special about the walleye among anglers in Minnesota and North Dakota.

## Why walleye, you ask?

Anglers, guides and others weigh in on the attraction of this sought-after fish

By Brad Dokken  
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS — Minnesota's fishing season opens Saturday, May 14, and anglers by the thousands will hit their favorite lake or river in pursuit of walleyes, northern pike, bass and trout in lakes.

They call it the "fishing opener," but everyone knows the day is really about the walleye — Minnesota's state fish and a species revered among any Minnesota angler

worth his or her salt.

No doubt, walleyes are a special fish in this part of the world. The same holds true across the Red River in North Dakota, even though the northern pike is North Dakota's state fish.

There's something about a walleye. ...

With that in mind, we asked a handful of avid anglers, fishing guides and biologists to share their thoughts about the walleye and what it is

about the fish — or the opener — that makes it so special among so many.

Here's what they had to say.

**Toby Kvalevog**

A goalie for the UND hockey team from 1993 to 1997, Kvalevog teaches physical education in Brainerd, Minnesota, and, beginning with the fishing opener, works as a fishing guide in the Leech Lake area as a partner in Leisure Outdoor Adventures.

WALLEYE: Page B2

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## TRACY

From Page B1

### Rockets moves

The Raymond Rockets are scheduled to open the season at 3 p.m. Saturday at home against the Clinton Cards. It'll be a bit of a different looking team, according to long-time Raymond manager Butch Steen.

"We've had some movement," Steen said.

Second baseman Erik Hulterstrum has left Raymond to play for the Litchfield Blues.

He's now a teacher and coach in Litchfield, having led the Dragons girls basketball team last winter.

"He lives there, he teaches there and he coaches there," Steen said. "It was hard for him. He really didn't want to leave, I don't think. But he's got a family. It makes sense."

Long-time pitcher Tyler Knott retired. The former St. Cloud State and MACCRAY star hurt his shoulder and was limited in 2021.

"He's been a force for us for damn near 20 years," Steen said.

Justin Koenen, who

has pitched plenty of innings for the Rockets and played as a utility man, is moving to Fargo, North Dakota.

But the cupboard is hardly bare in Raymond.

Steen is excited about adding Alex Call to the roster. He's a senior at Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg and one of the top left-handed pitchers in Class A. His brother Isaac Call also plays for the Rockets.

"He's awesome,"

Steen said. "He's been clocked at 91 miles-per-hour already."

Caleb Ditmanson is expected to be Raymond's ace. The right-hander is wrapping up his senior season at the University of Sioux Falls, an NCAA Division II program. He's had a heavy duty senior season for the Cougars, posting a 4-3 record with a 3.70 earned-run average in 58-1/3 innings. He has struck out 52 and walked 19.

Long-time Rocket Alex Lotthammer also will be on the mound, Steen said.

There are a couple of other college players as well.

The Rockets also look forward to the return

of Tanner Bauman, who has been starting at shortstop this spring for St. Mary's of Winona, an NCAA Division III school.

"He'll be our shortstop," Steen said.

And, second baseman Smith has been playing for North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpet

on, where he is a sophomore.

### Twins retooling

Player/co-manager Scott Rombow hopes the New London-Spicer Twins are going to be competitive despite the loss of three players, including two who were key to the team's success in 2021.

Long-time pitcher Adam Nibaur, a former Concordia-Moorhead star, has left the team and will play for the Farming Flames in the Stearns County League.

"He's been pretty good for us," Rombow said, noting that Nibaur has moved to St. Joseph. "But, oh well."

Right fielder John Perkins has moved to the Twin Cities and isn't expected to play this year for Twins, Rombow said. And, Wyatt White, who was limited in his play with the team

last year because he's in Bemidji, will stay in Bemidji to play this summer, Rombow said.

Rombow expects Adam Schrader and Ben Kulset to pick up some extra innings this summer. Schrader is pitching coach for the Ridgewater College baseball team with pro experience. Kulset is another veteran who has pitched plenty in the past.

The Twins also look forward to the returns of Hunter Magnuson and Jett Salonek, who both play baseball at Valley City State in North Dakota. The Vikings were 22-22 this season.

Magnuson, an infielder/pitcher batted .263 in 23 games with two home runs and 11 RBI. He also pitched five innings.

Salonek, an outfielder, played in 30 games, mostly as a courtesy runner, scoring 11 runs and stealing three bases. He was 2-for-20 at the plate.

Rombow thinks the Paynesville Pirates are the team to beat in the County Line League. His team's opener is 1:30 p.m. Sunday at Regal.

"We'll figure things out here as we get going," Rombow said.



Jeff Le / USA Today Sports

Minnesota Wild defenseman Matt Dumba (24) and St. Louis Blues right wing Vladimir Tarasenko (91) shake hands after Game 6 of the first round of the 2022 Stanley Cup Playoffs on Thursday at Enterprise Center in St. Louis.

## WILD

From Page B1

power play.' They play for each other, and that's what's so disappointing. It's like, 'What's going to happen now?' We don't know what's going to happen."

The biggest reason this season felt different was because of how close Wild players were on and off the ice.

It's something the leadership group tried to instill from the very beginning, with Spurgeon leading the way. Though he had some help from Foligno and fellow alternate captain Matt Dumba, it was Spurgeon who spearheaded the culture shift inside the locker room. There was no hierarchy. If someone had something to say, regardless of their age or years in the NHL, the leadership group wanted them to feel comfortable speaking up. That wasn't always the case in the past.

"You can't say enough about the guys in our room and how special they are," said goaltender Cam Talbot, who personified that selflessness throughout the playoffs, maintaining professionalism after being passed over in favor of fellow goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury. "I think that's what

stings the most. This team has been building something special."

As far as Foligno is concerned, that doesn't have to stop. He called this season "a huge, huge stepping stone" in the grand scheme of things. Even if it might not feel like it in the aftermath of another unsuccessful pursuit of the elusive Stanley Cup.

"No matter what, we built something here," Foligno said. "We have to grow in it. No one in this organization is thinking about taking a step back."

That's the focus heading into next season. While the roster might look different, the mindset isn't going to change.

"The reality is we've got a great thing going here," Foligno said. "We know it's a special group. The leaders led all season and guys followed tremendously. Just needed to show up in playoffs. That's a learning thing that we've got to take and make sure everyone is coming back pissed off."

Except it won't be everyone. Not from this group at least.

"I don't really know what to say right now," veteran winger Mats Zuccarello said. "I'm really proud of this group. We all competed with each other every game. It's a great group. It's kind of disappointing that it ended so quickly."



Right: New London-Spicer's Adam Nibaur lines up a pitch during a County Line League game against Paynesville on May 2, 2021 at Green Lake Diamonds in Spicer. Joe Brown / West Central Tribune

## WALLEYE

From Page B1

Walleye fishing in Minnesota is as popular as anywhere. Why? To me, walleye fishing starts with tradition. As long as I can remember, 90% of the bait shop conversation when it comes to fishing is in regards to walleye. Before social media, if you wanted to see pics or hear reports, that is where the information could be found.

With the Land of 10,000 Lakes and a partially closed season on inland waters (March to May), we are limited to how and when we can chase this tasty morsel. Having an "opening day" after a three-month delay allows for a recharge — "Ready, set, go!" if you will. Some would argue that it rivals the opening day of deer season or — might I even say — holiday status?

The tradition of opener, along with the availability and table fare demand of a walleye, undoubtedly makes it one of the most popular freshwater fish in the Upper Midwest and for sure here in Minnesota.

### Al Pemberton

Pemberton, of Redby, Minnesota, is director of the Red Lake tribal Department of Natural Resources who also guides on the many small lakes on Red Lake Nation lands that are open to nontribal anglers who hire a tribal fishing guide.

I think it's just the taste of (walleye), and it's just really fun to go after them. They're kind of elusive, almost. But boy, on the big lake (Lower and Upper Red Lake), they're not elusive no more; there's a lot of them.

Culturally, it's just a good food for everybody. A good food source, and back in the day, you'd know that you were never going to starve because of that food source in our lake.

They used to call it "Our Ice-box," the old people.

I like frying them. I've eaten them all different ways, even baked. One of my friends in Canada, they make fish patties out of them. They boil them and then take boiled potatoes and cut them up into little pieces and then add onions and chives and stuff in there. And then the walleyes, once you boil them, you let them cool and then mix them in there with the potatoes and make them into patties and put a breading on top of them and then pan-fry them. Holy man, is that good! I'd never eaten those like that, but boy, that was good.

You'd have to be a pretty bad cook to wreck a walleye.

### Brad Durick

Durick, of Grand Forks, is a Red River catfish guide whose views on the walleye offer a marked contrast to others who contributed to this story.

So, why are there people up here who don't think it's a fish unless it is a walleye? A few simple things come to mind. First and foremost, I think it is the socially accepted thing to do. It seems to be an "Everyone loves to chase walleye so I will, too," attitude.

Second, many people love to eat them. They are a very mild, tasteless fish, so that goes with the "salt and ketchup are spice" crowd.

Third, people say they are challenging. Some days, all fish are challenging, but I have never thought that catching a walleye was all that difficult. Big ones, like over 25 inches, yes; but smaller, eater-sized walleyes, not really.

Lastly, and it may go with the first reason. You can buy walleye tackle in every size and color. There is no shortage of tackle to buy, from crankbaits to jigs to colored hooks. The bigger the tackle box, the better. You can buy rods ranging from \$15 Shake-

spears to \$300 Fenwicks and beyond. Boats, too. After all, who doesn't want to be seen out on the lake in a big, glittery boat that cost as much as a house in the '90s? Some might call it retail therapy.

I guess people make walleye king and will only fish for them because it is the socially accepted fish of the Northland. We want to fit in with our friends and neighbors — who doesn't? For generations, we have been groomed that if it is not a walleye, it is not a fish. Walleyes have been strictly regulated, monitored and are widely stocked so there are lots to catch. They are just about everywhere in northern lakes.

As a catfish guide, I can tell you that the tide is turning, as more and more northerners expand their horizons and try other species, such as catfish. I can also tell you that if you get just a few states away, many anglers have no interest in walleyes.

### Paul Radomski

Radomski, of Brainerd, is a fisheries research scientist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and author of the soon-to-be-published "Walleye: A Beautiful Fish of the Dark."

It is a beautiful fish, isn't it? I mean, look at it. It's got a big spiny dorsal, it's got a big mouth, it's got scales and spines all over its body. If you look really close, you can see some spines that make you go, "Oh my God, look at that!" It's kind of like armor.

You look at the eye, and it's dark, and it's got a ring of gold around it; it's a beautiful fish.

And then, to go fishing for it, right? It's a nice fish, and there's opportunities — when things are just right — to catch a few fish. So, it's a challenge, but at times, you can catch them. And then, it's a good fish to eat. I love eating walleye. And I think for all those reasons, people are drawn to it.

### Curt Quesnell

Quesnell, who lives near Long Point on Lake of the Woods north of Williams, Minnesota, is the owner of NCOR Fishing Guide Service on Lake of the Woods.

Growing up in Minnesota, walleye was king. I am sure my first fishing trips with my dad when I was 3 years old were trying to catch walleyes (trying).

Catching walleyes is easier now than it used to be, thanks to education and improvements in fishing electronics. It was a huge challenge to get enough walleye for suppers back then.

Even now, it is pretty tough some days.

Awesome fish, the walleye, and one more thing — delicious!

### Tom Neustrom

A 40-year fishing guide and member of the Minnesota Fishing Hall of Fame, Neustrom, of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, is hosting Gov. Tim Walz for this year's Governor's Fishing Opener.

It's the Minnesota state fish for one. I think it's a tradition and I think, of course, the fishing opener is almost like the Walleye Opener — which it is — but I think it's tradition and I think people like to catch walleyes. They like to eat them, too.

It's really a catch-and-consume fish. Catch-and-release is fine — and you can catch a whole bunch of them and let them go — but people want to keep a few to eat, and they are a good-eating fish.

I just think it's a traditional thing. You go back decades and decades and decades — as far back as you can think — and the opening weekend of fishing in Minnesota has always been about walleye fishing. And I think that's the thing.

The techniques haven't changed a lot over the years, but we've modified things a little bit, and we're better at what we used to do years ago

— we're just better at it.

But I think the walleye is traditionally that fish of choice on the opener.

### Joe Henry

Henry, of St. Cloud, Minnesota, is an avid angler and executive director of Lake of the Woods Tourism.

Walleyes are so cool. First off, look at them. They've got that golden color — it's a gold you can't explain — it's a blended gold color. Even their eyes — look at their eyes, big marble eyes. They're cool as heck.

When you look into their mouth from the front, they've got those teeth, and it's not like pike teeth that are in a row; these are like all-scattered fangs.

And then, it's cool because they've got that white tip on the tail — the bottom of that tail's kind of neat. And then they have that dorsal fin that looks so cool for pictures when you first get them out of the water with that dorsal sticking up. And they've got those sharp gill plates. They're a predator, man, and they're just a cool fish.

They're a fish of mystery. They're a fish that's not always so easy to catch.

Of course, we kid around with our bass buddies. We call those fish "grass carp," and they call our fish "gravel lizards." There's a mystique about a walleye that is just so special.

And then, of course, to top it off, it's our Minnesota state fish. It's one of the best-eating fish you'll ever have. And then, of course, fishing the Walleye Capital of the World — and with respect, there's a lot of great walleye lakes and rivers in the Midwest — but we certainly know Lake of the Woods is one of them. To have that mystique of those walleyes. And to see that fish coming up from the depths shaking its head back and forth. It's just a cool fish.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Professional MLB American League East West Central National League East West

LOCAL CALENDAR

Saturday, May 14

Baseball YME, Border West at LQPV, 10:30 a.m. KMS vs. Browerville, 1 p.m. at Elrosa BOLD at BLHS, 1 p.m. Fergus Falls at Minnewaska, 1 p.m. Sauk Centre at BBE, 5:30 p.m. Softball Montevideo, LQPV at Marshall tournament, 10 a.m. Benson at Swanville, 11 a.m. Dawson-Boyd at YME, 1 p.m. (DH) Willmar, Litchfield at Concordia Academy tournament, 3:30 p.m. Golf Lakeville South at Minnewaska, 8:30 a.m. Boys Tennis Minnewaska, Moorhead at St. Michael-Albertville, 10:30 a.m. Pipestone at LQPV/D-B, 11 a.m. Luverne at Benson/KMS, 11 a.m. Luverne at LQPV/D-B, 2 p.m. Pipestone at Benson/KMS, 2 p.m. Amateur Baseball New Munich at Roscoe, 1:30 p.m. Starbuck at Kensington, 2 p.m. Clinton at Raymond, 3 p.m. Benson at Orvontille, 7:30 p.m. Hancock at Madison, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 15

Amateur Baseball Litchfield at Rockford, 1 p.m. New London-Spicer at Regal, 1:30 p.m. Roscoe at Lake Henry, 1:30 p.m. Appleton at Minneota, 2 p.m. Morris at Dawson, 2 p.m.

Pittsburgh 5, LA Dodgers 3 Cincinnati 14, Milwaukee 11 Miami 11, Arizona 3 San Francisco 7, Colorado 1 Chi. Cubs 7, San Diego 5 Washington 8, NY Mets 3 Thursday's Results NY Mets 4, Washington 1 Cincinnati 4, Pittsburgh 0 Philadelphia 9, LA Dodgers 7 Friday's Games Cincinnati (Mahle 1-4) at Pittsburgh (Keller 0-4), 5:35 p.m. Milwaukee (Burnes 1-2) at Miami (Lopez 4-1), 5:40 p.m. San Diego (Darvish 3-1) at Atlanta (Fried 4-2), 6:20 p.m. San Francisco (Webb 4-1) at St. Louis (Hicks 1-2), 7:15 p.m. Chi. Cubs (Smyly 1-3) at Arizona (Davies 1-1), 8:40 p.m. Philadelphia (Gibson 3-1) at LA Dodgers (Kershaw 4-0), 9:10 p.m. Saturday's Games San Francisco (Junis 1-0) at St. Louis (Hudson 2-2), 1:15 p.m. San Diego (Manaea 2-3) at Atlanta (Morton 2-3), 3:05 p.m. Milwaukee (Lauer 3-0) at Miami (Rogers 1-4), 5:10 p.m. Cincinnati (Castillo 0-0) at Pittsburgh (Thompson 1-3), 5:35 p.m. Chi. Cubs at Arizona (Gallen 2-0), 7:10 p.m. Philadelphia (Suarez 3-1) at LA Dodgers (Buehler 4-1), 9:10 p.m. Interleague Wednesday's Results Atlanta 5, Boston 3 St. Louis 10, Baltimore 1 Thursday's Results Baltimore 3, St. Louis 2 Friday's Games Houston (Valdez 1-2) at Washington (Gray 4-2), 6:05 p.m. Seattle (Gonzales 1-4) at NY Mets (Scherzer 4-1), 6:10 p.m. Kansas City (Greinke 0-2) at Colorado (Freeland 1-3), 7:40 p.m.

