

Burke Murphy loves living in Red Wing. "From boots to skates to musical instruments; from telemanipulators to elevator buttons and bicycle fabrication," the area has it all. **Page 2**



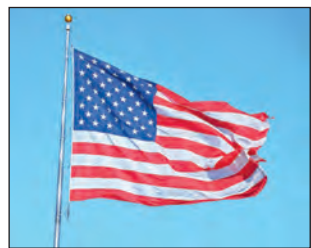
INSIDE



Scoring dried up for Goodhue in the second half and the team fell to first-seeded Hayfield 53-42 in the Section 1A championship. **Page B1**



100 years ago a Russian family fleeing war and oppression got off the train at the Red Wing depot. **Page B6**



The Goodhue County Board approved the creation of a veterans memorial park on County 14 Boulevard south of Cannon Falls to honor American soldiers. **Page A3**

On Saturday, March 12, the Red Wing High School speech team traveled to Owatonna High School and returned home with the fourth-place overall team sweepstakes trophy. **Page A5**



MSC SOUTHEAST



Red Wing college Nursing students in the current simulation lab.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Campus receives \$825,000 for NURSING LAB

BY SARAH KNIFF AND RACHEL FERGUS
Staff Writers

As a part of the \$1.5 trillion federal 2022 omnibus budget bill, Minnesota State College Southeast's Red Wing campus received \$825,000 to support upgrading its nursing simulation lab.

Marsha Danielson is the president of MSC Southeast. She said of the lab, "It's a state-of-the-art hospital simulation center, so it really mimics a hospital wing. It includes private patient rooms, (with) a nursing station, a control room."

MSC Southeast currently has a simulation lab, but it needs to be updated. The federal funding will ensure that students are trained in rooms that reflect the health care facilities in which they will work after graduation. Danielson added that it is

important for students to understand the technology and software they will be using upon graduation so they can "hit the ground running."

During the initial phases of constructing this bill in 2021, every member of the House of Representatives was asked to submit 10 community projects from their district for funding consideration.

Rep. Angie Craig queried people in the district. "Instead of just putting in a project from a member of Congress, we went down, out to our communities to obviously our educational institutions, leaders in the district; we went to our city councils, we went to our mayors, we went to our county commissioners, we went to our local police departments," she said. Craig selected the nursing simulation lab as one of her 10 projects.

"Health care continues to be

Omnibus bill

An omnibus bill is a singular large document that combines several measures into one and can be accepted in one vote by legislators.

This year's omnibus bill – containing all 12 fiscal 2022 spending bills – will provide funding for government agencies. Within the bill, \$13.6 billion will be used to aid Ukraine by providing more humanitarian, economic and safety assistance.

one of those areas where we have to invest in greater Minnesota," said Craig.

Along with aiding those in the field of health, Danielson and Craig hope that this

See Lab Page A6

CITY COUNCIL

School zoning decision tabled

BY RACHEL FERGUS
Staff Writer

The community will wait at least one more week to learn whether or not Creekstone Montessori School will open this fall.

On Monday, March 14, the Red Wing City Council discussed the request for a zoning change.

Creekstone's board plans to open the school for the first time this year. After looking at properties in and around Red Wing, the board decided that the best location would be on the property currently housing Red Cottage Montessori on the west side of the city.

Charter schools are not allowed to own their own buildings. For the past six years, Red Cottage has rented from Lutheran Social Services. While the property and landowner will remain the same, the zoning is required to change.

In order for a school to open, the property at 5225 Highway 61 West must be zoned as civic. Currently, the property is zoned as agricultural residential, which allowed for a day care but not a school.

When the item was first brought to the City Council on Feb. 28, council members voiced hesitancy to approve a change in zoning. The council took no action on the item in February. When the item was discussed again on Monday, the council still had concerns about the proposed changes.

The proposal was tabled to allow city staff and Lutheran Social Services to discuss

See Zoning Page A6

ENVIRONMENT

Barrels and bins

Red Wing discusses another green step

BY RACHEL FERGUS
Staff Writer

Rain barrels and compost bins will likely become a much more common sight in Red Wing this spring.

During the Monday, March 14, Red Wing City Council meeting, public works staff presented the proposal to purchase rain barrels and compost bins for the city.

Kelsey Van Deusen from Red Wing's storm water department explained that if approved, the city would purchase 50 rain barrels and 50 compost bins. The city would then host a sale on those items on Saturday, April 23.

By purchasing the barrels and bins, the city would subsidize some of the cost, saving residents \$40 on rain barrels and \$26 on compost bins (they would cost residents \$50 individually or \$100 for both).

The implementation of the rain barrels was described by Van Deusen as a "kick-off to what we're looking at for a stormwater fee credit. We're thinking about offering that \$50 credit for a rain barrel or rain garden. And it's a great way

to pilot this and offer some more sustainable opportunities for residents throughout the city."

The city has been discussing the possibility of implementing composting as part of its solid waste management.

Jeff Schneider is the deputy director of solid waste. He told the council, "We did just receive a \$140,000 grant from the MPCA (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) to help supplement... the funding that we already put forward to looking at organics. And I think that this is a great opportunity for us to get this out there."

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency says of using rain barrels, "Harvesting and reusing rainwater decreases the impact of stormwater runoff to our lakes and streams; it protects the environment and minimizes localized flooding and erosion. It has additional benefits in urban areas, including, but not limited to, an increase in soil moisture levels for urban greenery. In addition, it can be used to meet regulatory requirements for

See Green Page A6



FILE PHOTO

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Food scraps and yard waste together currently make up more than 30% of what we throw away."

OBITUARIES PAGE B4

- Lydia Bailey
- Vernon (Buddy) Bartlett Jr.
- Ricky D. Bremer
- Paul R. Cordes
- Keith Dahn
- Antoinette Denzer
- Michelle DuRen
- Charles Fischer
- Rochelle Johnson
- Robert Andrew Karlsrud
- Father Marvin J. Klaers
- Patricia Lassek
- Marlyce Quittm

YOUR NEWS

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We want to hear from you. Send your story ideas and questions to us and we'll investigate. Email: OMGmnNews@ourourkemediagroup.com.