SPORTS ON TV

Saturday, May 14

Auto racing: NASCAR Camping World Truck Series: 11 a.m., FS1 IndyCar racing: Grand Prix of Indianapolis, 2:30 p.m., NBC NASCAR ARCA Menards Series: ARCA Racing Kansas, 1 p.m., FS1 Baseball: MLB: San Diego at Atlanta, 3 p.m., FS1 MLB: Cleveland at Minnesota, 6 p.m., BSN MLB: 6 p.m., MLBN MLB: 9 p.m., MLBN Basketball: WNBA: Phoenix at Seattle, 2 p.m., ABC Football: USFL: 2 p.m., FOX Golf: DP World Tour Golf: Soudal Open, 6 a.m., GOLF PGA Tour: AT&T Byron Nelson, noon, GOLF PGA Tour: AT&T Byron Nelson, 2 p.m., CBS PGA Tour Champions: Regions Tradition, 2 p.m., GOLF LPGA Tour: Cognizant Founders Cup, 4 p.m., GOLF Hockey: NHL playoffs: noon, ESPN NHL playoffs: 2:30 p.m., ESPN NHL playoffs: 6 p.m., ESPN NHL playoffs: 8:30 p.m., ESPN Mixed Martial Arts: UFC: Blachowicz vs. Rakic, 9 p.m., ESPN2 Soccer: AAC Championship, 10 a.m., ESPN2 ACC Championship, noon, ESPN2 Big Ten Championship, noon, BTN Conference USA championship, noon, CBSSN Big 12 Championship, 2 p.m., ESPN2 SEC Championship, 4 p.m., ESPN2

Sunday, May 15

Auto racing: IMSA Auto Racing: 1 p.m., USA NASCAR Cup Series: Kansas, 2 p.m., FS1 Baseball: College: Miami at Florida State, 11 a.m., ESPN2 College: Penn State at Ohio State, noon, BSN MLB: 12:30 p.m., MLBN MLB: Cleveland at Minnesota, 1 p.m., BSN College: Nebraska at Illinois, 2 p.m., ESPN2 MLB: 3:30 p.m., MLBN MLB: San Francisco at St. Louis, 6 p.m., ESPN Basketball: NBA playoffs: 2:30 p.m., ABC NBA playoffs, TNT NBA playoffs, TNT Bowling: PBA: Playoffs Final, 3 p.m., FOX Football: USFL: Birmingham vs. Philadelphia, 11 a.m., NBC USFL: 3 p.m., FOX Golf: DP World Tour Golf: Soudal Open, 6:30 a.m., GOLF LPGA Tour: Cognizant Founders Cup, noon, CBS PGA Tour: AT&T Byron Nelson, noon, GOLF PGA Tour: AT&T Byron Nelson, 2 p.m., CBS PGA Tour Champions: Regions Tradition, 2 p.m., GOLF Rugby: College: National Championship, 3 p.m., NBC Major League Rugby: LA Giltinis at San Diego Legion, 12:30 p.m., FS1 Soccer: Premier League: Tottenham vs. Burnley, 6 a.m., USA Premier League: Everton vs. Brentford, 8 a.m., USA MLS: Atlanta United FC vs. New England Revolution, 12:30 p.m., ESPN Premier League: West Ham vs. Manchester City, 12:30 p.m., USA MLS: Seattle vs. Minnesota United FC, 3 p.m., ESPN USL Championship Soccer: Phoenix Rising vs. Tampa Bay Rowdies, 8 p.m., ESPN2

Detroit Tigers - Optioned LHP Joey Wentz to Toledo (IL). Recalled RHP Jason Foley from Toledo (IL). Houston Astros - Recalled RHP Seth Martinez from Sugar Land (PCL). Kansas City Royals - Optioned LHP Kris Bubic to Omaha (IL). Recalled RHP Jon Heasley from Omaha (IL). Los Angeles Angels - Optioned RHP Elvis Peguero to Salt Lake (PCL). Sent 3B Matt Duffy on a rehab assignment to Salt Lake (PCL). Minnesota Twins - Activated 2B Luis Arraez from the 10-day IL. Optioned C Jose Godoy to St. Paul (IL). Recalled RHP Cole Sands from St. Paul (IL). Transferred RHP Chris Paddock from the 15-day IL to the 60-day IL. New York Yankees - Recalled RHP Luis Gil from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL). Seattle Mariners - Acquired 1B Mike Ford from the San Francisco Giants for cash considerations. Texas Rangers - Optioned LHP Kolby Allard and RHP Spencer Patton to Round Rock (PCL). Recalled RHP Josh Sborz from Round Rock (PCL). National League Cincinnati Reds - Optioned RHP Daur Moreta to Louisville (IL). Outrighted LHP Phillip Diehl to Louisville (IL). Placed RHP Lucas Sims on the 15-day IL, ret. reactive to May 11. Recalled RHP Jared Solomon from Louisville (IL). Selected the contract of RHP Robert Dugger from Louisville (IL). Los Angeles Dodgers - Optioned RHP Ryan Peplot to Oklahoma City (PCL). Selected the contract of RHP Yency Almonte from Oklahoma City (PCL). Miami Marlins - Sent 3B Brian Anderson and SS Jose Devers on a rehab assignment to Jupiter (FSL). New York Mets - Optioned RHP Stephen Nosek and LHP Locke St. John to Syracuse (IL). Recalled RHP Jake Reed from Syracuse (IL). Philadelphia Phillies - Activated RHP Zack Wheeler from the 10-day IL. Optioned LHP Bailey Falter to Lehigh Valley (IL). Pittsburgh Pirates - Activated RHP Duane Underwood Jr., Claimed RHP Tyler Beede off waivers from the San Francisco Giants. Designated RHP Beau Sulser for assignment. Optioned SS Cole Tucker and RHP Max Krznick to Indianapolis (IL). Recalled SS Rodolfo Castro from Indianapolis (IL). St. Louis Cardinals - Optioned 2B Kramer Robertson to Memphis (IL). Sent SP Drew VerHagen on a rehab assignment to Springfield (TL). Football NCAA Football Central Florida - Announced LB Cole Joyce has left the program and will transfer to Utah State. Kansas - Announced G Larson Workman has left the program and will transfer to Texas State. Mississippi State - Announced DE Izuchukwu King Ani has left the program and will transfer to Tulsa. Basketball NCAA Basketball St. Bonaventure - Announced G Kyle Lofton has left the program and will transfer to Florida. Texas - Announced C Tre Mitchell has left the program and will transfer to West Virginia. Hockey National Hockey League Edmonton Oilers - Recalled D Philip Broberg from Bakersfield (AHL). Los Angeles Kings - Recalled G Matt Vilalta from Ontario (AHL). New York Rangers - Assigned G Adam Huska to National Team Slovakia. Toronto Maple Leafs - Signed C Roni Hirvonen and D Topi Niemela to a three-year, entry-level contract. Washington Capitals - Assigned G Hunter Shepard to Hershey (AHL). Recalled G Phoenix Copley from Hershey (AHL).

Saturday's Games

Houston (Javier 2-0) at Washington (Feddle 2-2), 6:05 p.m. Seattle (Kirby 0-0) at NY Mets (Basitt 4-2), 6:10 p.m. Kansas City (Hernandez 0-2) at Colorado (Marquez 0-3), 7:10 p.m.

Thursday's results

Houston 11, Minnesota 3, Game 1

Table with columns: HOU, ab, r, h, bi, MIN, ab, r, h, bi. Rows for Altuve 2b, Brantly dh, Bregman 3b, Alvarez lf, Gurriel 1b, Tucker rf, Pena ss, Siri cf, Mldondo c, and Totals.

Table with columns: Houston, Minnesota, IP, H, R, ER, BB, SO. Rows for E—Pena 1, LOB—Minnesota 12, Houston 7, 2B—Altuve (1), Brantly (5), Bregman (8), Celestino (4), Kepler (4), Polanco (7), Tucker (5), HR—Altuve (5), Tucker (5).

Table with columns: Houston, Uquidy, B.Abreu W, 2-0, Maton, Stanek, Neri, Minnesota, Archer L, 0-1, Cano, Stashak, Gordon, Inherited runners-scored—Stashak 2-2, HBP—G.Sanchez (by B.Abreu), Umpires—Home, Chris Segal; First, Dan Merzel; Second, Andy Fletcher; Third, Bill Welke. T—3:33.

Houston 5, Minnesota 0, Game 2

Table with columns: HOU, ab, r, h, bi, MIN, ab, r, h, bi. Rows for Altuve 2b, Pena ss, Diaz ss, Bregman 3b, Alvarez dh, Tucker rf, McCrck lf, Goodrum 1b, Castro c, Siri cf, Totals, Houston, Minnesota, E—Thielbar 1, LOB—Minnesota 9, Houston 9, 2B—Y.Alvarez (3), Arraez (3), Pena (5), Polanco (8), Tucker (6), HR—Y.Alvarez 2 (10), SB—Goodrum (1), Tucker (8).

Table with columns: Houston, Lu.Garcia W, 3-1, S.Martinez, B.Taylor, Montero, Minnesota, Winder L, 2-1, Thielbar, Duffey, Sands, Inherited runners-scored—B.Taylor 1-0, Thielbar 2-1, Umpires—Home, Dan Merzel; First, Andy Fletcher; Second, Bill Welke; Third, Alex Tosi. T—3:20. A—16,918 (42,035).

Friday's Games

Boston at Milwaukee, 6:30 p.m. Memphis at Golden State, 9 p.m. Sunday's Games Dallas at Phoenix, 12 p.m. Milwaukee at Boston, 2:30 p.m.

HOCKEY

Professional NHL Playoffs

Wednesday's Games NY Rangers 5, Pittsburgh 3 Florida 5, Washington 3 Calgary 3, Dallas 1 Thursday's Games Boston 5, Carolina 2 Tampa Bay 4, Toronto 3, OT St. Louis 5, Minnesota 1 Edmonton 4, Los Angeles 2 Friday's Games NY Rangers at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m. Florida at Washington, 6:30 p.m. Calgary at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Saturday's Games Boston at Carolina, 3:30 p.m. Tampa Bay at Toronto, 6 p.m. Los Angeles at Edmonton, 9 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Friday

Baseball American League Baltimore Orioles - Optioned RHP Travis Lakins Sr. and LHP Paul Fry to Norfolk (IL). Recalled 3B Ryan Bannon from Norfolk (IL). Selected the contract of SP Denyi Reyes from Norfolk (IL). Boston Red Sox - Optioned 2B Jonathan Arauz to Worcester (IL). Placed LHP Josh Taylor on the 60-day IL.

BASKETBALL

Professional NBA Playoffs

Thursday's Games Miami 99, Philadelphia 90 Dallas 113, Phoenix 86

Reinhold Matay / USA Today Sports



Minnesota Lynx head coach Cheryl Reeve on the sidelines against the Phoenix Mercury during the first half Sept. 17, 2020, at the FELD entertainment complex in Palmetto, Florida.

re-signed for logistical reasons. Sjerven, a Rogers, Minn. native, who Minnesota selected in this spring's WNBA draft, spent camp with the Lynx.

Westbrook was signed to a hardship deal on Thursday but giving the rookie a season-long contract Friday was the only way to retain her without having to wait another 10 days to re-acquire the guard. Jefferson is a six-year WNBA veteran who Reeve said will start at point

guard Saturday against Chicago, just one day after joining the team.

No time to waste. This is the reality of the Lynx's season. They're still waiting for Kayla McBride's Turkish season to wrap — something that could come as soon as this weekend. Damiris Dantas is at least a couple weeks away from being healthy enough to return to play. Natalie Achonwa is out indefinitely with a hamstring injury. Napheesa

Collier is expected to miss most, if not all, of this season as she expects her first child.

Concerns about availability seemed to be what led to Clarendon's departure ahead of the season.

Reeve was asked Friday if she had any regrets about the way she managed the roster to this point in the season.

"I'd have healthy players. That's what I would do differently," Reeve said. "We're just responding to the situations that have arisen."

Though it should be pointed out McCoughtry missed last season with an injury, and Clarendon was battling an injury at the end of the 2021 campaign. It's not a massive surprise those two players weren't 100 percent at the season's outset. Still, there was certainly a path for everything working out the way the Lynx hoped it would — it just didn't come to fruition.

All Reeve can do now is adjust. Reeve noted "it's never good to be GMing" in the early stages of the season. But she has experience with it. Reeve was tinkering with the roster early last season, as well, when Minnesota opened the campaign in an 0-4 hole.

"I think what's different this year is just coming out of training camp, we didn't feel like the team was quite the team we needed it to be at that time that could've put the group behind a little bit, in terms of a key position. Who wants to be making changes at the point guard spot 72 hours before the game," Reeve said. "But here we are, and we'll do what's necessary, and we'll keep tweaking until we feel like we've got the team that we want."

For the team she now has, Reeve is "turning up the fire on expectations." There will be accountability on effort and toughness, two traits Reeve despises having to coach.

"And frankly, if we keep asking you to do it over and over again, we start to come to an assumption that you can't do it, and that leads to a different decision, you either not playing or not being on the team," Reeve said. "We'll do what we have to do to get where we want to go, because there's only one path, and that path is to be difficult to play with from a physical standpoint, a mental standpoint, your defense, your connection on offense. Obviously, we're taking steps, but that's what's been on our mind."

It won't end until Reeve has 'team that we want'

By Jace Frederick St. Paul Pioneer Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Cheryl Reeve noted how much success the Lynx have had in the past with bringing veterans in to contribute to the franchise's success. She hoped similar results would be achieved with Angel McCoughtry this season.

Instead, the Lynx and the 35-year-old future Hall of Famer reached a buyout on Thursday.

"I very much wanted to see a different outcome, but it's beyond our control. I know Angel knows that," the Lynx coach and general manager said Friday. "She just didn't quite feel 100 percent (with her knee) and wanted to take some time to get some more strengthening, and that sort of thing, and see what she can do as far as maybe playing with a team at a different time."

As to the team's mutual decision to part ways with Odyssey Sims, Reeve reiterated that the point guard is dealing with a personal matter and will now have time to do so.

Those were just the latest revelations this week, leading to more turnover in what's been a revolving Lynx's roster in the early stages of the season. Three days before the season started, Reeve was reshuffling the deck by waiving point guards Layshia Clarendon and Crystal Dangerfield and signing Sims.

Three losses into the season, the roster is again being reshaped. Minnesota announced Friday it signed Moriah Jefferson and Evina Westbrook to contracts, while inking Nikolina Milić, center Hannah Sjerven and guard Yvonne Turner to hardship contracts.

Turner and Milic were previously on hardship deals but had to be released and



Silas Walker / Lexington Herald-Leader / TNS

With favorite Epicenter and Zandon dueling in front, Rich Strike came charging up the rail for a stunning 80-1 upset in the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs on May 7 in Louisville, Kentucky.

## 'I never saw Rich Strike coming'

For NBC's Kenny Rice, Rich Strike's Derby is '1 of top 5 races I've covered.'

By Mark Story  
Lexington Herald-Leader

Lexington, Ky.

If you've watched NBC Sports broadcasts of major horse races like the Kentucky Derby, you know that Kenny Rice often interviews the winning trainer only seconds after a race is run.

That does not occur by happenstance. "You kind of try to handicap these (races) yourself," Rice said Wednesday.

That's why, for the 148th running of the Kentucky Derby, Rice positioned himself on the third floor of the Churchill Downs grandstand. He did so to be near to trainers Steve Asmussen and Chad Brown, the conditioners of Derby favorites Epicenter and Zandon, respectively.

Deep into the stretch drive, with Epicenter and Zandon battling for the lead, Rice's race handicapping looked impeccable.

And then it wasn't.

As you well know, a historic long shot, the 80-1 Rich Strike, made a startling, late surge along the rail and gave the 2022 Kentucky Derby a winner all but no one saw coming.

Rich Strike's unanticipated victory was why NBC's British import Nick Luck, not Lexington's Rice, wound up interviewing the Derby's winning connections of trainer Eric Reed and owner Richard Dawson.

"Basically, I was up there with John Calipari when I should have been on the floor with Shaheen Holloway," Rice says, employing a

college basketball metaphor. "I've got to say, I never saw Rich Strike coming."

Rice says he thinks the nation sees Rich Strike's Derby win as a larger upset than the 2022 NCAA Tournament stunner when No. 15 seed Saint Peter's, coached by Holloway, beat No. 2 seed Kentucky, directed by Calipari.

"I will say in Kentucky, we might say Saint Peter's (was the bigger upset)," Rice says. "I think the rest of America, they might say Rich Strike (was the more unlikely outcome). If you add it up, 80-1 odds are greater than what the Peacocks (who were 18-point underdogs) faced."

A Floyd County native and a former sportscaster (1980 through 1999) at Lexington television

station WTVQ, Rice, 65, has now been working as a reporter on NBC horse racing broadcasts for the past 23 years.

In that time, the 2015 Belmont Stakes, when American Pharoah clinched the first Triple Crown since 1978, is the greatest race he's covered, Rice says.

The exhilaration of Rich Strike's unlikely win and the compelling back stories of his connections have moved the 2022 Kentucky Derby into the top five of his NBC era greatest-hits list, Rice says.

"There's just been so much controversy, disqualifications, around the Derby the past few years," Rice says. "(Rich Strike) is a story that all of us that cover racing, we probably all needed."

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## The NBA's superstar team-building model is falling apart

By Stefan Bondy  
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — The template had been established, and proven worthy of application in the NBA, for as long as we can remember. Acquire as many superstars as possible and the rest will fall into place. Coaching and filling out the roster are tertiary.

The Heat's Big 3 enhanced the fad and, as recently as the Lakers title in 2020, it still felt like the chosen path to a title.

Having problems getting past LeBron James? So what? Do everything to get Kevin Durant or Kawhi Leonard in Toronto.

Is Boston stuck at the hump? Just trade for Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen.

But more recently there's been a shift, as holes in the superstar strategy have turned into craters. The Nets are the obvious example and most relevant to this market. Their Big 3 of Durant, Kyrie



Adam Hunger / Getty Images / TNS

James Harden (1) reacts with Joel Embiid (21) of the Philadelphia 76ers against the New York Knicks during the first half at Madison Square Garden on Feb. 27, 2022 in New York.

Irving and James Harden is already fractured and finished with just one playoff series victory. The failure of GM Sean Marks left him with no cap space and no control of his own first-round draft pick until 2028.

In Philadelphia, the

different iterations of super teams — whether it's with Ben Simmons or Jimmy Butler or Harden — haven't advanced out of the second round, with Thursday's elimination to Miami serving as something of a death blow.

On the West Coast with the Clippers, the exorbitant money spent on Kawhi and Paul George has mostly just produced DNPs. The Lakers, with James, Russell Westbrook and Anthony Davis, would be in the lottery but, of course,

they traded the draft

pick. Of the top 14 players remaining in the playoffs (two for each of the seven teams), only three — Butler, Jrue Holiday and Chris Paul — weren't drafted by their respective teams. The franchises still vying for a title — Bucks, Celtics, Heat, Suns, Mavericks, Grizzlies, Warriors — were built from the ground up and, for the most part, filled out the roster with young and athletic pieces committed to defense.

They're not winning a championship because of the buyout market, which the Nets mistakenly hitched their wagons to.

So why is the superstar model falling apart?

There are several reasons, but let's start with player empowerment because it trickles down from there. As David Stern's NBA transitioned to Adam Silver's, the players took greater control of the business. The threat of a super-

star deserting a franchise became so powerful, regardless of how many years remained on his contract, that the placating expanded and whatever "culture" was in place is quickly dissolved. Coaches are easily replaced. Accountability is blurred. The players become the GM and recruit their friends, sometimes to the detriment of winning.

Only the Miami Heat seem immune to such takeovers. Nobody is forcing Pat Riley to fire Erik Spoelstra.

James was a pioneer of the player empowerment movement but he is also a very special case. Not only is LeBron a once-in-a-lifetime talent, he also was available to play almost every game.

Now we have load management and teams falling behind because the top-heavy strategy built on trades and free agency is no longer so viable.

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# Puzzle Corner

SUDOKU by Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 5/14

CROSSWORD By Eugene Scheffer

ACROSS

38 Patient's need, briefly

6 Minsk and Pinsk, e.g.

12 Japanese emperor

13 Delphi figure

14 Full assembly

15 Minimum

16 RSVP enclosure

17 "NFL Live" channel

19 Some coll. degrees

20 Appease

22 Actress Mendes

24 Billboards

27 True bargain

29 Lawyer (Abbr.)

32 "I'm not lying"

35 "Star Wars" royal

36 Waffle brand

37 Scale note

DOWN

1 Actress Kunis

2 Luau strings

3 Highway divisions

4 Sch. URL

5 Former ender

6 Freebie

7 Peace goddess

8 Sailor

9 Cold therapies

10 "Frozen" snow queen

11 Match parts

12 AWOL pursuers

18 Mai neighbor

21 Astern

23 Dyeing vessel

24 Pac. counterpart

25 Dad on "Black-ish"

26 Traveler's need

28 Iditarod racers

30 Uncle (Sp.)

31 Designer monogram

33 Bando of baseball

34 Word of denial

39 Actor Montgomery

41 Agra's land

42 Wildebeests

43 Gum flavor

45 Till bills

47 LAPD rank

48 Ways to the WWW

49 Bashful

51 Beer container

53 "The A-Team" actor

Solution time: 26 mins.

B	O	P	S	U	B	J	W	R	E	N	
A	L	E	A	L	O	U	R	O	K	U	
N	A	P	O	L	E	O	N	O	M	E	N
S	V	E	L	T	E	I	A	N			
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Yesterday's answer 5-14

Yesterday's answers:

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 5/13

5-14 CRYPTOQUIP

K E K M Q K G E J M G X U K I J H T K W B  
H I O H M K I F O H K M G K M R X E H  
T K W H N Q, R K U B M G F B G K G T B  
"B T R N B P X R B P V X."

Yesterday's Cryptquip: DANCE STYLE MEANT TO BE PERFORMED ON FLOORS TOPPED WITH VERY LIGHT WOOD COVERINGS: BALSA NOVA.  
Today's Cryptquip Clue: B equals E

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[www.forumcomm.com/careers](http://www.forumcomm.com/careers)  
EOE

**Sports Reporter**

The Perham Focus and Wadena Pioneer Journal are hiring a full-time sports reporter to produce engaging sports-related content for our print newspapers and digital sites.


**RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:**

- Receives and develops own ideas into relevant, well-written stories.
- Gathers and verifies information for stories through interviews, observations and research.
- Brainstorms digital storytelling formats and executes the technological components required.
- Incorporates multimedia aspects such as video, audio, and photography in all stories.

**EXPERIENCE:**

- Bachelor's degree in journalism, communications or equivalent experience.
- Professional experience writing, AP style preferred.
- Knowledge of high school and college sports.
- Strong organizational skills. Ability to write clean, crisp copy in a fast-paced, deadline-oriented environment.

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



**Intern - Reporter**

The West Central Tribune has a general assignment position for a 13-week college internship in summer 2022. We are seeking a team-oriented journalist to join our newsroom team focusing on audience-driven content for news and features.

**RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:**

- Generate breaking news content for digital and print platforms.
- Report and write stories, while producing photos and video.
- Develop and contribute to broader reporting projects.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of application, resume and appropriate writing sample PDFs and/or portfolio links of your top reporting and writing via our online application portal.

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



**HELP WANTED GENERAL**

**Part-Time, Self-Motivated Caretaker/site superintendent for Baycrest Homeowners Association in Glenwood.**  
Contact Jim Steinle at 218-205-4755.

**HELP WANTED MARKETING AND ADVERTISING**



Ridgewater College is seeking candidates for a full-time

**Director of Marketing & Community Outreach**

Responsibilities include developing, managing and promoting the college's institutional brand and strategies for marketing, advertising, public relations, media relations, and program-specific marketing.

To view complete job posting, please visit <https://ridgewater.edu/jobs>

AA/EEO employer - A member of Minnesota State

**MOTORS**

**HELP WANTED GENERAL**

**WEST CENTRAL ROOFING Now Hiring**

- Roofers (No experience needed): Starting \$18/ hr + with benefits
- Foreman: Competitive Wages DOE + benefits

Apply in person, by phone or email.

4030 N. Hwy. 71, Willmar  
320-235-8748 • [angie.wcroofing@outlook.com](mailto:angie.wcroofing@outlook.com)

**HELP WANTED OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**New London-Spicer Schools**

**Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education**

Provides secretarial and office assistant services to the Superintendent and the Board of Education and several other administrative assistant duties as listed in the essential functions. Start: No Later than July 1. Deadline: May 24.

For more info, or to apply, visit:  
[nls.k12.mn.us/employment](https://nls.k12.mn.us/employment)  
EOE.

**HELP WANTED RESTAURANT AND FOOD SERVICE**

**SUMMER COOKS WANTED**

Green Lake Lutheran Ministries is hiring seasonal cooks for all three of their camps located in Spicer, New London and Brimson.

Full or part-time opportunities; housing available at Brimson location. \$17-20/hr.

(320)796-2181 or <https://www.gllm.org/employment.html> for more details.

**HELP WANTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**Program Technician**

The Renville County Farm Service Agency has a Full-time Permanent Program Technician position open.

Apply online at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) beginning May 16, 2022 to May 31, 2022.

Job Announcement: FSACO-11493868-22-MN-LS.  
FSA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

**HELP WANTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**HELP WANTED SKILLED AND TRADES**

**The City of Hector is looking for a full-time Public Works Operator**

Applicant must possess mechanical skills and ability to work independently. Position includes assisting with the streets, parks, airport, library, community center, cemetery, water & wastewater departments. 40 hours per week including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Related experience is preferred but will train the right person!

Applicants must possess or be able to obtain a CDL with a valid health card and have a valid MN driver's license. A license for a wastewater treatment plant will be required within one year of employment. EMTs with certification are urged to apply! Competitive wages.

Application, resume & cover letter can be e-mailed to [deputyclerk@hectormn.us](mailto:deputyclerk@hectormn.us) or can be mailed/dropped off to:  
City of Hector  
PO Box 457, 301 Main Street South, Hector, MN 55342

**Application deadline is Friday, May 27, 2022 at Noon**  
The City of Hector is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**HELP WANTED SKILLED AND TRADES**

**PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR**

The City of Kerkhoven, Public Works Dept, is seeking a full-time Public Works Supervisor starting immediately. Complete job description & benefits available upon request.

Minimum requirements: Possess a MN Class D Water Operator's and Class C Sewer Operator's License and able to obtain a Class B Driver's License within 6 months of employment. Have a valid MN Class D Driver's License and a satisfactory driving record. All applicants will be required to have a physical and are subject to a drug test. Starting wages \$53,830-\$71,780 per year/DOQ, plus excellent benefits. This is a non-union position.

**TO APPLY:** All applicants must complete and submit an application for employment packet. Application forms can be obtained at City Hall Monday-Thursday from 8am-5pm and Fridays 8am-Noon or by calling 320-264-2581 or by email: [kerkhovenclerk@gmail.com](mailto:kerkhovenclerk@gmail.com)  
Submit completed applications in drop box or by mail to: City of Kerkhoven, 208 N 10th St., PO Box 116, Kerkhoven, MN 56252.

The City of Kerkhoven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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320.235.6766  
800.450.1150

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**HANDYMAN**



**BIG Jim's HANDYMAN SERVICES LLC**  
320-552-5081

**HEATING/ AIR CONDITIONING**

**Heating & Cooling By Sam**  
Furnaces, AC, in-floor heat, boilers, garage heaters & duct work. 214-9562

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**IS YOUR YARD CLUTTERED?**


Christy's Auto Wrecking will pick up your old junk cars.



320-354-2299

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Specializing in log homes and residential!  
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Commercial and Residential

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**MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES**



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33 Years Experience  
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Custom Pavers  
Patios • Sidewalks • Driveways

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**MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES**

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Services that we provide are:

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- Chasing Or Move Turkeys
- Support For Set Up Or Placement
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English - 320-444-8659  
[rainbowwashing@gmail.com](mailto:rainbowwashing@gmail.com)



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RESPONSIBILITY, HONESTY, FLEXIBILITY

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**



**GREAT UTILITY VEHICLES WARM & QUIET!**  
Mini trucks available from 1991-2021. Manuals & automatics. Dumps & Jumbo Cabs. We also have lift kits, tracks, tires, wheels & other accessories available!  
Call Arlen, 763-234-9118  
Bemidji, MN  
Scott, 701-308-0101  
Lisbon, ND

**DEALS & STEALS**

15' Grumman canoe. Aluminum. 320-262-9284. \$225.  
2 large Koi fish for pond. 320-235-8720. FREE \$.

**Never too late to go after your dream JOB!**  
Find it here.  
jobsHQ.com

4 vintage metal chairs. Black & white. 320-875-2531. \$80.  
5' driveway drag, 7' driveway grader/leveler. 320-220-3114. \$90.

**DEALS & STEALS**

5hp Craftsman brush chipper/shredder. 320-235-2115. \$150.  
Aries Pacific 20" dirt bike. 21 speed. Like new. 320-222-2808. \$100.  
MTD riding lawn mower. 16.5 horse. Needs starter. 320-212-8932. \$250.

**APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

1 bedroom upstairs, utilities included - \$550 + deposit. Available May 1. 320-235-5062.

**REAL ESTATE WANTED**

Want to Buy: Country home, lake home or lake lot, preferably for sale by owner, with or without acreage & out buildings within 20 miles of Spicer. 320-894-1266

**TILLAGE EQUIPMENT**

Flexicoil 300A chisel plow, 32ft with vertical tillage coulters, 3-bar harrow; Yetter 3430 30ft rotary hoe with endwise transport. Both excellent shape. 701-360-0454

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Find the perfect place and make it yours



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



**LAKE PROPERTY FOR SALE**  
Lake Home for Sale: 12731 13th Street NW, Spicer MN 3-Bedroom, 2-bathroom Lake Florida home on spacious lot with 100 ft of shoreline. Features open floor plan with vaulted ceiling, floor to ceiling windows providing incredible lake views. Priced at \$695,000. Call 320-894-6464.

**PLANTING EQUIPMENT**  
JD 1890/1910 single-disk drill. 7.5"/15" spacing. 270 bushel cart. 40ft. 2004. \$60,000/OBO. 701-360-9442 leave msg.

**VEHICLES WANTED**  
Buying Junk Cars & Trucks, running or not. Top Dollar Paid. \$100 minimum.  
Call Tim, 320-295-8444.

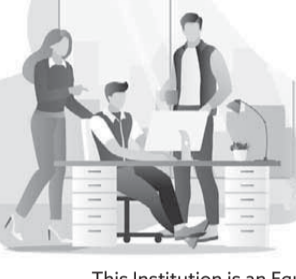
**APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**AUCTION SALES**

**AUCTION SALES**

**OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE**  
436 Litchfield Avenue  
Willmar, MN  
Call James at 320-269-6640 ext #15  
**Van Binsbergen & Associates, Inc.**  
www.vanblc.com



This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

**AUCTION SALE**  
Sunday, May 15 - 12 Noon  
The Following Described Property Will Be Sold At 14555 Breezy Point Road Atwater, MN. 4 Miles East of Spicer MN On Kandiyohi Co Rd 10 Then 2 Miles South On Kandiyohi Co Rd #4 Then 1/2 Mile East on 75th Ave NE And 1 Mile South And East On Breezy Point Road Along North Shore Diamond Lake.  
**Sporting Goods - Household - Lawn & Yard Equipment - Antiques & Collectibles - Shop Equipment & Tools - Misc.**  
Roger Gunderson Estate  
Chad Gunderson Executor  
AUCTIONEERS  
Mark Ziemer, Lic. 34-46, New London, 320-354-4312; Cell: 320-979-4044  
Brian Ziemer, New London 320-354-5308  
Terry Hilbrands, 239-777-3120



**AUCTION SALE**  
Sunday, May 22 - 11:00 AM  
Kandiyohi Auction Center, 537 Pacific Ave., Kandiyohi, MN On US Hwy #12  
Guns (To Be Sold at 1:00 PM)  
Ammo Fishing & Hunting  
Kyle Carlson  
Zero Tolerance Arms & Ammo  
320-212-6958  
AUCTIONEERS  
Mark Ziemer, Lic. 34-46, New London, 320-354-4312; Cell: 320-979-4044  
Brian Ziemer, New London 320-354-5308  
Terry Hilbrands, 239-777-3120



**Farmland Auction in Renville Co**  
Auction Thurs., June 9, 2022 at 11 AM  
163.29 Surveyed Acres;  
158.13+/- Tillable Acres; CPI=92.1  
This land has tile and was surveyed. NE 1/4 exc bld site, S 4, T 116, R 35, Winfield Twp, Renville Co.  
Harlyn & Arlene Lippert Family, Owners  
Go to FladeboeLand.com for details & drone video  
Kristine Fladeboe Duinick, 320-212-9379  
Kristine@FladeboeLand.com  
Dale Fladeboe, Lic. 34-12  
Award Winning Auctioneers





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**BUSINESSES FOR SALE**

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**BUSINESS OFFERING IN THE AREA**  
Retail Business: Price \$295,000.  
Revenue \$700,000.  
Assets Included over \$125,000.  
Owner Cash Flow \$150,000.  
Open 6 days a week  
For Information and a Non-Disclosure Agreement  
Contact: Dave LaVoi, 320-249-6992  
d.lavoi@murphybusiness.com  
I can help with financing!