YOUR WEEKLY PLANNER

A week for stilettos and steel toes

Phoenix Theatre presents "Fuddy Meers"

The play opens in Claire's bedroom as she awakens to yet another day in which her memory is wiped clean. Claire has a rare form of amnesia that allows her to retain information throughout the day, but every morning, she starts all over again, learning about herself and her life. Claire is introduced to her husband who has a secret past, her stoner son, and several others while the audience is also meeting them for the first time. The characters are slowly revealed to Claire and the audience throughout the play. There is the masked limping man who lisp and introduces himself as Claire's brother, her mother who's had a stroke and struggles with speech, a strange man who goes everywhere with his puppet, and a police officer with a secret.

Fuddy Meers takes serious topics and presents them with zany, sometimes slapstick comic relief. This fast-paced comedy takes you on a raucous journey through Claire's day.

The show opens on Friday, March 25. Performances are also scheduled for March 26 and April 1-3. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. except on Sunday, April 3, when the show will be at 3 p.m. Tickets start at \$16. For more information, visit sheldontheatre.org.

Ball in the House

This Boston-based R&B, soul and pop a cappella quintet appeared on the Today Show, America's Got Talent, The Daily Buzz and



The phoenix in the Sheldon Theatre.

FILE PHOTO

more. They have opened for groups including The Beach Boys, The Jonas Brothers, Blondie and numerous others.

The concert is part of Hastings Concert Association's drive to end hunger. Participants can bring a food or cash donation for Hastings Family Service Food Shelf. Every dollar and every pound of food collected will be proportionately matched by MN FoodShare during the March Campaign.

The concert will be at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 21, in the Hastings Middle School auditorium. Tickets for the concert are \$20 at the door.

Busybody

The newest show at The Phipps Center for the Arts is about the nosy Mrs. Piper, one night while cleaning an office discovers a dead body, but then it disappears. While the detectives are baffled, she somehow deduces both the identity of the corpse and the murderer in this mystery-comedy.

Show schedule:

- ▶ Friday: March 25, April 1 and April 8, 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Saturday: March 26, April 2 and April 9, 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Sunday: March 27, April 3 and April 10, 2 p.m.

Steel toes and stilettos

The St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity is celebrating its 25th anniversary at 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 26. The fun will be at Tattersall Distilling in River Falls. A cocktail hour starts at 5 p.m. (it's a distillery after all), followed by a silent auction, wine and spirits pull, a photo booth, dinner and a program, and a special dessert dash.

Silent auction items include a Twins v. Brewers game at Target Field for 10, a private boat ride for six with dessert along the St. Croix

River, a tandem jump at SkyDive Twin Cities, a kayak trip down the Kinni, a hand-carved charcuterie board, salon treatments, tickets to the Phipps and more.

Tickets for the event are \$50 each, or tables of 6 for \$275. Registration is now open at <https://scvhabitat.org/25th-anniversary-gala>.

Winter hike

Enjoy the last bit of winter weather by bundling up for a hike up the cow path. Get to the top of the trail and enjoy a fire and hot chocolate in the upper quarry before hiking the scenic loop to the overlook and heading back down the cow path. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy boots and yaktrax or snowshoes if there is enough snow. Meet at the Cowpath trailhead at the top of Bluff Street.

The hike, led by the Red Wing Park naturalist, will be from 9-10 a.m. Participants are asked to meet at the cowpath trailhead at the top of Bluff Street. For more information, call 651-385-4565.

Chicken feed

After canceling the feed for two years in a row due to COVID-19, the annual event is back and celebrating its 40th anniversary. The fire association's event will be held from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, at the Ellsworth Fire Hall. Dine-in, carry out, curbside pickup and free delivery options are available.

The event will include a silent auction with all proceeds going to the purchase of firefighting equipment. For curbside and delivery options, call 715-273-4653.



IMAGE PROVIDED BY BALL IN THE HOUSE.

"Ball in the House" is a Boston-based R&B, soul and pop a cappella quintet.



FILE PHOTO

The Phipps Center for the Arts.

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GOODHUE COUNTY



PHOTO BY BRETT SAYLES FROM PEXELS

Veterans memorial park coming to Cannon Falls

Road improvements approved for 2022

BY SARAH KNIEFF
Staff Writer

The Goodhue County Board on Tuesday approved the creation of a veterans memorial park on County 14 Boulevard south of Cannon Falls to honor American soldiers.

Property owner James Edlund and applicant partner Jim Boo plan on building a banquet facility, with a monument at the park entrance and memorial area in the center.

The area has been rezoned from general agriculture to commercial recreational to accommodate the construction.

Natural trails have been proposed for the property for public use and fencing will be established to prevent trespassing.

Hours of operation are expected to be year-round, seven days a week from 9

a.m. to 9 p.m. Edlund and Boo have indicated that two to six employees may be on the property during the day.

Security and lighting will be constructed to maintain users safety.

During the regularly scheduled meeting, board members also discussed three different road improvements projects.

Aggregate surfacing

Bruening Rock Products has been awarded the \$133,164.06 aggregate surfacing contract for approximately 18.4 miles of County Roads 23, 43, 47, 54 and 59.

Construction will start later this year.

Seal coating

Asphalt Surface Technolo-

gies will seal coat asphalt surfaces on 15.7 miles of Highway 16, 25 and County 56 Boulevard for the bid of \$813,138.89.

This project includes micro-surfacing 5.99 miles of County 7 Boulevard to restore the surface, correct cupped joints and increase quality of ride.

Board members noted that the base price may change as oil prices fluctuate.

Traffic marking

Sir-Lines-A-Lot of Edina has been awarded the 2022 traffic marking contract for a bid of \$424,908.41.

Approximately 277 miles of the county road system will receive new line striping for better visibility later this year.

Readers can reach Sarah Knieff at sknieff@orourkemediagroup.com.

RED WING IGNITE

\$350,000 for small businesses

March marks launch of local grant-funded programs

BY RACHEL FERGUS
Staff Writer

Starting this month, Red Wing Ignite is hosting programs funded in large part by a Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development grant.

In November, DEED announced that Red Wing Ignite received a \$352,154 grant.