**TIMED ONLINE | NO-RESERVE**  
**FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION**  
BIDDING CLOSURES: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022  
STARTING AT 6:00 PM CT  
PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 13045 40TH STREET SE, CLARA CITY, MN  
INSPECTION: TUESDAY, MAY 31 • 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
LOADOUT: FRIDAY, JUNE 3 • 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
HIGHLIGHTS: '68 JD 4020 tractor, diesel, synchro, WF; '50 JD B tractor, NF; Farmall C tractor, NF; '52 AC WD tractor, NF; '51 AC CA tractor, WF w/ Woods 306 belly mower; 952 McCormick Deering W6 tractor; '53 Farmall Super M tractor, NF; '54 Farmall Super H tractor, IH WF; '55 Farmall 300 tractor, NF; '50 Farmall M tractor, NF; '48 Farmall H, NF, Fenders, PTO, 12.4-38 tires, SN 270831; '44 Farmall M tractor, NF; Farmall A tractor, WF w/ loader; '41 Farmall A tractor, WF; '44 Case SC tractor, NF; Oliver 770 tractor, WF; JD 65 pull type combine, round back; '40 JD B tractor, for parts or repair; MM 5 Star tractor, NF, for parts or repair; '56 Oliver Super 88 tractor, NF, for parts or repair; Oliver Super 88 tractor, gas, WF, not running; Farmall M tractor, for parts or repair; '44 Farmall H tractor, for parts or repair; (2) McCormick Deering W9 tractors, for parts; '52 AC WD tractor for parts or repair; '75 GMC Sierra 35 1 ton 2WD dually pickup; '80 18' 5th wheel flatbed trailer; Woods MZ2761 zero turn lawn mower w/ 61" deck & Kohler engine; Simplicity front cut Hydro 16 lawn mower w/ 48" deck; JD 111 lawn tractor with 36" deck; Black Diamond 25 ton wood splitter w/ 26" stroke, 6.5 HP Kohler, horizontal or vertical; Selection of farm equipment, parts, tools and 1/16, 1/32, 1/64 John Deere & IH farm toys.  
**Charles and Betty Schwitters**  
CHARLES SCHWITTERS (320) 212-4614  
Auction Managers: Frank Roering (320) 290-8490  
Allen Henslin (320) 979-1808 & LaDon Henslin 320-894-5959  
**SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS, LLC**  
(844) 847-2161  
Sold@SullivanAuctioneers.com  
License #444000107

**Recreational & Hunting Land**  
with 1/2 Mile of Shoreline  
Online Only Auction -  
Opens June 7th at 9 AM;  
Bidding Closes Thurs, June 16, 5 PM  
82.4 Surveyed Acres on Johnson Lake in Pope County, near the iconic Ordway Prairie scenic overlook on Highway 104 & adjacent to Sheepberry Fen, a preserve owned by The Nature Conservancy. This is truly a once in a lifetime property.  
Jerry Skarpness, Owner  
Go to FladeboeLand.com for details & drone video  
Glen Fladeboe, Broker 2719042 651-208-3262  
Glen@FladeboeLand.com  
Dale Fladeboe, Lic. 34-12  
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**GARAGE SALES**

**PUBLIC/GARAGE SALES**  
Willmar, 56201  
**FAMILY GARAGE SALE!**  
May 13-14; Fri 8-6; Sat 8-2.  
2201 9th Ave SE  
Girls clothing NB-6, kid's shoes, baby items, toys, books & games, Disney & Sesame Street items, kid's bedroom décor, cookware, plates & more!  
FIND YOUR NEXT HOME AT  
homesHQ.com

**ESTATE SALES**  
Hancock, 56244  
**HUGE ESTATE SALE!**  
MAY 19, 20, 21, 8:00 TO 5:00  
38921 310TH ST, HANCOCK  
REFRIGERATOR, DRYER, FURNITURE, SMALL APPLIANCES, WALL HANGINGS, COLLECTABLE PLATES & MUGS, DEPRESSION GLASS, TV'S, TOOLS, QUILTING, MISC SEWING, MATERIAL, KITCHEN WARE, BEDS, DRESSERS, BOOKS, 100'S OF RECORDS!  
ANTIQUES: FURNITURE, GLASSWARE & SEWING MACHINES, HARDWARE, TOOLS, GLASS BEER PITCHERS.  
WELDING TABLE, VISE, ANVILS, LOG CHAINS, RADIAL ARM SAW.....Lots of MISC.  
CASH ONLY  
EVERYTHING MUST GO, IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE PRICE MAKE A REASONABLE OFFER.

**MOTORHOMES/RV**

**MOTORHOMES/RV**

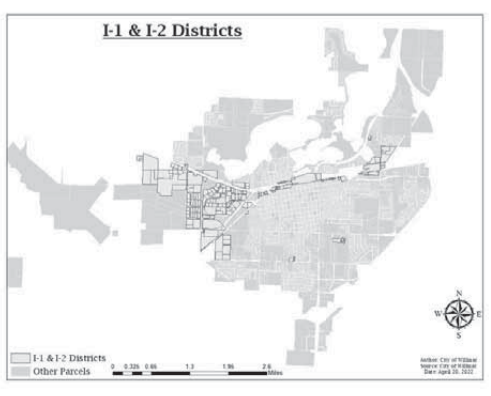
**2016 WINNEBAGO VIEW MERCEDES BENZ SPRINTER 24G**  
25,500 Miles. Everything you are looking for. Great for your weekend getaway or your cozy hideaway during your trip to Yellowstone! Perfect condition, no wear on the interior, always stored in heated garage during winter months. Queen bed slides out the back, loveseat slides out behind drivers seat.  
CALL FOR MORE INFO 3207600189 OR SEE FULL LISTING ON RVUSA.COM



**MN LEGALS**

**MN LEGALS**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CHANGES IN GENERAL INDUSTRY (I-2) AND LIMITED INDUSTRY (I-1) USES**  
Notice is hereby given that the City of Willmar Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider making changes to the uses in the General and Limited Industry Districts. The hearing is scheduled for 6:30 pm on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, in Conference room #1 of the City Office located at 333 6th Street SW Willmar, MN. This is a City-initiated Text Amendment, and all uses proposed will be added to the Zoning Ordinance. These uses include but not limited to Breweries, Gun Ranges, etc. All persons who wish to attend will be allowed to be heard or be represented. If you have questions, contact the Department of Planning and Development Services at 320- 905-0012. Thank you.  
/s/ Kayode Adiatu  
City Planner  
(May 14, 2022) 62879



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\*When e-mailing or faxing your ad, please include the ad text and the dates you would like to run the ad, along with your name, address, and phone number. A representative will contact you to confirm price and payment information. Regular deadlines apply.

**WEST CENTRAL Tribune**

WEEKEND RECEPTION  
We are seeking a general office assistant for Sunday afternoons between the hours of 11:30am to 2:00pm

Word Processing Specialist  
Our client is seeking a talented and experienced Word Processing Specialist

MN LEGALS

22-114750
NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

REAL PROPERTY IN KANDIYOHI COUNTY, MINNESOTA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
THE S 1/2 OF E 1/2 OF SE 1/4 OF SE 1/4 OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 119, RANGE 33.

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
(May 14, 21 & 28: June 4, 11 & 18, 2022) 62893

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Willmar Public Schools - ISD 347
Willmar, MN 56201
Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting on April 11, 2022

MN LEGALS

Kirsten Castiglione, Music Instructor, Middle School (22-23 Schl Yr) Replacement
Brianna Castro, Special Education Paraprofessional (3/29/22) Replacement

Resignations:
Holly Domeier, Elementary Instructor, Roosevelt (6/7/22)
Kristen Egge, Elementary Instructor, Roosevelt (6/30/22)

Transfers:
Jenna Berhagen From Elementary Instructor Roosevelt to Instructional Coach, Roosevelt (22-23 Schl Yr) Replacement

Retirements:
Mary Hanson, Physical Education & Health Instructor, ALC (8/2/22)
Desiree Lee, Alternative Programs Secretary (6/23/22)

CONSENT AGENDA
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on March 14, 2022.
Payment of Bills and Wire Transfers for period ending March 31, 2022; totaling \$3,504,443.49.

MN LEGALS

ers about their experiences with our district. We surveyed families, staff, and students in grades 3-12. Over 2,500 responses were received. The results will be shared publicly once we have compiled them.

1. Adopt Resolution Accepting Gifts/Donations - Motion by Mike Reynolds, seconded by Scott Thaden to accept the donations from Willmar Wrestling Booster Club (\$1,100 - Purchase new uniforms and warm-ups for Middle School Wrestling), Willmar Nordic Ski Club (\$185 - Nordic Ski Club Student Activity Fund), 100 Yard Club (\$2,500 - Help purchase equipment for Middle School Football), Music Matters (\$1,600 - Choir and Band Solo Accomp.), Anonymous (Guitar, value \$100 - For student and staff use), Anonymous (Violin, value \$150 - For student and staff use). Motion carried with a 6-0 roll call vote.

2. Senior High School Masonry Restoration Project - Motion by Mary Amon, seconded by Randy Frederickson to award the Senior High School Masonry Restoration Project to Building Restoration Corporation of Roseville, MN for \$585,873. Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

3. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policies - Motion by Scott Thaden, seconded by Randy Frederickson to approve the Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policies 507 and 534. Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

4. District Health Insurance Plan - Motion by Scott Thaden, seconded by Mary Amon to approve the 2022-2023 District Health Insurance Plan. Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

5. Nonrenewal of Probationary Teachers - Motion by Scott Thaden, seconded by Mike Reynolds to approve the Resolution Relating to the Nonrenewal of Probationary Teachers. Motion carried with a 6-0 roll call vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS
Annette Derouin, Director of Food & Nutrition Services and Danaca Jensen, Assistant Director of Food & Nutrition Services presented their Annual Food and Nutrition Services and District Wellness Committee Report.

CALL FOR QUOTES
The Holland Township Board is calling for quotes on the following:
Gravel- 2500 yards, more or less, of 3/4 inch crushed gravel to be delivered on Holland Township roads by July 15, 2022.

MN LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 26, 2020

Recorded: January 21, 2021 Kandiyohi County Recorder
Document Number: 674224
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: And assigned to: Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC
DATED: March 21, 2022

PLACEMENT OF RECORDING:
Recorded: January 21, 2021 Kandiyohi County Recorder
Document Number: 686138
Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

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Recorded: January 21, 2021 Kandiyohi County Recorder
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Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

MN LEGALS

582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.
DATED: April 19, 2022
MORTGAGEE: Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC

BRIDGE AND DAM REPAIR BIDS CLOSE JUNE 7, 2022
KANDIYOHI COUNTY, MN.
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS: Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Kandiyohi County, Minnesota at the office of the County Administrator, Health and Human Services Building, Suite 200, 2200 23rd St NE, Willmar, MN 56201, until 9:00 A.M. the 7th day of June, 2022, at which time bids will be opened and publicly read during the County Board meeting.

PLACEMENT OF RECORDING:
Recorded: January 21, 2021 Kandiyohi County Recorder
Document Number: 686138
Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

PLACEMENT OF RECORDING:
Recorded: January 21, 2021 Kandiyohi County Recorder
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Transaction Agent: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

PLACEMENT OF RECORDING:
Recorded: January 21, 2021 Kandiyohi County Recorder
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MN LEGALS

Minnesota.
The districts where Brewpubs are being considered are General Business District, Limited Business District, and Central Business District. This is a City-initiated Text Amendment, and all persons who wish to attend will be allowed to be heard.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON COLUMBARIUM TEXT AMENDMENT
Notice is hereby given that the City of Willmar Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider a Text Amendment to include Columbarium in the City of Willmar's Zoning Ordinance.

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
Certificate of Assumed Name
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333
The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name.

ASSUMED NAME: G&S Logistics
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 7360 195th Ave. SW Prinsburg MN 56281 USA
NAMEHOLDER(S): G&S Transports, LLC (7360 195th Ave. SW Prinsburg MN 56281 USA)

SIGNED BY: Todd M. Kleinhuizen
MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: gpunt@puntcompanies.com
Work Item 1311907300028
Original File Number 1311907300028

apartmentsHQ
www.apartmentsHQ.com

Conceptis SUDOKU by Dave Green

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 1, 9, 5, 7, 6, 2, 8, 1, 3, 3, 6, 4, 2, 1, 8, 5, 9, 4, 6, 4, 7.

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 5/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

Today's Answers:

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

5-15 CRYPTOQUIP

YA MBV \* G NXSUUM UBIX RB IYHYR S DXNRSYP
DBVPRNM YP EXHR SANYDS, EKSR YH MBVN
GXHYNX? RB CB RB RBCB.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals O

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King Crossword

15x15 crossword grid with numbers 1-57.

ACROSS
1 Went out with
6 Chinese martial art
12 Moolah
13 Skillful
14 Sheathe
15 Mountain chain
16 Stadium cheers
17 Quaker pronoun
19 Profit
20 Canadian gas brand
22 City area, for short
24 Gun lobby org.
27 Male turkeys
29 Show ennui
32 Pale, sweet fruit
35 Riga resident
36 "I smell -!"
37 Despondent
38 Hem's partner
40 Jealousy
42 Prefix with athlete
44 Early auto-maker
46 Burden
50 Aplenty
52 Strange thing
54 "Can you give me directions?"
55 Family girls

DOWN
1 Lady of Spain
2 Eyebrow shape
3 Rib
4 German loanword
5 Fresca, e.g.
6 Hit with a stun gun
7 Farewell
8 Hot temper
9 Like "Green Acres" humor
10 Employ

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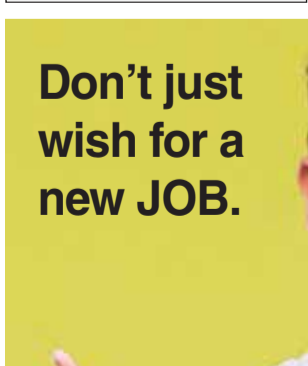
Answers

15x15 crossword grid with answers filled in.

Solution time: 21 mins

Answers

MOTORS



Don't just wish for a new JOB.

Find it here.

jobsHQ

Today's Answers:

IF YOU'D REALLY LOVE TO VISIT A CERTAIN COUNTRY IN WEST AFRICA, WHAT IS YOUR DESIRE? GO TO TOGO.

Today's Answers:

Answers





## PRAIRIE GOLD

Photos by Tom Cherveny / West Central Tribune file photo

Genetic research has identified 2 strains of walleye native to southern Minnesota waters, including a "Spicer" or North Fork of the Crow River strain. This walleye is from the Spicer strain and was netting during an egg take on Green Lake.

### Southern Minn. waters hold very good populations of walleye

By Tom Cherveny  
West Central Tribune

#### Willmar

For many walleye anglers, the compass always points north to destinations from Mille Lacs to Lake of the Woods.

Staying close to home in the Spicer and Willmar area, or venturing south to counties not on the walleye maps for most people — like Murray or even Lincoln — can be rewarded with great walleye fishing too.



Lauer

"There's gold on the prairie, walleye that is," said Jack Lauer, regional fisheries supervisor in New Ulm with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

There are many bodies of water in southern Minnesota that hold very good populations of walleye, and the probability for success on them is good, he said.

There's no better time than now to pursue walleye in southern Minnesota. These lakes have already warmed up and the spawn is done, explained Lauer. "The walleyes are on the prowl, they're moving (and) they're hungry," he said.

The area served by the Spicer fisheries crew led by Dave Coahran and Brad Carlson is home to some of the best walleye fishing opportunities in the southern portion of the state. Green, Diamond and Koronis lakes are among some of the best known. Big Kandiyo Lake made the list of the DNR's top picks for success this year.

That list includes a number of surprises. Lauer suggests that those willing to explore southern destinations not on the usual walleye maps try Dead Coon Lake in Lincoln County and Currant Lake in Murray County. Both are loaded with prairie gold.

A look at the list of top picks for this year in the southern region, and the rest of the state, can be found on the DNR's Regional



Many walleye anglers overlook opportunities found close to home by heading to Canada shield lakes of northern Minnesota. The prairie lakes of southern Minnesota hold lots of walleyes and there's no time better than now to pursue them. A party heads out on Foot Lake in this West Central Tribune file photo.

Fishing Outlooks web page at [dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/outlooks.html](http://dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/outlooks.html).

#### Good genes matter

Good walleye fishing in southern Minnesota is the real thing. Southern Minnesota waters are home to native walleye populations that have thrived in these waters for centuries. Yet for over a century, we have oftentimes been relying on "outsourcing" to stock walleye in the lakes. In many cases, the walleye being stocked into southern waters to augment walleye populations were taken from northern waters.

Work by fish geneticist Dr. Loren Miller with the University of Minnesota and DNR is helping fisheries managers do better by keeping it local. He identified eight distinct genetic strains of walleye in Minnesota, each associated with different watersheds.

Lauer said that research by Miller helped "fingerprint" the different strains of walleye and showed that the walleye from northern Minnesota were not persisting and

adapting well in many of the southern Minnesota lakes.

The ability to identify the walleye genetics showed that the native southern strains of walleye usually outperformed their northern cousins in southern lakes.

Two walleye strains are important in southern Minnesota, according to Lauer. One is known as the "Spicer" or North Fork of the Crow River strain. The other is the Lower Mississippi River strain.

The Spicer fisheries crew is responsible for collecting eggs and mill from the "Spicer" strain. This year they took eggs from five lakes: Diamond, Elizabeth, Rice, Koronis and Green. A windy and cold spring made this as difficult a year as ever for the egg collection, which ran from April 20 to May 4.

The crew attempts to collect a quota of 250 to 275 quarts of eggs each season, with each quart holding in the neighborhood of 115,000 eggs, according to Coahran.

The fertilized eggs are raised in the New London hatchery. Instead of fishing this weekend, Coahran expects the crew will begin

the process of stocking the newly raised fry in lakes. A portion will also be stocked into rearing ponds to grow into larger fingerlings for stocking in the fall.

Likewise, DNR fisheries workers in the Windom area have also collected eggs in waters that are home to walleyes from the Lower Mississippi River strain. One of those water bodies is Lake Sarah in Murray County, which has a naturally reproducing population of walleye.

Lauer said the DNR used to stock walleye from other strains in Lake Sarah. The ability to identify the different walleye strains showed that the native Lower Mississippi River strain outperformed their imported, northern cousins, and the practice of stocking northern walleye strains in the lake was ended. The DNR now makes it a point to take eggs from Lake Sarah for stocking other southern Minnesota lakes where the Lower Mississippi River strain performs best.

Lauer said researchers don't fully know what attributes of the Spicer and Lower Mississippi River

strains help them perform best in southern waters. It may be that they are more tolerant of the warmer temperatures in the shallow southern Minnesota lakes. Or, perhaps they are better adapted to the darker and more turbid waters in these lakes.

Walleye stocking can improve fishing in some lakes, but Lauer also cautions: "Stocking, stocking, stocking is not the answer," he said. "Stocking works, but stocking doesn't always work."

Lakes with natural reproduction provide the best fishing overall, he pointed out. Lakes that rely on stocking are subject to boom and bust cycles, depending on winter kill and other factors. This is a "boom" year in that cycle on a number of southern Minnesota lakes, and Lauer encourages anglers to get out and enjoy the bite.

Surprisingly, the waters may not be crowded. As of earlier this week, sales of fishing licenses statewide were 25 percent down from the previous year.



Macy Moore / West Central Tribune

Sunny weather made for optimal cycling conditions in Willmar on May 6 as people enjoyed the day at Robbins Island Regional Park. Building Willmar into a bike-friendly community has been a goal of many for several years.

# WILLMAR OFFERS MUCH FOR BIKE LOVERS

By Shelby Lindrud  
West Central Tribune

## Willmar

For the past several years, the city of Willmar and a community full of advocates have been working hard to make the city a haven for bicyclists. The efforts has already brought success, with dedicated bike routes throughout town and a bike share program. In both 2016 and 2020, the city was designated a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists. The work isn't done yet. Both the city and the Willmar Bikes advocacy group continue to plan for future biking opportunities in and around the Willmar area. "I want to try and help families and younger kids, to make it as easy as possible for them to be outside in a safe environment," said Chris Radel, a member of Willmar Bikes. "My dream is a family going biking on our routes."

## Taking a spin with BikeWillmar

This biking season will mark the fourth anniversary of the BikeWillmar bike share program. Since its launch in 2019, Willmar has offered residents and visitors a fleet of 40 bikes to rent on an hourly basis. Those bikes, located at stations across the city, provide not only a recreation opportunity, but for some



Erica Dischino / West Central Tribune file photo

The BikeWillmar bike share program is celebrating its fourth year of existence in the community in 2022. Bikes available to rent on an hourly basis are located at stations across the city.

people access to work and other services. "These are people who need a mode of transportation for a couple of hours," Radel said. A bike can be rented for \$1 an hour or \$20 for an entire season of bike rides. Renters have to download the Koloni app on their cellphone, create an account and have a valid credit card to use the bikes. Rentals are available from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. The bikes are located at hubs

at various sites in the city, including Robbins Island, Selvig Park, Miller Park, MinnWest Technology Campus and the Glacial Lakes State Trailhead. A new hub is being added at Ridgewater College this year, bringing the total number of bike hubs up to 11. The college's welding course is making the bike rack, which will be located near the student center. "We are excited to be partnering with Ridgewater,"

said Britta Diem, Willmar Community Center manager. Over the past four seasons, BikeWillmar has grown in popularity. Last year, the bikes were rented out for 481 rides, 130 more rides than 2020. A total of 1,400 miles were traveled, the same as a trip to Boston. The average trip was about three miles, though there were a handful of longer ones. **BIKE:** Page C4

## Emergency Medical Services open house

Stop by and meet some of the caring people who help keep our community safe!

**Tuesday, May 17**  
**4:00PM - 7:00PM**  
**Rice Hospital**  
**Ambulance Garage**

Vehicles, equipment, and demonstrations from local community emergency services.

**FREE HOT DOGS, CHIPS, SODA AND FREE ACTIVITIES!**





Sarah's Pan-Fried Asparagus alla Siciliana features the popular spring vegetable topped with a savory tomato-olive blend of classic Sicilian flavors.

# SPRING FLAVORS

## Pan-Fried Asparagus alla Siciliana celebrates the season

### Fargo

Spring is the season for fresh asparagus, and today's Pan-Fried Asparagus alla Siciliana is one of my favorite, and most flavorful, ways to prepare this popular vegetable.

Fresh asparagus spears are pan-roasted until lightly golden yet still crisp-tender and topped with a warm medley of classic Sicilian ingredients, including tomatoes, Kalamata olives, anchovy, garlic and oregano.

This is a quick and simple side dish that can be on your table within 10 minutes, from start to finish. To achieve this efficiency, I cook the tomato topping in a separate pan from the asparagus so that I can prepare the two components simultaneously.

I roast the asparagus spears in a large pan with a bit of extra-virgin olive oil first and toss them every couple minutes until they are lightly browned and crisp-tender (al dente). This takes about six to seven minutes over medium-low heat, which is enough time to cook the asparagus spears yet still leave a bit of snap in them, but not enough time for them to soften or become mushy.

As the asparagus cooks, in another, smaller pan I prepare the Sicilian topping. First, I saute thin slices of garlic in olive oil with one finely-chopped anchovy for two minutes, until the garlic browns just slightly and the anchovy has nearly dissolved. Anchovies are a staple flavor-builder in Sicilian cuisine, and they give this dish incredible depth of flavor.

Next, I stir in the cherry tomatoes, Kalamata olives and oregano and then



TONY & SARAH  
NASELLO  
*Home with the  
Lost Italian*

cover the pan and let the ingredients cook until the tomatoes begin to blister and release their juices. Since the anchovy has its own natural saltiness, I add just a pinch of kosher salt and black pepper to season the mixture.

Once ready, I remove the pan from the heat and keep it covered to retain its heat until the asparagus is done. You can prepare the topping in advance and reheat it before serving, and it would also make a terrific topping for bruschetta or flatbread pizza.

To serve the asparagus, I lay the spears out on a platter, stacking, if necessary, with the tips pointing in the same direction. Then, I spoon the tomato-olive topping in a line across the center of the spears, making sure to include all the juices from the pan. To finish the dish, I add a sprinkling of grated Parmesan cheese and a drizzle of freshly squeezed lemon juice. This dish pairs beautifully with lighter proteins like fish, chicken and pork.

Simple, seasonal and filled with the delicious flavors of Sicily, Pan-Fried Asparagus alla Siciliana is a family-favorite in our home, and I hope you enjoy it, too. Buon appetito!

"Home with the Lost Italian" is a weekly column written by Sarah Nasello featuring recipes by her husband, Tony Nasello. The couple owned Sarello's in Moorhead and lives in Fargo with their son, Giovanni. Readers can reach them at sarahnasello@gmail.com.



Photos by Sarah Nasello / The Forum

**Top:** Sarah's Pan-Fried Asparagus alla Siciliana features the popular spring vegetable topped with a savory tomato-olive blend of classic Sicilian flavors. **Above:** Thin slices of garlic are sauteed in olive oil with a finely chopped anchovy fillet to create the first layer of flavor for the topping. The anchovy adds incredible flavor to the dish and will nearly disappear as it cooks.

### ASPARAGUS ALLA SICILIANA

Serves: 4 to 6

#### Ingredients:

3 tablespoons plus 1 teaspoon extra-virgin olive oil, divided  
2 cloves garlic, thinly sliced  
1 anchovy, finely chopped (optional)  
½ pint cherry tomatoes, whole  
¼ cup Kalamata olives, pitted and quartered  
½ teaspoon dried oregano  
Pinch of kosher salt and black pepper  
Freshly squeezed lemon juice (to taste)

#### Directions:

Heat 2 tablespoons of the olive oil in a large saute pan over medium heat. Place half of the asparagus in the pan with the tips pointing in one direction. Place the remaining spears in the pan with the tips facing the opposite direction. Cover the pan and reduce heat to medium-low. Cook for 2 minutes, and then turn the spears over. Repeat this process 2 to 3 more times until the spears are lightly browned and crisp-tender. Meanwhile, prepare the topping as the asparagus cooks. In a medium saute pan, heat 1 tablespoon of the olive oil over medium-low heat for 1 minute. Add the garlic

and anchovy fillet and cook over low heat for 2 minutes, stirring constantly, until the garlic is very lightly browned, and the anchovy has nearly dissolved.

Add the cherry tomatoes, olives, oregano and 1 teaspoon of the olive oil. Toss to combine and cover the pan. Cook over low heat, stirring occasionally, until the tomatoes begin to blister, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat, cover the pan and set aside.

Transfer the cooked asparagus to a serving platter and spoon the tomato-olive mixture over the top. Sprinkle the Parmesan cheese over the entire dish and finish with a drizzle of fresh lemon juice.



Spoon the warm tomato-olive topping down the center of the asparagus spears.



Cherry tomatoes, Kalamata olives and dried oregano are added to the garlic-anchovy mixture and cooked over low heat until the tomatoes begin to blister and spill their juices.

HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Miranda Cosgrove, 29; Cate Blanchett, 53; Tim Roth, 61; George Lucas, 78.

Happy Birthday: Pull everything together, and reduce any confusion and uncertainty prevailing that can stop you from reaching your goals.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Assess your current personal and professional situation, and you'll come up with an idea that will help you make your life more convenient.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't worry if you meet with opposition. A debate will offer insight into how others think and what they can do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Do the work yourself to avoid disappointment. A well-organized schedule will deter others from interfering with your plans.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll get plenty of attention if you let your creative imagination filter into your pursuits. Keep your plans simple and affordable, and everything will unfold smoothly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Explore new possibilities. Help a cause or someone in need. Look for a way to get things done without getting into an emotional battle.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Pay attention to the people you care about most. A kind gesture will pave the way to unexpected support and hands-on help.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't hold back. Put your talents to work for you, and you'll have a captive audience. You'll stand out at a social event and gather information about others that will help you make a personal decision.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): An emotional matter will surface if you get together with a friend, relative or lover. Listen and choose your words wisely. A change of heart will unfold if you or someone close to you is stubborn.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone will use emotional tactics to push you into something questionable. Be strong and willing to say no. Put your time and energy into self- and home improvements that offer stability and put your mind at ease.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Go about your business and do things your way. If you don't make a fuss, you'll avoid interference. Don't put your health or your reputation at risk.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Go over your investments, assets and liabilities. It's important to know where you stand before you make a move or go along with a change someone close to you wants to make.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Go over personal documents, confirm due dates, leave nothing to chance. Once you know where you stand financially and legally, you will recognize the possibilities and the changes you can make.

Birthdays: You are flexible, enthusiastic and charismatic. You are creative and opportunistic.

Eugenia Last may be reached at 1-900-451-5571 or www.eugenialast.com.

I'm seeking my first job and feeling nervous

Dr. Wallace: I'm 16 and this week I have my first job interview. I am really nervous. I am interviewing for a job at a small restaurant right by my house. I think it would be a good fit for me because I am very personable and like fast-paced environments.

I first need to get the job, though. I am not sure what to expect in the interview and what I should have prepared beforehand. Do I need to have a resume? How much should I ask to be paid? How many hours should I ask to work per week? I feel really unprepared for the interview. What should I do between now and then?

New to the Workforce: Although it's easy for me to say, my advice is to be polite, smile and look at the job interview as you would a conversation with one of your friend's parents. This means to be your normal self while also being respectful, serious and friendly. The good news is that

this restaurant likely needs you more than you need the job! Given today's economy many businesses are having trouble filling openings. As to your pay rate, the business will have a standard starting rate they offer, and they will tell you this. There might be an initial "probation" period after which your pay rate may rise once they realize you're a quality worker who shows up on time and ready to do the job. Some, but not all businesses have probationary periods.

I don't think at the age of 16 that you need a resume, but do be prepared to speak about yourself, your school, your family life and so forth. Plan in advance to tell this possible new employer how often you can work and on which days you'll be available.

In the meantime, visit similar restaurants and watch their operations for 10 minutes or so. Get a feel for what the employees do and why. Also ask any friends and relatives you have about their past or present experience working in this service industry. Good luck!

Dr. Wallace may be reached at rwallace@thegreatestgift.com.

I'm drowning in my dreams over old flame

Dear Annie: They say it's normal not to forget your first love. Is reaching out to them crossing a line?

Life for me was like a rom-com movie. I grew up as the girl next door in a gorgeous home. I was in love with the boy next door; let's call him "Ryan." We both went to different schools, but we made time to see each other daily. We had a pretend wedding when we were kids and always joked about being married to each other. His mom even saved the picture from our pretend wedding. I loved him very much. We were each other's first time.

My father's once-successful business went under, and our house sadly foreclosed. I moved away from Ryan but still lived in the same town. He wrote me a letter on a shoebox when I moved about how he would always be there for me, and for a while, that stood true. We still saw each other but on his terms.

He started having commitment issues, and we both met different people. He went away to college, and we've both had a few different loves since then. One summer about 10 years ago, he struck me by surprise and reached out to me on

social media, but it was a shorter conversation than I would have liked, as I was in a relationship. Fast forward to today and we are both married to different, lovely people, and he lives a few cities away.

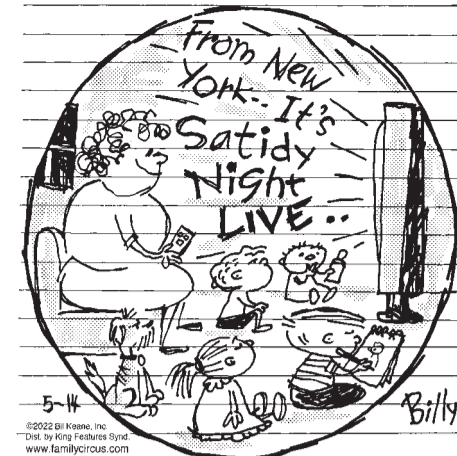
I'm not one for infidelity. The thought of cheating makes me cringe. I always say I wouldn't cheat on my husband. However, I have always hoped I'd run into Ryan again. He played in a band, and I would try to talk myself into going to the venue he was playing at just to "run into" him again. I think about him every day and try to let it go! The problem is that I dream about him at least once a week, sometimes more. It's always exciting to dream about him but sad when I wake up. It's like we didn't lose touch or we somehow find a way back to each other again in my dreams. I've tried to log back into social media a few times to see if he will reach out again, but it hasn't worked out that way.

I miss him deeply and it's a constant ache in my soul. Is it too late to reach out and say hello, or should I let it go? — Focused on First Love

Dear Focused: Consult a licensed therapist to work through your feelings for and history with Ryan once and for all. Make peace with where your lives are today, not where they were decades ago. He can hold a special place in your heart without holding you back.

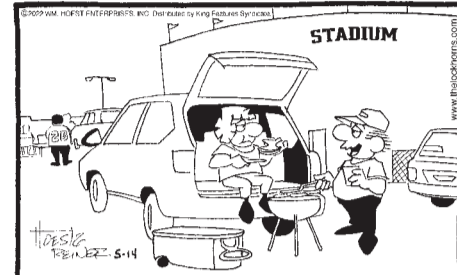
Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

FAMILY CIRCUS | BY BIL KEANE



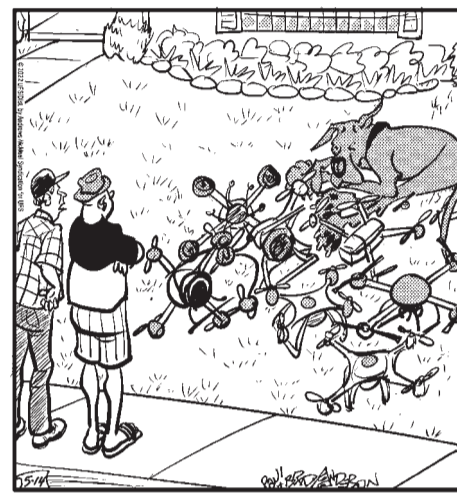
While Daddy vacations, his 7-year-old sub exposes life at home with the sitter.

LOCKHORNS | BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER



"I MUST ADMIT, TAILGATING TAKES THE STING OUT OF LOSING ALL THE TIME."

MARMADUKE | BY BRAD ANDERSON

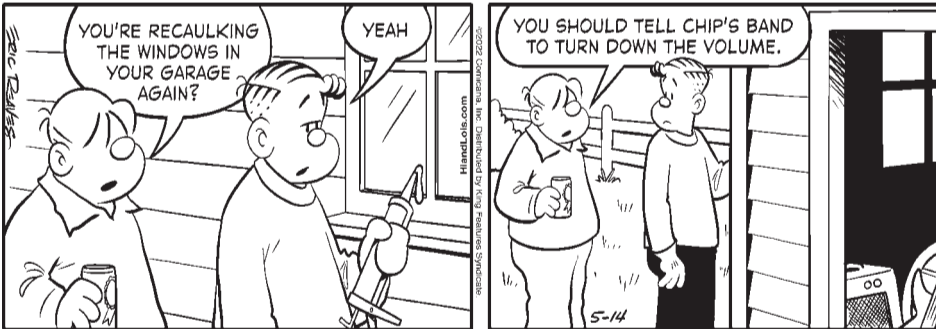


"That's one big reason drone delivery will not catch on in this neighborhood."

NON SEQUITUR | BY WILLEY MILLER



HI AND LOIS | BY BRIAN AND GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE



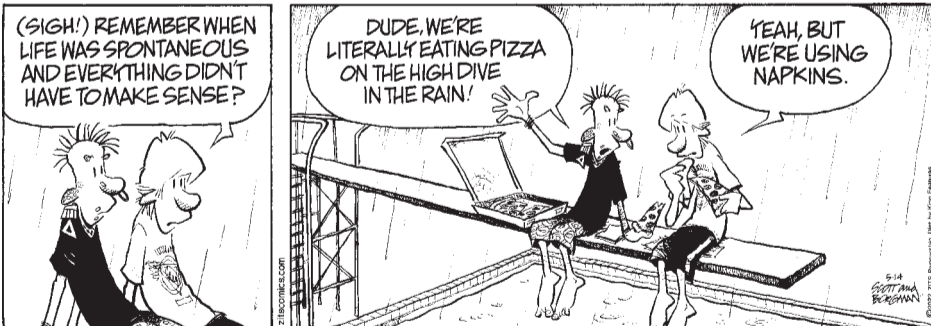
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | BY LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | BY JIM DAVIS



ZITS | BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



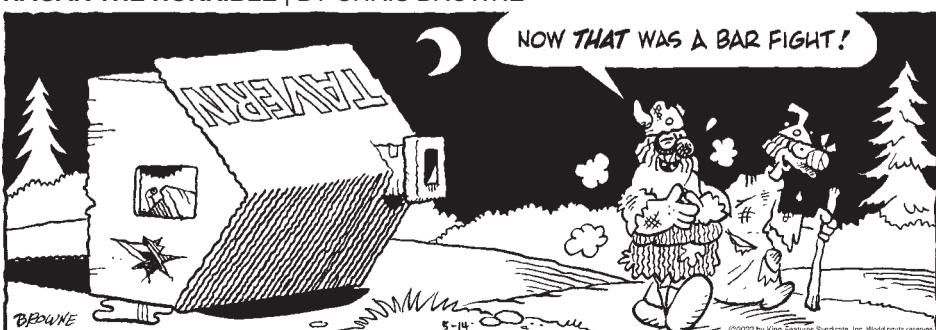
DILBERT | BY SCOTT ADAMS



BEETLE BAILEY | BY MORT WALKER



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | BY CHRIS BROWNE



MARY WORTH | BY KAREN MOY AND JOE GIELLA





Erica Dischino / West Central Tribune file photo

Pictured in July 2019, Britta Diem, Willmar Community Center manager, unlocks a bike at the BikeWillmar hub located at Miller Park in Willmar. The bike share program allows community members to rent a bike for \$1 an hour.