Stacy Nimmo, executive director of Red Wing Ignite, said the funding will be used "to support startup growth and success of our area entrepreneurs and small business owners through delivery of high quality and low cost or free business development and technical assistance services."

These funds will be available through June 2023. Currently, Red Wing Ignite has 44 events and workshops scheduled for this year.

Upcoming events and programs

Ideation workshop

From 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, the ideation workshop is for anyone who is interested in potentially starting a business but doesn't know where to start and anyone who may be interested in changing an existing business.

Rose Vieland and Molly Pyle with the Center on Rural Innovation will present. The event is free and lunch will be provided.

Nimmo said the workshop

"is wonderful for someone who is maybe going through a career transition and wondering what to do next. It would be great for students, great for someone nearing retirement or currently in retirement, or just really anybody who wants to explore the thought."

Startup Sprint

Red Wing Ignite says of the three-day sprint, "Participants will begin the event by presenting their start-up ideas or innovations for a problem they're looking to solve. With support from Red Wing Ignite's mentors, teams will be assigned to top ideas. They will work together over the following two days to develop a final pitch for RWI's extended network."

The event is \$25 per person with scholarships available. Meals, snacks and beverages are included.

Paid internships

Currently in development is an internship program. Nimmo said the program "will pair interns, college students, with startups and small businesses in our area." These paid internships will allow local small businesses and startups to bring on an intern for 120 hours. Interns will receive \$15 an hour.

There are openings for 48 interns. Currently Red Wing Ignite is working with colleges in southeastern Minnesota to find a large pool of students to fill the internships. "We have started to slowly get the word out," said Nimmo. "We're not quite at the place of launching, but a small business owner who is interested can contact us."

Readers can reach Rachel Ferguson at rfergus@orourkemediagroup.com

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Joni Juliar - jjuliar@orourkemediagroup.com

Ray Paul - rpaul@orourkemediagroup.com



Benefits of the Goodhue County Preferred Business Program

1 Why this firm says being local is so important for its clients

Christine Esser began law school with the hopes of becoming an FBI agent. When a hiring freeze disrupted that dream, she finished her law degree at Drake University Law School.

As a personal injury attorney, she represents those who have been injured due to the negligence of others.

"The most rewarding part is being able to help people... helping people move through an injury and find resolution," said Esser. "When you see them years later and they tell you they're doing great, and they remember you; that's very rewarding."

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11 Exclusivity

The Goodhue County Preferred Business program is limited to 35 businesses and one exclusive business per category.

OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY: All letters are due by 3 p.m. Wednesday. There is no guarantee of publication or posting. We will reject letters that attack someone and are abusive, hateful and racist. We aim to provide a balanced perspective on local issues on this page. All letters must be signed and are subject to editing for brevity, clarity, grammar and spelling. No more than 350 words will be allowed. All letters will be verified; writers must provide a home address and daytime phone number.

IN THE SCHOOLS

School energy improvements benefit budget, students, planet

BY KARSTEN ANDERSON
Superintendent



KARSTEN ANDERSON

Our district has a strong record of continually evaluating its energy use and reducing the costs. These investments in time and equipment have allowed us to direct those savings to our primary business: educating students.

But the improvements also have been good for the planet and, in the current global energy crisis, have meant we have built-in strategies to mitigate the price hikes.

I attribute our successful track record primarily to three groups of people:

► The building and grounds staff. The department leaders have assembled a team that is open to new technologies and that seeks ways to improve efficiency.

► The Red Wing School Board. Various members have come and gone, but the board remains committed to maintaining our buildings and improving their energy efficiency. Visitors often tell me how beautiful our “new” schools look and are surprised to learn that the newest is actually more than 25 years old.

► The Red Wing community. Voters have said “yes” to many improvements to our infrastructure, some of which I will highlight here.

Energy efficient buildings

Every Red Wing Public Schools K-12 building meets Energy Star criteria, and we hope to recertify each of them again in 2022 or 2023. This is true even with our having increased airflow during the pandemic to reduce the spread of COVID-19, influenza and other airborne viruses.

Our ratings range from 77 at Sunnyside to 94, at Twin Bluff. (Note that 50 is average compared to Energy Star buildings nationwide. A building must be 75 to achieve Energy Star status.)

Let’s use Red Wing High School as an example. RWHS in 2019 became the district’s last building to earn Energy Star status.

From 2008 through 2021, energy use for the high school is down 28%, according to B3 Benchmarking, the state’s energy logging website for public buildings. Approximately 18% of this is thanks to a new building automation system and energy valves made

possible by the 2018 referendum.

Again, thank you for the support.

Compared to the year 2000, districtwide we annually save \$365,845 in energy (gas, electric, oil) bills. Our emissions avoidance is 2,422 metric tons of CO2 per year.

Solar garden

We have subscribed to several solar gardens to reduce reliance on fossil fuels as well as save money. We started adding solar garden subscriptions in 2017. The final section came online in February 2020.

Districtwide, we have saved \$316,000 in costs through December 2021 thanks to solar.

School buses

Every person who fills up their car or truck right now feels the pain of record-high gasoline and diesel prices. A few people have asked how this is hurting the district.

While we don’t own any buses, transportation partner First Student thankfully had the foresight several years ago to begin shifting its fleet to more energy efficient power sources even before electric school buses became feasible.

Today, 60% of buses carrying local students to and from Red Wing schools use propane rather than diesel. As a result, the district is paying a much lower fuel service charge than other districts are this spring.

Potential project

Up next, the Building and Grounds Department hopes to switch from fluorescent to LED lighting in the near future. The School Board and the community will learn about the proposal at the March 21 board workshop meeting.

Red Wing Public Schools continues to focus on finding ways to minimize operational costs so more money is allocated to educate students and our promises to the community are fulfilled. Please contact Kevin Johnson at 651-385-4507 or kjohnson@rwps if you have any questions about energy-related projects within the school district.

Karsten Anderson is superintendent of the Red Wing Public Schools.



"Here's a help wanted ad: Position with great pay, benefits, and the possibility of going to prison for making a mistake at work."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Increasing number of angry people

It is hard for me to understand why many non-thinkers find it so hard to admit they are angry ... about something. The news reporting, they habitually listen to, purports happiness by deceiving them.

Allegedly some folks believe the angry people out there are voting right advocates, minorities, climate change believers, pro-vaxers and workers. In other words, those among us who believe in fairness and the survival of our society are the angry ones.

That is simply not true.

Perhaps societies' mental health challenges are due to the pandemic, economy and war.

Technology has not made things easier. It promotes anger. It is easy to stay angry when you search only what you are told to believe. It takes no work to believe lies. All understanding requires truth. Truth requires research. Research requires the personal ability and

time to understand knowledge.

We should learn those things in grade school.

I am fearful we are increasing the future number of angry citizens. One only has to read the recent Red Wing School District discipline data numbers printed recently in the Red Wing Republican Eagle to realize something is wrong.

The data is from 2021-2022, and the school year isn't over. It lists about two dozen disciplinary categories. The data is less than other years.

Is the district proud of that? Not one category mentions anger. Perhaps the underlying reason is anger? With the resources the district has, might they be better used to research analytical evidence on anger. Try the internet's pros and cons.

One can only hope.

*Bruce Yernberg
Red Wing*

Not being heard anymore

My husband and I moved to this community just shy of five years

ago. We feel local government has failed us. Our national and local government seems to be failing us. They seem to be pushing things through on their agenda without really listening to or considering what “We the People” have to say about issues.

Local elections are very important, and the upcoming county board election really matters.

The mask mandate has been used as a cloak to keep us out of County Board meetings. They use Zoom, but on Zoom you can be muted if they don't like what you are saying.

They used COVID-19 to keep meetings closed. If we can go to work, stores, banks and our kids can go to school, then we should be able to attend meetings.

I don't feel like we are being heard or represented anymore.

Sheila Lorentz is running for County Board in District 16 of Pierce County. She has jumped full force into running for District 16.

I met Sheila Lorentz, about three years ago. She has a small farm and two wonderful boys

who are always willing to help anyone. Sheila will have fresh new eyes going into this. She is learning how and what she can do for our community.

We agreed that our local system has stalled in the last few years as far as representing our views on important issues. She has the values that I/we believe in. She will be the positive change, and I stand behind her.

Sheila will listen to us, research the issue, ask the hard questions, and support our law enforcement. Mostly she will represent us along with the Constitution, and she will be totally transparent.

Sheila and her teams will be knocking on doors, visiting with people face to face and making calls to remind everyone to vote on April 5.

We value our local leaders and all that they do for us past and present, Vote April 5 for Sheila Lorentz, District 16, for County Board.

*Debra Hohl
Ellsworth*

ANOTHER VIEW

War in Ukraine a tragedy

BY RICK DEVOE

The war in the Ukraine is a tragedy for all concerned. Any expansion and/or escalation in the war, indeed the mere continuation of it, poses an unacceptable risk to all humanity.

The inception of wars and their perpetuation spring from a series of diplomatic and military miscalculations, the result of which is never

under the actual control of any participating nation or their allies.

I applaud President Biden for his refusal throughout to commit U.S. forces to the war and his resistance to the temptation of placing our nuclear forces on an elevated alert status. Any provocation on NATO's part, especially an action like establishing a “no fly” zone

over the Ukraine, will almost assuredly incite a potentially disastrous or perhaps catastrophic response from Putin, whose good judgment we surely cannot rely upon.

Therefore, I call on President Biden to do everything in his power to alleviate the suffering of the Ukrainian people and to forestall further escalation in the war by

securing an immediate peace settlement to end the conflict.

Rick and his wife, Zoe, are supporters of the International Rescue Committee and suggest donating to them as a way of helping the most vulnerable of the Ukrainian population.

Rick DeVoe is a candidate for Congress in Minnesota's 1st District. He and his wife, Zoe, live in Red Wing

THE FIRST AMENDMENT

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.



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NEWS

SPEECH

Rachel Dopkins named conference champion

On Saturday, March 12, the Red Wing High School speech team traveled to Owatonna High School and returned home with the fourth-place overall team sweepstakes trophy.

Team members who competed and contributed to team results were: Alinna Gonzalez, Jonah Hadrian (sixth place, Creative Expression), Zoe Anna Lohman, Kylie Roth, Harley DeGroat, Rachel Dopkins (second place, Dramatic Interpretation), Allie and Nora Meyer (third place, Duo Interpretation), Diego Gonzalez-Monjarez and Everett Barker (seventh place, Duo Interpretation), Sadie Bloom (fourth place, Extemporaneous Reading), Alex Eiyneck (seventh place, Extemporaneous Reading), Kayleigh Hoppman (fifth place, Extemporaneous Reading), Londyn Overlander, Carli Waddell (seventh place, Humorous), Sabrina Cook (sixth place Infor-

mative), Jack Steffey, Miriam Jackson, Donovan Dinsmore (seventh place Original Oratory), Casey Ward (fifth place Poetry), Hannah Fox, Cole Marks, Bella Paradis and Addison Hoppman.

Big 9 Conference

On Tuesday, March 15, the team continued its competitive season by traveling to Albert Lea to compete in the Big 9 Conference speech meet.

While the team placed seventh overall in team sweepstakes, five Red Wing speakers earned individual awards including one conference champion title. Students who competed were: Alinna Gonzalez-Monjarez, Elsa Cory, Zoe Anna Lohman, Jonah Hadrian (sixth place Creative Expression), Rachel Dopkins (first place, Dramatic Interpretation), Kylie Roth, Harley DeGroat, Allie and Nora Meyer (fourth place Duo Interpretation), Everett



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Red Wing High School speech team after the Big 9 Conference meet in Albert Lea.

Barker, Diego Gonzalez Monjarez, Sadie Bloom, Kayleigh Hoppman, Alex

Eiyneck, Londyn Overlander, Carli Waddell, Sabrina Cook. Miriam

Jackson, Donovan Dinsmore, Emory Tift, Casey Ward, Bella Paradis, Cole

Marks (second place, Serious Prose), and Addison Hoppman.

MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGE SOUTHEAST

Career night set for transportation program

Transportation Career Night is coming up in Winona on Thursday, March 31. Prospective students and their families, job seekers, or anyone interested in learning more about the Minnesota State College Southeast's transportation programs are all welcome to attend.