## BIKE

From Page C1

“We’ve had one rental go to New London and back,” Diem said.

During the off-season, the bikes are fixed up and maintained to make sure they are ready to roll once the weather warms up.

This winter, the bikes have also been installed with a new lock system, which Diem hopes will work better than the old one. It will definitely be easier for staff, who will no longer have to charge all the bikes up individually at least once a week. The new locks use removable batteries that need to be charged only once a year.

There will also be two phone numbers riders can call or text if they have a problem with a bike. The numbers are 320-979-3262 and 320-979-4035.

Diem said the bikes should start arriving at the hubs around the middle of May. With the new upgrades and growing word of mouth about BikeWillmar, Diem is hopeful 2022 will be the program’s most successful year yet.

“People are getting a better concept each year about the program,” Diem said. “Each month gets better; each year it has been better.”

### Bike routes with a Willmar flavor

With bikes at the ready, people need a safe place to ride.

Radel and the Willmar Bikes group helped create the newly laid out and soon to be signed map of 10 specific biking and pedestrian routes around the city, totaling



Contributed / Willmar Bikes

Ten new bike and pedestrian routes, which will be signed for easy travel, were approved by the Willmar City Council on Sept. 20, 2021. The routes will use existing trail infrastructure. The routes were created by the Willmar Bikes group, with help from Willmar Public Works and Kandiyohi County Public Works.

around 32 miles. The first two routes — the Green Norway Pine and Brown Turkey routes — have already been completed. The next two planned for completion are the Orange Fox route from Kandiyohi County Road 5/Gorton Avenue to the MinnWest Technology Campus and the Purple People Eaters route from the trailhead of the Glacial Lakes State Trail to the YMCA.

All 10 routes will have names paying homage to either Willmar or Minnesota.

Radel said two more routes — the Pink Lady Slipper and the Yellow Stingers — might also be completed this year, depending on funding and available time from the city’s Public Works crew. The advocacy group is using funding from the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership program to

purchase the signage for the routes, which Public Works has helped install.

“I can’t say how appreciative we are for all the work they’ve done,” Radel said, adding the plan is to have all the routes completed by the end of 2023.

Another biking infrastructure project the city and Willmar Bikes are planning is improvements to the Glacial Lakes State Trail trailhead at the Willmar Civic Center. The idea is to construct bathroom facilities, shelter and parking at the site. The City Council approved applying for a grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to help fund the proposed project, which is still in its early stages.

“That would be so huge for that area,” Diem said.

### Pedaling into the future

To help come up with a plan for future biking improvements in the community, Willmar has taken part in a community workshop, created and held by the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota (BikeMN), the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The first half of the workshop was conducted remotely April 27, when participants learned about the 6-Es that should be considered when building a more bicycling friendly society. The 6-Es are equity, evaluation, engagement, engineering, education and encouragement. Using those guidelines will help cities create a plan that reaches the most people and communities.

“Different people have different barriers to living health and fulfilling lives,” said Alyssa Stevenson from the Minnesota Department of Health.

An in-person session was scheduled May 12 in Willmar to allow workshop leaders time to meet with a group of city leaders and staff, biking advocates, school representatives and members of the public to help them create the next steps toward planning a bike-friendly future. A bike ride was initially included, but was canceled due to inclement weather.

“We are really fortunate we have so many involved in biking,” said Pamela Vruwink, Willmar Community Education coordinator. “Everyone is working collaboratively. We have opportunities.”

Following the workshops, BikeMN will condense all the ideas and thoughts shared during the two days into a report. That report will then be handed to the city and its Biking and Pedestrian subcommittee, which will decide the next steps. The overarching goal of the workshop, Willmar Bikes and all the other biking support is to make Willmar the best biking community in the region.

“It gets people off their phones too. People are tied to their computers probably more so now than ever,” Diem said. “You can’t be on your phone for that 30-minute ride.”

“It is an easy exercise too,” Radel said. “Just about all people can do it.”

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE



### Celebration of Life

We extend an invitation to friends and family to celebrate the life of Suzanne Dyer. Join us Sunday, May 15th from 1-4pm at the Westby Observatory at the Prairie Woods ELC to share memories and stories. A light luncheon and desserts will be served.

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SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022 | NATION PLUS - A FORUM COMMUNICATIONS EXTRA

# RUSSIANS THWARTED

## UKRAINIAN FORCES DESTROY ARMORED COLUMN AS FIGHT SHIFTS TO DONBAS

By Jonathan Landay  
Reuters

### Dergachi, Ukraine

Ukrainian forces destroyed parts of a Russian armored column as it tried to cross a river in the Donbas region, video from Ukraine's military showed on Friday, as the Ukrainian defense minister predicted many weeks of grinding fighting ahead.

Ukrainian forces have driven Russia from the second-largest Ukrainian city of Kharkiv in their fastest advance since Kremlin troops pulled away from Kyiv and the northeast over a month ago to focus their offensive on the Donbas region bordering Russia.

The city, which had been under fierce bombardment, has been quiet for at least two weeks and Reuters journalists have confirmed Ukraine now controls territory stretching to the Siverskiy Donets River, around 25 miles to the east.

However, Moscow is still bombarding villages north of Kharkiv.

Some six miles north of the city, firefighters doused smoldering wreckage in Dergachi after what local officials said was an overnight Russian missile attack on the House of Culture, used to distribute aid. Volunteers inside were trying to salvage packages of baby diapers and formula.

"I can't call it anything but a terrorist act," the mayor, Vyacheslav Zadorenko, told Reuters. "They wanted to hit the base where we store provisions and create a humanitarian catastrophe."

Another missile had slammed into the building on Thursday and Russian shelling had wounded a staff member at a clinic and killed a young couple in their home, he said.

Russia, which denies targeting civilians, said its forces had shot down a Ukrainian Su-27



Ukrainian servicemen carry bodies of Russian soldiers killed during Russia's invasion of Ukraine, before putting them in a refrigerated rail car, on Friday in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Valentyn Ogirenko / Reuters

aircraft in the Kharkiv region and disabled the Kremenchuk oil refinery in central Ukraine.

It was not immediately possible to verify the reports.

Southeast of Kharkiv, Britain said Ukraine had stopped Russian forces crossing the Siverskiy Donets river west of Severodonetsk. Footage released by Ukrainian Airborne Forces Command appeared to show several burnt out military vehicles near segments of a partially submerged bridge and many other damaged or abandoned vehicles, including tanks, nearby.

Reuters could not immediately verify the report, or when or where the clash took place.

The Kremlin calls its Feb. 24 invasion of Ukraine a "special military operation" to demilitarize a neighbor threatening its security. Ukraine says it poses no threat to Russia and that the deaths of thousands of civilians and destruction of cities and towns show Russia is waging a war of aggression.

"We are entering

a new, long phase of the war," Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov said in a Facebook post, predicting "extremely tough weeks" ahead during which he said Ukraine would largely be alone against an "enraged aggressor."

The British defense ministry said Russia was investing significant military effort near Severodonetsk and Izium, and trying to break through towards Sloviansk and Kramatorsk to complete their takeover of Ukraine's industrial Donbas region.

Russian-backed separatists said they had taken the Zarya chemical plant in Rubizne near Severodonetsk.

In their first conversation since the invasion, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin spoke by telephone on Friday with Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, calling for an immediate ceasefire and stressing the importance of maintaining lines of communication, the Pentagon spokesperson said.

### Kyiv says children deported

Ukraine accused Russia of forcibly deporting more than 210,000 children since its invasion, saying they were among 1.2 million Ukrainians transferred against their will. The Kremlin says people have come to Russia to escape fighting.

In Kyiv, a court began hearing the first case of what Ukraine says are more than 10,000 possible war crimes. A Russian soldier is accused of murdering a civilian. Moscow has accused Kyiv of staging such crimes.

In the southern port of Mariupol, Russian forces intensified their bombardment of the Azovstal steelworks, the last bastion of Ukrainian defenders in a city almost completely controlled by Russia after a siege of more than two months.

Some of the civilians evacuated recently from tunnels under the plant where they sheltered described terrifying conditions.

"Every second was hellish," 51-year-

old nurse Valentyna Demyanchuk told Reuters.

In an online post, Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk said "very difficult" negotiations were underway with Russia on getting Ukrainian defenders out of the besieged plant but gave no details.

### Russian ship set alight

Renewed fighting in recent days around Snake Island, an outpost that Ukrainian military intelligence said allows control of civilian shipping, could help Ukraine resume grain exports vital to world supplies, some of which are now being shipped by rail.

"There are 25 million tonnes of grain currently blocked in the Ukrainian port of Odesa, which means food for millions of people in the world that is urgently needed," German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said.

Ukraine said it had damaged a Russian navy logistics ship near Snake Island. Russia's defense ministry did not

respond to a request for comment.

Satellite imagery from Maxar, a private U.S.-based company, showed the aftermath of what it called probable missile attacks on a Russian landing craft near the island, which became famous for its Ukrainian defenders' expletive-filled defiance early in the war.

### NATO expansion

Meeting in Germany, foreign ministers from the G7 group of rich nations backed giving more aid and weapons to Ukraine.

The European Union's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell announced a further 500 million euros worth of military support that should be approved next week by EU members, and expressed confidence that the bloc will agree an embargo on Russian oil.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba told the meeting he hoped EU holdout Hungary would agree to the oil embargo and asked the G7 to hand over Russian assets to help Ukraine rebuild.

A day after Russia's northeastern neighbor Finland committed to applying to join NATO, Swedish Foreign Minister Ann Linde said membership for her country would have a stabilizing effect and benefit countries around the Baltic sea.

Joining the 30-nation Western military alliance would end the neutrality the two states maintained throughout the Cold War and further the expansion of NATO that Putin said his invasion of Ukraine aimed to prevent.

NATO member Turkey said it did not support the idea. The United States said it was working to clarify Turkey's position.

Moscow has called Finland's announcement hostile and threatened retaliation but said a newspaper report the Kremlin might cut gas supplies to Finland was mostly likely a "hoax."

## Top Texas court says governor cannot order investigations of trans children

### It will now be up to DFPS whether to continue open investigations

By Lauren McGaughy  
The Dallas Morning News

AUSTIN, Texas — The Texas Supreme Court on Friday struck down a statewide injunction halting child abuse investigations into the parents of transgender youth, while keeping in place a block on the case of one family who sued the state.

In a split ruling on Friday, the court agreed with the state that a lower court could not block all such abuse

investigations statewide. But it also noted the governor and attorney general had no authority to order the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services undertake these investigations in the first place.

"Neither the Governor nor the Attorney General has statutory authority to directly control DFPS's investigatory decisions. They have every right to express their views on DFPS's decisions and to seek, within the law, to influence those decisions — but DFPS alone bears legal responsibility for its decisions," the opinion read.

The ruling means that DFPS need not con-

tinue investigating the parents of transgender children if the agency does not believe there is any abuse. It was also a strong rebuke to Attorney General Ken Paxton and Gov. Greg Abbott reminding them that there are limits on their power — especially when it comes to parent's rights.

"DFPS's preliminary authority to investigate allegations does not entail the ultimate authority to interfere with parents' decisions about their children, decisions which enjoy some measure of constitutional protection whether the government agrees with them or

not," the opinion read.

A spokesman with the Department of Family and Protective Services said the agency is reviewing the ruling.

Brian Klosterboer, an attorney with the ACLU of Texas who is representing the family who sued, said the court said it is now up to DFPS whether to restart those investigations it had already opened. He urged them not to while litigation continues.

"While the lawsuit continues, DFPS should not take any action against any families or any transgender young people in Texas," Klosterboer told The Dallas Morning News. "It

would be unconscionable."

Abbot and Paxton, whose agency is litigating the case on behalf of the state, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

On Feb. 22, Paxton issued a nonbinding opinion that classified certain gender-affirming treatments like puberty blockers and hormone therapy as child abuse. Gov. Greg Abbott, citing this opinion, then directed the Department of Family and Protective Services to investigate all reports of minors receiving such care.

DFPS is in the executive branch under

Abbott and the governor appoints the agency's commissioner.

Since then, the state has opened at least nine investigations, including into the parents of a transgender teenager whose mother works for the child protective service agency. The mother, known anonymously as Jane Doe, sued the state over the policy change. Megan Mooney is also a plaintiff in the case. A psychologist based in Houston, Mooney worries she will be violating her medical ethics and that her job might be at stake if she abides by the state's abuse directive.

## Musk says \$44B Twitter deal on hold

By Nivedita Balu and Kenneth Li  
Reuters

Elon Musk tweeted on Friday that his \$44-billion cash deal for Twitter Inc was “temporarily on hold” while he waits for the social media company to provide data on the proportion of its fake accounts.

Twitter shares initially fell more than 20% in premarket trading, but after Musk, the chief executive of electric car market Tesla Inc, sent a sec-

ond tweet saying he remained committed to the deal, they regained some ground.

The shares were down 8.6% to \$41.19 in midday trading on Friday, a steep discount to the \$54.20 per share acquisition price.

Musk, the world’s richest person, decided to waive due diligence when he agreed to buy Twitter on April 25, in an effort to get the San Francisco-based company to accept his “best and final offer.” This could make it harder for him to argue that Twitter

somehow misled him.

Since then, technology stocks have plunged amid investor concerns over inflation and a potential economic slowdown.

The spread between the offer price and the value of Twitter shares had widened in recent days, implying less than a 50% chance of completion, as investors speculated that the downturn would prompt Musk to walk or seek a lower price.

“Twitter deal temporarily on hold pending details

supporting calculation that spam/fake accounts do indeed represent less than 5% of users,” Musk told his more than 92 million Twitter followers.

Twitter is planning no immediate action as a result of Musk’s comment, people familiar with the matter said. The company considered the comment disparaging and a violation of the terms of their deal contract, but was encouraged by Musk subsequently tweeting he was committing to the acquisi-

tion, the sources added.

Musk came to Twitter’s office for a meeting on May 6 as part of the transaction planning process, a Twitter spokesperson said.

There was no immediate reaction from the investors that Musk tapped last week to raise \$7.1 billion in funding.

Spam or fake accounts are designed to manipulate or artificially boost activity on services like Twitter. Some create an impression that something or someone is more popular.

## Israeli police beat mourners

### Police violence breaks out at funeral of slain journalist

Reuters

JERUSALEM — Israeli police officers charged at Palestinian mourners carrying the coffin of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh on Friday, before thousands led her casket through Jerusalem’s Old City in an outpouring of grief and anger over her killing.

Packed around Abu Akleh’s coffin, dozens of Palestinians, some waving Palestinian flags and chanting, “With our soul and blood we will redeem you Shireen,” began walking toward the gates of St. Joseph’s Hospital.

Israeli police officers, in an apparent bid to stop them proceeding by foot rather than taking the coffin by car, burst through the courtyard gates and charged at the crowd, some beating pallbearers with batons and kicking them.

At one point the group carrying her coffin backed against a wall and almost dropped the casket, recovering it just before one end hit the ground as stun grenades detonated.

The violent scenes, which lasted only minutes, added to Palestinian outrage over Abu Akleh’s killing, which has threatened to fuel violence that has surged since March.

Abu Akleh, who had covered Palestinian affairs and the Middle East for more than two decades, was shot while reporting on an Israeli raid in the occupied West Bank on Wednesday.

Palestinian authorities have described Abu Akleh’s killing

as an assassination by Israeli forces. Israel’s government initially suggested Palestinian fire might have been to blame, but officials have also said they could not rule out it was Israeli gunfire that killed her.

Israeli police said a group of Palestinians outside the hospital, whom they described as rioters, had begun throwing stones at officers. “The policemen were forced to act,” they added.

The White House found the images disturbing, press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters, and U.S. officials will remain in close contact with Israeli and Palestinian authorities in the aftermath of Akleh’s funeral.

Egypt, Qatar and Al Jazeera condemned the police’s conduct. Deputy U.N. spokesperson Farhan Haq said the scenes were “very shocking” and the EU said it was appalled.

A few minutes after police intervened, Abu Akleh’s coffin was placed in a vehicle that headed toward the Cathedral of the Annunciation of the Virgin in Jerusalem’s Walled Old City, where the funeral ceremony proceeded peacefully.

Crowds of Palestinians lined the narrow alleyways of the Old City as the coffin was carried to the Mount Zion Cemetery nearby.

Her grave was covered in wreaths and the Palestinian flag draped over the grave cross as mourners surrounded it solemnly, paying tribute to



Ammar Awad / Reuters

Family and friends carry the coffin of Al Jazeera reporter Shireen Abu Akleh, who was killed during an Israeli raid in Jenin in the occupied West Bank, during her funeral on Friday in a church in Jerusalem.