Admission is free and open to the public.

Four college programs will be represented: Auto Body Collision Technology, Automotive and Light Duty Diesel Technology, Transportation Management, and Truck Driving.

Transportation programs at MSC Southeast offer certificates, diplomas, and degrees that can lead directly to high-paying, high growth occupations. At Transportation Career Night you can tour our state-of-the-art facilities and experience hands-on activities.

Plus, industry representatives will be available to discuss opportunities in these high-demand job markets. We want to give current and future stu-



A student works on a car engine in the Southeast Technical College Auto Body and Automotive Technology Program.

dents a realistic idea of what transportation careers can offer.

College admissions and financial aid staff available to assist prospective students, and the \$20 application fee will be waived for anyone who applies for admission at the event.

Students who apply for Auto Tech or Auto Body at the event, and attend class this fall, will be rewarded with an Auto Darkening Welding Helmet when they start classes in August.

In addition, there are

two door prize opportunities at Transportation Career Night. Register in advance to attend the event for a chance to win a Snap-on Socket Set. Apply to the college or register for classes at the event for a chance to win a Matco Tools product. Must be present to win prizes; winners will be chosen at the conclusion of the evening.

For more information about Transportation Career Night, and to register, go to: southeastmn.edu/event.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

A student works on a car engine in the Automotive and Light Duty Diesel Technology program.

MAYO CLINIC

During uncertainty, trust your primary care provider

BY DR. PAUL ROBELIA
Mayo Clinic

The relationship between patients and their health care team is the foundation of safe and effective health care. Critical to this relationship is trust. Patients need to be able to trust their health care team with their lives and know that this team is putting their needs first.

A solid trusting relationship does more than just feel good. It also improves patient outcomes. A 2017 study found that patients who trusted their health care team report healthier behaviors, fewer symptoms, higher quality of life and greater satisfaction with their treatment.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, trust became even more important. Information about the virus and safety recommendations have been ever-evolving. It can be difficult to keep track of what's fact, what's fiction and the right action for you and your family. During times of uncertainty, turn to and trust the expert advice of your primary care provider.

Primary care provider role

The term primary care provider can seem like a general, slightly vague term. What does it mean?

A primary care provider is a health care professional who specializes in diagnosing, treating and preventing a wide variety of conditions. Your primary care provider can be a physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant. This professional provides care for most nonemergent, routine health care needs.

The primary care provider's goal is to deliver the care that's right for you — not use a one-size-fits-all approach. Tailored health care is easier and better for you when you have a meaningful and trusting relationship with your provider.

Prevention focus

Benjamin Franklin said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." He was talking about fire protection, but his words can apply to health, too. It's much easier to prevent a disease than it is to treat one. Staying up to date on vaccinations and screenings can help you stay healthy and catch health problems early when they're easiest to treat.

Your primary care provider will suggest screenings and vaccinations to keep you healthy. Primary care providers give about half of all vaccines in the U.S. and have the expertise to explain the benefits and answer any questions.

A trusting relationship with your primary care provider has been vital during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your primary care provider can recommend ways to keep you protected from the virus, including getting vaccinated for COVID-19. Some patients have said they trust their primary care providers to treat them if they get infected with COVID-19, but they are hesitant to follow the same providers' recommendation to be vaccinated for COVID-19. This presents a care disconnect.

Unfortunately, one reason for this could be the misinformation and myths circulating about COVID-19 vaccines. If you have questions about COVID-19 vaccines, don't search for answers on Google or social media. Instead, get the facts from your primary care provider or a reputable source like Mayo Clinic.

Your primary care provider knows your health history and risk factors, has reviewed vaccine safety and efficacy data, and is focused on keeping you healthy during the pandemic. This professional makes fact-based recommendations that put your health care needs first, especially when preventing a serious, potentially life-threatening disease like COVID-19.

Diagnosis and treatment

Primary care providers care for patients over a long period of time, often years. Because of this, they are trained to notice health changes and diagnose a wide range of diseases and conditions. They also work with an expert team that provides a well-rounded approach to your health care.

Your primary care provider is trusted to diagnose and treat patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your primary care provider, along with colleagues in the hospital settings, are at the front-lines of the pandemic. They have seen it all and are equipped to make data-driven treatment plans to care for you.

If needed, your primary care provider can coordinate care with a specialist. This person will monitor your updated medical history and status, and follow up with test results, provide meaningful explanations and describe the next best steps in your health care.

Choosing a provider

If you haven't already, consider doing some research and picking a primary care provider who's right for you. The continuity of care you'll receive and the familiarity you'll experience will help you get the care that's best for you.

- Choose a primary care provider who:
- ▶ Makes you feel comfortable discussing health topics.
 - ▶ Answers your questions.
 - ▶ Communicates well, speaking in terms you can understand.
 - ▶ Suggests ways to improve your health.
 - ▶ Recommends screenings and exams appropriate for your age and sex.
 - ▶ Treats common illnesses and injuries.
 - ▶ Involves you as a partner in your care — asks what you think, listens to your concerns and expects you to follow through with action when required.
 - ▶ Explains the options when you need treatment.
 - ▶ Offers referrals to qualified specialists when necessary.
 - ▶ Is board-certified, indicating additional training after medical school, and has passed an exam in a medical specialty.

Dr. Paul Robelia is a family medicine physician at Mayo Clinic Health System in Zumbrota.

CANNON FALLS

Dog-sledder tells tales at library event

BY ALEC HAMILTON
Sports Editor

If you heard the barking, whining and yelping of dogs by the Cannon Falls ice rink Friday evening, you were not imagining things. From 6-7 p.m. the Cannon Falls Library partnered with Hastings Huskies and Horses for a dog sledding program.

Dawn Lanning, the owner and operator of HHH, explained the basics of dog sledding. She taught a crowd of about a dozen people of all ages about the equipment, how to operate sleds, commanding the dogs and some common misconceptions about dog sledding.

A variety of commands tell the dogs which direction to go, when to stop and when to avoid a distraction and keep going – squirrels and wildlife are a distraction even to highly trained sled dogs. Lanning said that as much as a rider can guide the dogs in the right direction and give them commands, in the end the dogs go where the dogs want to go and the sledder is sometimes just along for the ride.