Abu Akleh.

“We’re here because we are screaming for justice. Justice for Shireen Abu Akleh and justice for Palestine,” said one mourner, who did not want to be identified by name.

The Israeli military said on Friday that its initial investigation “concluded that it is not possible to unequivocally determine the source of the gunfire which hit and killed Ms. Abu Akleh.”

She may have been killed

by shots fired by Palestinian militants shooting at Israeli military vehicles or been hit inadvertently by an Israeli soldier returning fire, it said.

The Palestinian Attorney General’s office issued a statement on Friday in which it said initial investigations have found that the sole source of gunfire in the area where Abu Akleh was hurt was Israeli.

Israeli forces on Friday resumed raids on the outskirts of Jenin, where Abu Akleh was

killed, and the Palestinian Health Ministry said 13 Palestinians had been wounded.

The Palestinian Islamic Jihad group meanwhile claimed responsibility for the death of an Israeli police officer in an exchange of gunfire in Jenin.

A spokesman for Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Nabil Abu Rudeineh, said events in Jerusalem and Jenin could push the sides into serious escalation.

## Accused shooter pleads not guilty to terrorism charges



Jane Rosenberg / Reuters

Frank James, charged with last month’s mass shooting in a Brooklyn subway, is sworn in before pleading not guilty to terrorism and weapons charges in a courtroom on Friday in New York City.

By Luc Cohen and Brendan Pierson  
Reuters

NEW YORK — A man charged with last month’s mass shooting in a New York subway, one of the most violent attacks in the history of the city’s transit system, pleaded not guilty to terrorism and weapons charges in Brooklyn federal court on Friday.

Frank James, 62, is accused of carrying out an April 12 gunfire and smoke bomb attack that injured 23 people. He entered his plea before U.S. District Judge William Kuntz, dressed in khaki prison clothes.

James’ lawyer, Mia Eisner-Grynberg from the Federal Defenders of New York,

did not seek to have her client released on bail, and declined to comment after the plea.

Ten people were shot in the attack, which unfolded as a Manhattan-bound N train was pulling into the 36th Street station in Brooklyn’s Sunset Park neighborhood during the morning commute. Thirteen others were injured in a frantic rush to flee the train. No one was killed.

The incident set off a round-the-clock manhunt that culminated in James’ arrest some 30 hours later. After his arrest, Eisner-Grynberg said James saw his photograph in the news and then called the New York Police Department’s tipline to turn himself in.

A motive for the attack

remained unclear. Police say James, a Bronx native with recent addresses in Philadelphia and Milwaukee, posted videos on YouTube prior to the attack in which he addressed New York City Mayor Eric Adams and complained about the presence of homeless people on subway cars.

The attack followed a string of violent crimes in America’s largest metropolitan transit system, including instances of commuters being pushed onto subway tracks from station platforms.

James could face life in prison if convicted on charges of carrying out a terrorist attack on a mass transit system and discharging a firearm during a violent crime.

### BRIEFS

#### Russian court extends US basketball player Griner’s detention

A Russian court on Friday extended the pre-trial detention of U.S. professional basketball player Brittney Griner by one month, her lawyer told Reuters.

Griner, a two-time Olympic gold medalist, was arrested in February at Moscow’s Sheremetyevo airport, allegedly in possession of cannabis-infused vaporizer cartridges.

The Russian customs service said at the time that the alleged offense could carry a 5-10 year jail term. The

U.S. State Department has said that the 31-year-old was wrongfully detained, and has assigned diplomats to work for her release.

#### Former Reagan adviser McFarlane, linchpin in Iran-Contra affair, dies

WASHINGTON — Robert McFarlane, a White House adviser who tapped Saudi royals to fund a covert war in Nicaragua and flew on a secret mission to sell arms to Iran in the scandal that shook Ronald Reagan’s presidency, has died.

He was 84.

McFarlane, who was in

Michigan visiting family, died on Thursday of complications from a prior illness, his family said in a statement.

#### Sandy Hook families can resume defamation lawsuits vs InfoWars owner

Families of the victims of the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre will be dismissed from the InfoWars bankruptcy case, allowing them to resume their defamation lawsuits against the website’s owner, conspiracy theorist Alex Jones, attorneys said in court on Friday.

Lawyers for the families

had accused the far-right-wing website of seeking Chapter 11 protection in Texas for “sinister” purposes, and sought to have the bankruptcy dismissed.

#### Mexican girl at center of outcry over violence was sexually assaulted, murdered: autopsy

MONTERREY, Mexico, May 13 (Reuters) - Mexico’s president Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador vowed on Friday to deliver justice for the killing of a Mexican teenage girl after an autopsy was published showing she had been violently sexually assaulted

and murdered.

“I promised to help clarify what happened and ensure there’s no impunity,” Lopez Obrador told a news conference after meeting with the parents of Debanhi Escobar, whose killing last month inflamed anger over violence against women across Mexico.

The 18-year-old law student vanished on April 9 amid a spate of disappearances of women in the northern state of Nuevo Leon. Her body was found nearly two weeks later submerged in a cistern at a motel near where she was last seen alive.

Reuters



Stefani Reynolds / AFP / Getty Images / TNS

A shopper is reflected in a glass case while looking at baby formula on Wednesday at a grocery store in Washington, D.C.

## Baby formula risk was seen months ago

### Potential for tainted baby formula was seen months prior to shortage

By Anna Edney  
Bloomberg News

Federal inspectors spotted the potential for baby formula made at an Abbott Laboratories plant to become contaminated months before a recall that exacerbated a nationwide shortage, a government document shows.

The Food and Drug Administration report adds a new twist to the widening gap between supply and demand for formula since Abbott recalled Similac and other top-selling brands in February, alarming parents and stoking lawmakers' concerns. Federal officials have investigated the cases of four babies who fell ill — including two who died — from cronobacter after ingesting formula made at Abbott's Sturgis plant.

U.S. officials are putting increasing focus on the crisis. The White House has tried to reassure parents that supplies will be replenished, and President Joe Biden met Thursday with manufacturers and retailers to find ways to increase supply. Abbott said this week that it could restart production in coming weeks and get formula back on shelves within two months, pending clearance from the FDA.

The FDA report obtained by Bloomberg News through a freedom of information request shows that during a routine visit to Abbott's Sturgis, Michigan, manufacturing facility in September, inspectors determined that employees may have transferred contaminants including deadly cronobacter from surfaces to baby formula. In one instance, the report said, records showed Abbott detected cronobacter in a finished batch of formula that may have been tainted by a worker who touched a contaminated surface without changing gloves. That batch wasn't distributed.

Abbott has said its formula isn't to blame for sickening the infants. "There is no evidence to link our formulas to these infant illnesses," the company said in a statement to Bloomberg, without commenting on the detailed inspection report. Abbott has previously said that it found cronobacter in formula that it didn't distribute in 2019 and 2020, and the FDA has said its inspectors again discovered the pathogen in the plant this year.

The company has drawn a distinction between contaminants found on equipment involved in production and microbes detected in the wider environment at the plant. Abbott has said that testing hasn't found cronobacter on anything

that comes into direct contact with formula substance. But the 39-page FDA document reviewed by Bloomberg shows that inspectors observed how the products could still become contaminated.

In the detailed report on their September visit, two FDA inspectors said they observed an Abbott processing operator touching "non-food contact surfaces" — essentially anywhere in the facility that doesn't come in contact with formula. Without changing his gloves or sanitizing his hands, the same worker touched the inside of a bag of ingredient that was being weighed.

Such practices can present "a food safety hazard," the inspectors wrote in September. As an example of how it might lead to contamination, inspectors highlighted an instance in June 2020 when a batch of Similac For Spit-Up formula — which wasn't distributed — tested positive for cronobacter.

Abbott had listed poor manufacturing practices as a probable cause of that contamination event, including a worker touching a hoist and then opening something, "without sanitized, gloved hand." Specifics of what the worker opened are redacted in the report. The inspectors said they discussed with factory management "how this may present a contamination or cross-contact hazard."

The document also detailed five instances of positive tests for cronobacter in environmental, non-food samples from the plant from January 2019 to August 2021.

Minnesota health officials first told the FDA in September about an infant who had ingested Abbott formula and fallen sick with cronobacter. After three additional reports of sick babies over the next few months, the FDA sent inspectors back to the Michigan plant in January. During that inspection, Abbott recalled three formula brands made there: Similac, Alimentum and EleCare. Based on agency inspectors' findings over several weeks earlier this year, production at the plant was halted, worsening shortages that had arisen earlier from supply chain issues.

Abbott said it has been working to address the food safety violations the FDA found in the inspection earlier this year and to upgrade the plant, "including installing nonporous, easily cleanable and sanitary floors."

Government officials' tests of unopened formula containers at the homes of the four sick babies were all negative for cronobacter, Abbott

said, and one of three open containers from the homes tested positive. The positive one contained two different strains of cronobacter: one that matched the strain that caused the infant's infection and another matching germs found on a bottle of distilled water used to mix the formula, Abbott said.

Government officials also did genetic testing and found the cronobacter strains found at the Abbott plant don't match the ones taken from two infants' samples. The lack of matching strains from sickened infants' samples add to the evidence from testing of its machinery that the plant wasn't likely to be involved in the outbreak, the company said.

The inspection earlier this year turned up five different cronobacter strains at the Michigan plant. That could indicate sporadic contamination that may be brought about by poor manufacturing practices, said Craig Hedberg, co-director of the Minnesota Integrated Food Safety Center of Excellence.

"If this is the case," said Francisco Diez-Gonzalez, director of the Center for Food Safety at the University of Georgia, "it may explain why the strains they found when they went to the plant may not be the same that were there when the product was contaminated."

Utah Republican Senator Mitt Romney wrote FDA Commissioner Robert Califf on Tuesday out of concern for the shortages and the agency's handling of the recall. Based on a summary of the September inspection, which the FDA made public in March, Romney said he was alarmed to learn "non-descript contamination" had been found and asked if more was known that wasn't included in the overview. The summary doesn't refer to cronobacter and has much less information than the report reviewed by Bloomberg. Such detailed inspection documents are seldom made public.

The summary "suggests FDA's routine inspection authority is insufficient to meet consumer safety demands, yet its hammer of near-shutdowns of facilities causes a ripple effect throughout the country," Romney wrote.

The FDA has said it will conduct a review of its practices regarding illnesses and recalls related to infant formula once the immediate public-health risk is minimized. The agency was aware the recall would result in shortages but moved forward "given the food safety concerns," Tara Rabin, a spokeswoman, said in an email.

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## 'Astronomical' misuse of individuals' data

### Shareholder claims Amazon knowingly violated laws; could ruin company

By Lauren Rosenblatt  
The Seattle Times

Taking a new approach to bringing attention to how Amazon uses individuals' data, a shareholder is suing Jeff Bezos, Andy Jassy and 17 other Amazon leaders he claims knowingly allowed the company to violate state laws.

Amazon has already come under fire for how it uses biometric data, things like fingerprints and facial images. It's been accused of collecting and using individuals' images without their consent as well as violating state laws that prohibit companies from profiting off individuals' biometric data.

Usually, legal actions are targeting the company. This time, shareholder Stephen Nelson's lawsuit is aimed at Amazon's top decision makers, on behalf of the company itself.

The group of defendants — which includes executives like founder and Executive Chairman Bezos; CEO Jassy; Chief Financial Officer Brian Olsavsky; and General Counsel David Zapolsky, as well as all 11 members of the board of directors — knowingly allowed Amazon to make false statements about its use of biometric data, Nelson alleges in the lawsuit filed in a U.S. District Court in Seattle in April. Company higher-ups, his attorneys claim, "made a conscious choice to turn a blind eye to Amazon's conduct."

Amazon executives and board members "caused substantial financial and reputational harm to Amazon," the lawsuit reads.

Amazon did not return requests for comment on the lawsuit.

Amazon, like many tech companies, uses biometric data to offer customers the features they've come to expect. Its Alexa virtual assistant uses voice recognition to answer user questions about the weather. A new feature for the Echo Show 15 device announced in September allows Alexa to use visual cues to identify an individual when they walk into view of the camera and offer a personalized to-do list, calendar and music selection.

Amazon Web Services, the cloud computing arm of the business, stores some biometric data from its customers and those customers' employees, according to the lawsuit, like fingerprints to gain access to a building, voiceprints to identify callers and face scans from gamers.

Amazon launched its facial recognition service, Rekognition, in 2016 for customers to build "powerful visual search and discovery" into applications, according to a blog post on its website. Since then, it has been used in Amazon's smart home systems, Alexa and other camera devices, and Amazon has marketed the technology to law enforcement and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Rekognition has raised alarm bells for activists and shareholders, who say the facial surveillance tech could "unfairly and disproportionately" target people of color. Amazon shareholders will vote on a proposal at the company's annual meeting May 25 to request a report

on how Rekognition is used and marketed, and the extent to which it could violate privacy and civil rights.

In the summer of 2020, Amazon put a one-year moratorium on the sale and use of Rekognition by law enforcement.

In a statement urging shareholders to vote against that proposal, Amazon's board of directors said the company is "committed to the responsible use of our artificial intelligence and machine learning products and services."

In response to growing concerns about how and where biometric data was being used, Illinois passed legislation in 2008 to establish guidelines for how companies and other entities could use an individual's information. Those guidelines require companies to get consent before collecting data and to tell individuals, in writing, what information is being collected, why and for how long.

Washington passed a similar law in 2017, and roughly 20 states now have some safeguards in place.

Since those laws went into effect, tech companies including Amazon, Microsoft, Google, TikTok and Meta have faced litigation for allegedly misusing individuals' biometric data. This month, facial recognition startup Clearview AI agreed to restrict the use of its massive collection of face images following a two-year lawsuit that alleged it collected people's photos without their consent.

Amazon is facing at least 14 class action lawsuits and 75,000 individual cases, according to Nelson's court filing.

With legal fees and potential fines to come, Nelson is arguing Amazon's executives and board of directors are liable for the consequences of those lawsuits. The potential damages are "astronomical to the point the company could be put out of business if the violations are not immediately addressed, stopped and remedied," the lawsuit reads.

Nelson is accusing Amazon's decision makers of misleading investors about the financial and legal risks associated with its use of biometric data and potential violations to Illinois' Biometric Privacy Information Act. Faced with its own class action lawsuit, Facebook agreed to pay \$650 million in February 2021 over the company's use of facial recognition technology.

In legal filings, Amazon's board of directors dismissed shareholder concerns about the risks, the lawsuit alleges, and defendants listed in the complaint signed off on "false statements" about Amazon's compliance with state laws.

The defendants' conduct "jeopardizes and harms one of Amazon's most important (and fragile) assets: consumer trust," the lawsuit reads. "Reputational damage is particularly devastating for technology companies like Amazon."

Nelson declined to comment through his lawyer, Gregory Wesner of Herman Jones, based in Bainbridge Island.

The lawsuit is asking the court to direct Amazon to change its biometric data practices, as well as how it governs itself internally.

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Saul Loeb / AFP via Getty Images / TNS

An Amazon shareholder is suing Jeff Bezos and 18 other company leaders, claiming they knowingly allowed the company to violate state laws.



# Actor Fred Ward dies at 79

## Ward was known for roles in 'The Right Stuff' and 'Tremors'

By Christie D'Zurilla  
Los Angeles Times

Fred Ward, the rough-hewn character actor known for his work in "The Right Stuff" and "Remo Williams: The Adventure Begins," died Sunday at age 79.

Publicist Ron Hofmann confirmed the news Friday, giving no further details about the Golden Globe winner's death.

Ward's career choices were anything but predictable. After battling flesh-eating subterranean monsters alongside Kevin Bacon in the cult-favorite flick "Tremors" (1990), he played erotic novelist Henry Miller in "Henry & June" that same year. Roles in "The Player" and "Short Cuts" followed, with the latter film earning him a piece of a special-recognition Golden Globe award in 1994.

Ward was born on Dec. 30, 1942, in San Diego. His father was in jail the day he was born, according to the actor. Ward moved around a lot as a child, including to Louisiana and Texas.

"You carry the baggage of your childhood with you until you can step into a Zen space and objectify it," Ward told the L.A. Times in 1990. "There are certain elements of need — the need for acceptance —

from my childhood that gave me the drive that an actor has to have."

As he matured, he worked as a short-order cook, a construction worker, a boxer and a lumberjack in Alaska. He spent three years in the U.S. Air Force as well, then made his way into acting in New York in the early 1970s. Early roles included small parts on TV as well as roles in productions of two of Sam Shepard's early plays in San Francisco.

"Fred Ward was seemingly incapable of being inauthentic. His characters felt like they lived a full life and we're only seeing a part of it and that's a magic trick done right in front of you and very luckily captured in light forever," tweeted fellow actor Diedrich Bader.

His former co-star Kate Mulgrew also paid tribute Friday.

"I mourn the loss of Fred Ward, who was so kind to me when we worked together on Remo Williams," Mulgrew tweeted. "Decent and modest and utterly professional, he disarmed with a smile that was at once warm and mischievous."

Ward's first major film role was in the 1979 movie "Escape From Alcatraz," starring Clint Eastwood.



Kevin Winter / Getty Images / TNS

Actor Fred Ward arrives at the premiere of Columbia Pictures' "30 Minutes Or Less" at Grauman's Chinese Theatre on Aug. 8, 2011, in Hollywood, California. Ward died Sunday, May 8 at age 79.