As for the dogs themselves, Lanning explained that younger dogs, stron-

ger dogs or those that can cause problems are generally put in the back. The more experienced dogs and leaders are put up front to guide the sled.

Some of the misconceptions about dog sledding that Lanning explained is that “mush” is not actually a command and unlike in portrayals of the sport, most sleds are not all wood. The loads and force sleds have to be able to withstand makes most wood sleds impractical and prone to breaking. You do see them as decorative sleds, however.

Lanning and her assistants then hooked up three of the dogs and put on some short demonstrations of the sled in action as spectators watched in between trips to the warming house on the bitterly cold evening. She would ride the sled from the rink to the pool and have her assistants help her stop the sled and return the way she came.

While not able to ride with the dogs themselves, children were free to pet and interact with the half dozen or so dogs of all breeds that HHH brought with them.

Hastings Huskies & Horses – formerly located southeast of Hast-



ALEC HAMILTON / CANNON FALLS BEACON PHOTOS

Dawn Lanning of Hastings Huskies & Horses explains the basics of dog sledding while perched on one of her sleds.

ings on Highway 316 in Ravenna Township – but now in Cannon Falls as of 2017 offers trail rides at local parks, a variety of dog sledding programs of all length and for all ages and a husky breeding program. It is run by Lanning, her husband Steve Bishop and barn manager Laura Smith.

Hastings Huskies & Horses brought a variety of sled dogs with for demonstrations and guests to interact with. Here they wait patiently, perfectly comfortable in the cold, before the demonstrations.



ZONING PAGE A1

possibilities moving forward. Council President Becky Norton made the motion, stating, “I’ll make a motion to ask you to work on a text amendment of public or private schools

under a conditional use under the agricultural zone.”

New wording for the zoning proposal will be brought to and discussed by the City Council at its meeting Monday, March 27.

Readers can reach Rachel Fergus at rfergus@ourourkemediagroup.com

LAB PAGE A1

project will provide more jobs for the local workforce.

According to Danielson, MSC Southeast has the capacity to graduate 80 practical nursing students and 120 registered nursing students

every year. “Our goal is... to get to full capacity,” she said. This lab will provide assistance to the workforce outside of the college. Danielson said that the lab can be used by emergency medical teams, firefighters, certified nursing assistants and other members of the local workforce for ongoing training and

practice. President Biden signed the spending bill into law March 15 after it passed the House of Representatives on March 9 and the Senate March 10. In a news release after Biden signed the bill, Danielson said, “Projections indicate an ever-increasing need for trained nursing profes-

signals across southeast Minnesota.” There is not yet a timeline in place for the construction and opening of the new nursing lab. Readers can reach Sarah Knieff at sknieff@ourourkemediagroup.com. Readers can reach Rachel Fergus at rfergus@ourourkemediagroup.com

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Factory warranty, show floor new, gorgeous ingot silver finishSALE \$36,995</p>	<p>18 FORD F150 CREW CAB - 4 door, 4x4, Lariat leather hot seats, tonneau cover, trailer tow package, power pedals, reverse camera, navigation system, running boards, aluminum wheels, raised white letter tires, show floor new inside and out, gorgeous metallic gray finish, save \$1,000s from new costSALE \$44,900</p> <p>17 GMC ACADIA SLT - 4x4, 3rd seat, leather hot seats, only 70,000 actual miles, aluminum wheels, new Michelin tires, luggage rack, trailer tow package, gorgeous magnetic grey finish, remote start, like new inside and outSALE \$29,995</p> <p>17 FORD ESCAPE SE - 4x4, hot seats, reverse camera, new tires, aluminum wheels, one owner, gorgeous ruby red finish, like new inside and outSALE \$19,900</p> <p>17 DODGE DURANGO GT - 4 door, 4x4, V6 leather seats, third seat, luggage rack, power sun roof, trailer tow package, rear bucket seats, navigation system, reverse camera, remote start, cooled seats, chrome wheels, hot steering wheel, 50,000 actual one owner miles, tonneau cover, show floor new. SALE \$37,900</p> <p>17 FORD F150 LARIAT - 4x4, 4 door crew cab, 3.5 Eco Boost V6, leather hot and cold seats, power twin panel moon roof, navigation system, reverse camera, tailgate step, trailer tow package, pro trailer backup assist, loaded with all the toys, tonneau cover, remote start, one owner, sold and serviced by us since new, gorgeous black finishWAS \$44,900 SALE \$42,900</p> <p>17 FORD F150 LARIAT - 4x4, 4 door super crew, 3.5 Eco Boost V6, navigation system, reverse camera, new tires, blind spot monitoring system, lane departure warning system, power moon roof, front and rear hot leather seats, remote start, cooled seats, chrome wheels, hot steering wheel, 50,000 actual one owner miles, tonneau cover, shadow black finishSALE \$44,900</p> <p>16 FORD EXPLORER XLT - 4x4, reverse camera, V6, trailer tow package, luggage rack, special black aluminum wheels, clean as new, remote start, special grey/green color... SALE \$27,900</p> <p>16 FORD EXPLORER - 4 door, 4x4, V6, automatic transmission, trailer tow package, leather hot seats, 3rd seat, dual power moon roofs, aluminum wheels, brand new tires, navigation system, reverse camera, one owner, sold and serviced by us since new, show floor new inside and out, gorgeous platinum white finishSALE PRICED</p> <p>16 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM - leather hot seats, power seats, navigation system, reverse camera, remote start, aluminum wheels, newer tires, 2.0 Eco Boost motor, spent winters in Arizona - never seen salt, like new inside and out, platinum silver finishSALE \$20,900</p>
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3/19 Answers

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

Saturday's Cryptquote: I NEVER MAKE STUPID MISTAKES. ONLY VERY, VERY CLEVER ONES. — JOHN PEEL

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

C	O	P	S	S	E	A	M		
C	A	R	A	T	L	E	M	O	N
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SPRING CAREER CONFERENCE



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Employers and students attend the Spring Career Conference in the Memorial Student Center.