And Ward would go on to star alongside Shepard in 1983's "The Right Stuff," where he played astronaut Gus Grissom in the adaptation of Tom Wolfe's best-seller. That film, which

won four Oscars off of its eight nominations, gave Ward's career a big boost.

When "Remo Williams: The Adventure Begins" came out in 1985, L.A. Times film

"You carry the baggage of your childhood with you until you can step into a Zen space and objectify it." "There are certain elements of need — the need for acceptance — from my childhood that gave me the drive that an actor has to have."

FRED WARD TOLD THE L.A. TIMES IN 1990

critic Jack Mathews called Ward "the most interesting action star to emerge from the movies this year." The actor had signed on for three "Remo Williams" movies but made only the one.

Not long after that, Ward had a small but memorable role in the 1988 comedy "Big Business," playing Roone, the hunky country-bumpkin love interest of Lily Tomlin's characters.

Ward also executive-produced a film, "Miami Blues," released in 1990. He had bought the rights to the source material, Charles Willford's book of the same name, a few years earlier. The movie, which starred Ward alongside a young Alec Baldwin, finally got made after director-screenwriter George Armitage wrote the script on spec and Jonathan Demme came onboard as supervising producer and guardian angel.

"The dark humor really appealed to me. And this random, abrupt violence," Ward told The

Times when the "Miami Blues" was released.

"It can be funny and then sink into this ugly place," he added. "It reflects my view of the world."

Ward's resume also included a number of TV appearances on shows including "True Detective," "Grey's Anatomy" and "ER." In his later years, with more than 80 film and TV credits under his belt, Ward explored painting, a hobby his publicist called the actor's "second favorite art form."

"Devastated to learn about the passing of my friend, Fred Ward," tweeted actor Matthew Modine. "I had the absolute pleasure of working with this wonderful man in Robert Altman's Shortcuts and Alan Rudolph's Equinox. A tough facade covering emotions as deep as the Pacific Ocean. Godspeed amigo."

Ward is survived by his wife of 27 years, Marie-France Ward, and his son, Django Ward.

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# 'SNL' cast members take a stroll with 'Nature Cat'

## PBS Kids show enlists slate of longtime SNL personalities

By Jevon Phillips  
Los Angeles Times

A cat, a mouse, a bunny and a dog skipping through nature, exploring hiking trails and helping out other animals along the way may not seem like a show that would fit with the often snarky and sarcastic tone of cast members from "Saturday Night Live."

But "Nature Cat," an earnest show that is part of PBS Kids' "Explore the Outdoors" lineup, enlists some of the funniest people on TV to play straight-edged cartoon characters trying to solve problems out in the environment. Nature Cat or Fred the cat (Taran Killam) goes on adventures with his friends Hal the dog (Bobby Moynihan), Daisy the bunny (Kate Micucci) and Squeeks the mouse (Kate McKinnon). Other longtime "SNL" members who've lent voices to the show include Kenan Thompson, Bobby Lee and Chris Parnell.

What's going on here? There's obviously some kind of talent pipeline from "SNL" to the show, which recently launched a week of new episodes. Adam and David Rudman, co-creators of "Nature Cat" alongside Todd Hannert, are the producers who seemed most keen to pluck their cast from the show's roster. Moynihan remembers them asking for opinions on who could come aboard to help as voice actors, and he rattled off a number of performers from the late night staple. Killam recognized that the "brothers Rudman" were on to something.

in casting from 'SNL' — [and people like] Kate Micucci [have] been a good friend of mine since before doing 'SNL' — is they sort of cast people that have a similar rhythm and tone. They come from a similar world," says Killam. "So even if we're not recording in the same room together, what we're laying down is a similar enough vibe that they meld together."

"Working with these guys in any capacity is the best," says Moynihan. "Kate Micucci is like my entertainment little sister. She was in the first movie I ever did."

For Micucci, one of the few actors who wasn't on "SNL" but knows many of the cast, it's an opportunity to work with friends.

"I'm such a fan [of 'SNL']," says Micucci. "I'm like, 'Oh hey, there's Kate McKinnon!' To think, I get to do this cartoon with these people that I really admire." Killam, Moynihan and Micucci have each done extensive voice work, with Moynihan and Micucci even working together on "Duck Tales." Elastic voices in comedy almost seems like a must, but for these improv champs, it's the freedom of expression that they are drawn to and excel in.

"With 'SNL' most of the time, you get one shot. That's the beauty and the beast of it. With voiceover work, and specifically with 'Nature Cat,' we're encouraged to explore and to try a lot of things and throw in ad libs. David and Adam are incredibly collaborative in that



Courtesy PBS / TNS

The characters from "Nature Cat" on the moon.

way," says Killam. "I think it says a lot to David and Adam Rudman because they're really into improvisation," says Micucci. "Our recording sessions are always really fun and comfy."

"But we've never recorded together. Not once, I'm realizing," says Moynihan. Regardless, it was a chance for Micucci to continue a dream of hers.

"I just recently reread my journals, and I couldn't believe how many times I had in there 'I just really want to do cartoon voices,'" said Micucci. "I'm always up for whatever, but the great thing about 'Nature Cat' is that it's so earnest, and I always learn. Every time there's a new script I'm like

'No way! [Stalactites] do that?!' I'm just always being blown away by the nature part of it."

The nature part of it is key to the show's mission. The Rudmans have consultants to make sure the themes are digestible for younger viewers, and impart messages of getting out in nature and respecting it as you explore. Again, the "SNL" connection isn't the first thing you think of when pondering environmentally sound entertainment.

"Me and Taran just help with the real smart scientific stuff," said Moynihan jokingly. "Yeah. Me and Bobby are sent out to backpack into whatever terrain we're going to be covering that season. Live off the land ... No!," says

Killam. "I don't think you hire Taran Killam and Bobby Moynihan from 'SNL' for their nature authenticity. We're here to be loud and entertaining and goofy."

In that vein, we asked the actors which "SNL" cast members might be best suited to make cameos on the show, and what animal would they voice?

"I'm gonna say Will Forte as an armadillo," says Killam.

"I'm gonna say Will Forte as Goat Boy. Forte doing Jim Breuer's Goat Boy," says Moynihan.

"I don't think Molly Shannon has been on the show," says Micucci. "I think she could play anything, but let's see. Maybe a really fun and zippy squirrel or

gopher. She has a lot of positive energy."

The show has that positive energy as well. The main characters have helped birds fly south for the winter and even built bat boxes for new friends. Are there any current environmental issues or causes that they may want to bring up for the kids?

"Probably the Supreme Court's recent decisions," says Killam.

"I was gonna say horseshoe crabs," says Moynihan.

"Argh. You took my answer," says Killam. "But I love volcanoes. I would do more volcano content."

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Handout / TNS

Oversized black-and-white art helps add an element of whimsy to this neutral living space.

## HOW TO STRIKE BALANCE WITH BLACK AND WHITE

By Cathy Hobbs  
Tribune News Service

**B**lack and white is a neutral color combination that can easily be dressed up or dressed down, while in many cases serving as the ideal foundation for nearly any color palette. The key, many designers argue, is striking the ideal balance for how and when to use combinations of the two colors in a space. Here are some top tips.

### Dos

1. Do consider artwork to infuse black and white into a space.
2. Do incorporate black-and-white accents and accessories to infuse a black-and-white color scheme.

3. Do consider paint in the form of an accent wall to bring black and white into a space.

4. Do pair pops of color with a black-and-white color palette. Greens and yellows are colors that work well.

5. Do infuse large-scale elements of black and white into a space such as oversized artwork.

### Don'ts

1. Don't oversaturate a space with too much black or too much white. A ratio of 50-50 or 70-30 is a good rule of thumb.

2. Don't incorporate overly dark elements in a room that doesn't get much light. In these cases, infuse

tints, tones and shades of white, and use black as an accent.

3. Don't overlook opportunities to bring black and white into a space in big, bold ways such as larger furniture pieces and upholstery.

4. Don't ignore portable decor opportunities to bring in black and white such as toss pillows, throws and accessories.

5. Don't overdo it. Remember less is more. Use black and white as a foundation for your color story.

Cathy Hobbs, based in New York City, is an Emmy Award-winning television host and a nationally known interior design and home staging expert with offices in New York City, Boston and Washington, D.C. Contact her at [info@cathyhobbs.com](mailto:info@cathyhobbs.com) or visit her website at [cathyhobbs.com](http://cathyhobbs.com).

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## 8 tips to prevent pests this spring and summer

By Paul F. P. Pogue  
Ask Angi

Unwanted and uninvited guests can really ruin your day — and that goes double if they're rodents, insects or other pests that decide your backyard party, picnic or kitchen are a great place for an impromptu pest party. Here are eight tips for keeping surprise visitors away from your home this summer.

### 1. Act quickly

As soon as you spot signs of potential pest infestations, take steps to address the problem. If you see a few flies or ants, or some mouse droppings in a corner, there's probably a lot more you can't see.

### 2. Store food securely

Unprotected food is like a bell ringing "dinner-time!" for pests. Store all food in airtight containers. Keep your kitchen and dining room clean of crumbs and wipe up sugary liquids immediately. Seal garbage cans to ward off pests.

### 3. Check the exterior

Walk around your house and think from a pest's perspective. What entry points can you see, and what can you do to prevent them? Make sure tree limbs

and bushes don't touch your outer walls; they offer easy access for insects. If you have firewood, store it on a platform away from the house. Check for damage on window and door screens, and repair any holes. Make sure mulch isn't right up against your walls.

### 4. Watch the water

Moisture attracts insects and creates breeding grounds. Look out for any standing water in your yard. Mosquitoes can breed in just half an inch of water; a bottle cap is enough to get the job done. Clear any debris that can hold water and frequently change the water in birdbaths.

### 5. Protect your attic

Squirrels, raccoons and other animals look for a warm, dry place to hide out for winter and will use any entry point they can find to hide in your attic. Close up any holes and make sure your soffits and roof ridges are in good shape.

### 6. Inspect the foundation

Cracks in your foundation provide perfect infiltration points for pests. Carefully check around your exterior and seal up gaps with caulk. Keep your gutters

and downspouts clean, because clogged gutters can create standing water.

### 7. Hire a pro

Don't hesitate to hire a pest control pro if your best efforts fail. A good company will do more than just get rid of the pests. They'll also plug the entry points to keep them from returning and offer tips for your specific situation. When hiring, verify that they hold the proper licensing for your state or municipality. Also, make sure they have whatever certifications are required for their specific pesticides.

### 8. Consider integrated pest management

Integrated pest management, also known as IPM, combines multiple strategies to prevent pests in an environmentally conscious manner. It combines prevention methods with monitoring to determine which organisms need to be controlled and with what techniques. Ask your pest control pro if they're familiar with IPM and how it can benefit you.

Tweet your home care questions with #AskAngi and we'll try to answer them in a future column.

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Kohler / TNS

Some beverage faucets have instant hot upgrades.

## Instant hot fans let off some steam

By Ed Del Grande  
Tribune News Service

**Q:** Hi Ed: Read your previous article on filling an extra hole in a kitchen sink. You recommended a beverage faucet as one of the solutions. How could you not mention installing an instant hot unit? Please supply us with some instant info!

— Freddy, Canada  
**A:** Lots of instant hot unit fans asked me the same question. In all fairness, my beverage faucet suggestion can include the instant hot category since some beverage faucets have instant hot upgrades. But like filtered beverage faucet water, I should have made that clearer. To make up for this I'll be happy to share some excerpts from another article I did exclusively on instant hot units, so enjoy: Instant hot (or piping-hot)

units are small, powerful point-of-use electric water heaters that connect under a kitchen sink, with a dedicated tap installed in an open sink hole.

The small thermally insulated tank with powerful electrical elements keeps about two cups of very hot water available for use at all times. Beside tea, you can make instant treats like hot chocolate, soups and oatmeal.

Instant hot units should be installed by a licensed plumber according to local codes with all that information, instant hot fans should no longer be boiling mad over my beverage faucet recommendation!

Master Contractor/Plumber Ed Del Grande is known internationally as the author of the book "Ed Del Grande's House Call," the host of TV and Internet shows, and a LEED green associate. Visit [eddelgrande.com](http://eddelgrande.com) or write [eadelg@cs.com](mailto:eadelg@cs.com). Always consult local contractors and codes.

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Jason Domingues / Nell Hill / TNS

As you think through your floor plan, determine which existing pieces of furniture will stay, which will go and what you need to add to make the room work better.

## 3 steps to a beautiful bedroom

By Katie Laughridge  
Tribune News Service

While many things in life change and evolve, the steps to creating a beautiful bedroom do not. Once upon a time Mary Carol Garrity laid out a road map to creating a stunning space in which to relax and regenerate, and this advice still gets me through my room refreshes today. I thought we could all use a reminder from her this spring as we look to breathe a little new life into or completely transform our rooms during spring cleaning.

1. Select functional but attractive furniture

Before you think about fun stuff like colors and fabrics, you have to first make sure your bedroom is fully functional. Start by drawing up a floor plan that works for your

daily life. For instance, if two people are going to share the bed, you don't want one side of the bed pushed up against a wall, making it difficult for the person on the inside to get out of bed easily.

As you think through your floor plan, determine which existing pieces of furniture will stay, which will go and what you need to add to make the room work better. If your room feels tight and cramped, consider paring down your furnishings. For example, if you have a TV in your bedroom that's housed in a large cabinet, replace the cabinet with a console table that eats up less room. If your room is large and lofty, you might need to add a few larger pieces of furniture to ground the space. Many new homes have lots of built-in

storage in the closets to hold clothing, minimizing the need for dressers in the bedroom. But I still encourage customers with large spaces to fill to add a dresser, armoire or bookcase to give your room some visual appeal and balance.

2. Bring on the textiles

I think picking out textiles, like bedding, window coverings and upholstered furnishings, is one of the most fun parts of redesigning a bedroom. And fun is the optimal word when you're talking about a bedroom palette. This is your place to really express yourself. Bask in the glow of festive florals or find tranquility in soft blues — the choices are endless! Start layering your textiles with rows of pillows adorned with tassels and trim for a bold and powerful look. Once you have

your bedding picked out, you can move on to incorporating your curtains, rugs and even side chairs into your vision.

3. Finish off with interesting art and accents

Once you have the right furniture in the right places, and your bedding and window coverings are magnificent, it's time to finish off the space with interesting art and accents. If you have a collection, feature a few choice pieces on your bedside table or dresser top. Or work in a few special family heirlooms. How about some snapshots of family and friends? Use your treasures to create motifs that tell a story.

Adapted from nellhills.com. Katie Laughridge is the owner of Kansas City interior design destination Nell Hill's. For more information, contact Katie at info@nellhills.com.

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## Empire plate's value depends on size

**Editor's Note:** This article was originally published April 29, 2019.

By Helaine Fendelman  
and Joe Rosson  
Tribune News Service

Dear Helaine and Joe:  
This curious object has been in my family for a number of years. The plate is set in an elaborate wooden frame. The only other information I have is that the back of the plate is faintly marked "Empire Ware England." I have done a bit of internet research with little success. Any information would be appreciated.

Regards,  
S. P., Eden Prairie, Minnesota  
Dear S. P.:

The internet is a wonderful convenience, and we use it every day to do research. But we know we need a well-stocked library both to check the accuracy of what we find online and to provide answers to questions that have

fallen through the proverbial cracks on the web.

The key here is the mark "Empire Ware England." This immediately took us to Geoffrey A. Godden's Encyclopaedia of British Pottery and Porcelain Marks, and the tome told us much of the tale. We quickly learned the plate was made from earthenware and was the product of the Empire Porcelain Company, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England.

Yes, we know the word "porcelain" is in the company's name, but they specialized in making relatively low-end earthenware (pottery), not finer porcelains. The company was founded in 1896 and remained in business until 1967. Their marks often include the words "Empire Works" or "Empire Ware," but some of their products have the initials "E. P. C.," along with one or

the other of the two phrases and occasionally a crown.

According to Godden, the mark found on the plate in today's question was used by Empire between 1928 and 1939. The plate itself has a cobalt blue ground with some gold sprigs (a little faint in the photograph). In the center is a transfer printed, neoclassical picture of three robed figures, one of which is holding a laurel crown over the head of the central figure.

But the frame that holds the plate is the star of the show. It is also neoclassical in design with a gilt surface and three-dimensional embellishments of shells, foliate scrolls and an oval reserve at the top with hanging tassels in low relief. This is surmounted by a rococo-style bow with trailing ribbons that terminate at the base with a flower garland.

It is a rather busy design, but it is one that decorators might like. But in most cases, these interior designers would want there to be a pair of the plates with frames for symmetry. We think this particular frame was pressed in a mold to create the designs and was not hand-carved. We cannot see the back of the frame, so we think we are talking about a piece that was meant solely to be decorative, not an "art" piece.

S. P. failed to tell us the size of this attractive, vintage wall decoration, which makes it hard to assign a value. Guessing, we think the Empire "plate" is probably saucer-sized, and if this is the case, the insurance value would be in the \$125 to \$175 range. But if the Empire insert is larger — say, luncheon plate size or even larger — that value might jump to the \$175 to \$225 range.



Contributed / Helaine Fendelman and Joe Rosson / TNS  
The unusual frame makes this piece interesting to collectors.

Helaine Fendelman and Joe Rosson have written a number of books on antiques. Do you have an item you'd like to know more about? Contact them at Joe Rosson, 2504 Seymour Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917, or email them at treasures@knology.net.

If you'd like your question to be considered for their column, please include a high-resolution photo of the subject, which must be in focus, with your inquiry.

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