Easing state labor shortage

University prepares students for workforce

Wisconsin's lieutenant governor saw firsthand on Feb. 28 how University of Wisconsin-Stout is doing its part to help ease the state's labor shortage.

Mandela Barnes visited the university's Spring Career Conference, which got underway Monday. More than 340 employers from across the state and U.S. were recruiting students for co-ops and internships and interviewing soon-to-be graduates for full-time jobs.

Jobs are available. A recent Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce survey found that 88% of Wisconsin employers are having difficulty finding workers.

UW-Stout students are available as well. About 2,000 of them were expected to attend the weeklong conference at the Memorial Student Center.

"It's good to be here on a career conference day. Stout is filling workforce needs, and this is how it happens," Barnes said.

He also visited the university's plastics lab, where he learned that demand for the school's plastics engineering majors is greater than the supply, resulting in 100% employment of graduates.

Many of UW-Stout's 45 undergraduate programs boast a 100% employment rate within a year of graduation. The university has a long-standing employment rate, even during the pandemic, above 97%

for recent graduates.

Accompanied by Chancellor Katherine Frank and Provost Glendali Rodriguez, Barnes talked with representatives from two hospitality companies, Milwaukee-based Marcus Hotels and Resorts and the Little Nell Hotel Group of Aspen, Colo. They were looking to hire hotel, restaurant and tourism management students.

The Little Nell hires five to seven interns a year from UW-Stout and has alumni who are full-time employees as well.

"They're the hardest-working interns we have. They have that Midwest work ethic. That's why we come back," said Pete Hayda, managing director of sales and marketing, who was wearing a "Stout graduate" face mask.

Hayda and Chris Kandziora, senior vice president of sales and marketing at the Little Nell's sister property Ojai Valley Inn in Ojai, Calif., also return to the career conference because they are alumni of the HRTM program, Hayda from 1980 and Kandziora from 1999.

They talked with Barnes about the importance of state funding for the university's planned renovation of Heritage Hall, where the HRTM program and School of Hospitality Leadership — ranked one of the best in the world — are based.

The program helps provide skilled, management-track graduates for Wisconsin's \$14



Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes talks with UW-Stout Provost Glendali Rodriguez, followed by Chancellor Katherine Frank, while visiting campus Monday, Feb. 28.



Chancellor Katherine Frank and Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes talk with employers Chris Kandziora, left, and Pete Hayda at the Spring Career Conference on Feb. 28 at the Memorial Student Center.

billion a year tourism industry.

Barnes agreed. "It's

important that we fund our university system and technical college

system. If they're underfunded, we won't be able to fill these workforce

needs," Barnes said.

Barnes spoke with two plastics engineering students who were in the lab, one of them a senior from New Jersey who chose UW-Stout because of the nationally recognized program. The student explained that he has already accepted a full-time job, upon graduation in May, with the company at which he interned.

It's a common scenario among UW-Stout graduates — a co-op or internship experience found through the career conference leads to beginning a career with the same company, Frank told Barnes.

Frank said one of UW-Stout's goals is to produce highly skilled or "triple threat" graduates, who have a degree, an applied or experiential learning experience such as an internship, and a professional credential, such as an industry certification.

The WMC survey also showed that 44% of state businesses can't find qualified workers. All of UW-Stout's undergraduate and 20 Graduate School programs have an experiential learning component.

Plastics Professor Wei Zheng told Barnes that "we teach a lot of hands-on skills" in the engineering program, and students leave with an average starting salary of \$66,000.

"They come to Stout, get into this program, and they get a job — and a good one," Frank said.



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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Candidates begin to enter local races

20 candidates file for special election

As of the filing deadline on Tuesday, March 15, 20 individuals had filed to run in the 1st Congressional District special election.

The special election is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 9. The special primary elections for Republican and DFL candidates is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24.

Goodhue County residents will not be able to vote in the special election primary or the special election as the county will continue to be represented by Rep. Angie Craig – 2nd Congressional District – until January 2023. However, Goodhue County residents can vote in the primary for the general election. The primary for the general election also is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 9.

Goodhue County will be moved to the 1st Congressional District in January 2023 as a result of redistricting following the 2020 census.

The special election is to fill the final five months of former Rep. Jim Hagedorn's second term. Hagedorn died on Feb. 17 after a battle with kidney cancer.

Filing for the special election closed at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15.

- Republican Candidates
- Matt Benda
 - Jennifer Carnahan
 - Bob "Again" Carney Jr.
 - J.R. Ewing
 - Brad Finstad
 - Kevin Kocina
 - Jeremy Munson
 - Ken Navitsky
 - Nels Pierson
 - Roger Ungemach

- DFL Candidates
- Warren Lee Anderson
 - Candice Deal-Bartell
 - Sarah Brakebill-Hacke
 - Rick DeVoe
 - Jeff Ettinger
 - George H. Kalberer
 - Richard W. Painter
 - James Rainwater
- Legal Marijuana Now
- Richard B. Reisdorf
- Legalize Cannabis
- Haroun McClellan
- Rachel Fergus, staff writer

Band plans Orlando trip

The Ellsworth High School band and choir are planning a trip to Orlando on March 6-11, 2023, allowing students to perform at Disney World and attend musical workshops.

"These trips offer our students a great experience from a musical standpoint while also providing them a memorable trip with other students, the staff and chaperones that attend," Superintendent Barry Cain said.

70 students and 15 adults will stay five nights, six



Ethan Scholz in the Process Lab on campus.



Thomas Young.

days at a hotel and have passes to Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando and Universal Citywalk, according to the trip packet.

Other excursions and events include:

- ▶ Disney's Epcot Center: Reflections of Earth fireworks show.
- ▶ Disney Sings Choir Workshop in the Circle of Life Theatre.
- ▶ Disney Band Workshop at Showcase in Hollywood Studios.
- ▶ Band performs on Marketplace Stage.
- ▶ Choir performs at Disney.
- ▶ Visit Ron Jon Surf Shop.
- ▶ Beach time at Cocoa Beach.
- ▶ Explore Harry Potter's Wizarding World.
- ▶ Eat at Hard Rock Café.
- ▶ Walk around Disney's Animal Kingdom.

The overall estimated cost – covering airfare, accommodations, most meals and transportation – is \$1,649 per student in a room of four, \$1,724 per student in a room of three, \$1,799 per adult in a room of two and \$2,099 per adult in a room of one, according to the trip packet.

The first deposit of \$150 must be made by June 1, with final payment and balance due by Jan. 6, 2023.

Fundraising opportunities will be available next fall to help with travel costs.

For more information, please contact Choir Director Karen Kornmann at 715-273-3908, Ext. 2247 or band teacher Nicholas Junker at 15-273-3908, ext. 2248.

– Sarah Knieff, staff writer

Kittelson joins 20A race

Roger Kittelson of Goodhue Township this week announced his candidacy for the new Minnesota House of Representatives District 20A legislative seat.

Kittelson's professional background includes more than 30 years as a dairy ingredients marketing manager with sales into the food, feed and pharmaceutical industries domestically and internationally.

Currently, Kittelson splits his time between operating a small business marketing dairy ingredients to the food and feed industries and substitute teaching in the Red Wing and Goodhue school districts.

Kittelson is the father of four adult children and five grandchildren. He is a member of the Bellechester and Zumbrota Lions

Club, Goodhue-Bellechester Rail Riders, Red Wing Red Men Club, Minnesota Quilters, Lifetime Member Pheasants Forever, and life member of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association.

Kittelson was an eight-year school board member with two years as chair and served on several ad hoc committees hiring two principals and one superintendent. He graduated from Goodhue Public School and received an undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Minnesota.

The main issue in the race, Kittelson said, is the Minnesota economy.

Student finds 'perfect mix' at college

In high school, Ethan Scholz was involved in FIRST Robotics competitions, was a freelance graphic designer for student organizations and enjoyed drawing and painting in his free time. These activities inspired his research into career paths in art and engineering.

"When I found the industrial design major at UW-Stout, I knew it would be the perfect mix between both fields," he said.

Scholz, of Brookfield, joined University of Wisconsin-Stout's

School of Art and Design's pre-Bachelor of Fine Arts program during its pilot year in 2020-2021.

The pre-BFA program is not a major but a gateway, preparing first-year students to apply to the fine arts program of their choice. Faculty, staff, campus partners and professionals provide guidance for first-year students, introducing them to the various BFA programs, minors, related degrees, art and design careers, student organizations and study abroad opportunities.

The program eliminated the need to submit a portfolio when applying to the university. Instead, students build their portfolio over the course of their first year and submit it when they apply to their desired fine arts program during the second semester.

"Equity and access are important facets of the pre-BFA program, creating an even playing field for all students interested in creative career paths," said Program Director Tamara Brantmeier. "All applicants take the same courses and have equitable resources from which to draw upon – the array of course projects, advising and coaching, and help with their portfolio and essay."

By eliminating a pre-required portfolio, the number of enrolled first-year art and design students jumped from 200 in 2019 to 350 students in 2020 and just over 400 in 2021. Scholz was among the pilot cohort. Now a sophomore in industrial design, he reflected on his first-year experience.

"The pre-BFA program was extremely helpful in preparing me for the fast-paced world of industrial design," Scholz said. "It not only starts students with a strong understanding of art and design foundations but pushes students to develop professional habits in work documentation, portfolio creation and time management."

Young unites Red Wing residents

Thomas Young became a member of the Human Rights Commission in September 2021 to help unite Red Wing residents.

"I've always had a passion to serve, but it wasn't until the incident with George Floyd that I began to offer myself to help," Young said. "I hope . . . to find a solution to help those who understand the problem we seem to have in this unfortunate 'divide' about race, equality and inclusion."

Young admitted that commission work can be difficult at times due to lack of resources and length of meetings, but he does enjoy group discussions.

"The diversity of the membership of the HRC and the efforts, and ideas that we are discussing are very encouraging," he said.

When Young isn't participating in commission activities, he is a local minister, professional guitarist, vocalist and composer.

– Sarah Knieff, staff writer

Man injured in UTV accident

The Pierce County Sheriff's Office responded to a UTV accident with injury Thursday, March 10, around 11 p.m. on private land near 170th Avenue and 770th Street in Hager City, Wisconsin.

Upon arrival, officers determined that Jessie Cox, 33 of Red Wing, lost control of his 2018 Polaris UTV while operating on ice. The UTV rolled on its side leading to undetermined injuries, according to a news release.

Red Wing Ambulance Service transported Cox to the Mayo Hospital in Red Wing, where he received medical attention.



Ellsworth High School Band members performing in 2015.



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LIFESTYLE

NEIGHBOR PROFILE



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Burke Murphy.

Murphy invests in inclusive approach

BY SARAH KNIEFF
Staff Writer

Burke Murphy loves living in Red Wing.

As she says, "from boots to skates to musical instruments; from telemanipulators to elevator buttons and bicycle fabrication," the area has it all.

To give back to her beloved community, Murphy joined the Arts and Culture Commission in August 2020, focusing on local economic development.

"Our strong creative economy is a landmark, so visible, which for me, includes the world class manufacturing companies here – because they build things, we make things here," Murphy said. "It is a legacy that lives on because of the skills and craftsmanship of our townspeople."

While on the commission, Murphy hopes to give a voice to investing in an inclusive approach while doing business and communicating with others.

"Aware of the resiliency a multicultural life brings to the community, I will give voice to investing in [this] approach, mindful of youth culture, first nation culture, and the increasingly diverse culture of residents in our community," she said.

During her free time, Murphy enjoys going to events at the Anderson Center and Sheldon Theater to make more community connections.

Bio

"I came to Minnesota to attend the University of Minnesota, where I earned a master's degree in sustainable community and economic development, with a focus on rural communities, youth development and civic engagement.

My bachelor's degree is in anthropology and Spanish with a deep focus on Latin America, particularly Mexico. Bringing my experience and perspective to Red Wing and Southeast Minnesota has been welcomed and embraced. I feel prepared to contribute to the quality of life for all residents in our community."

Readers can reach Sarah Knieff at sknieff@ourourke-mediagroup.com.

Whom should we profile?

Let us know who you would like to see profiled as our next Neighbor Profile. Email rtnews@ourourke-mediagroup.com

ELLSWORTH

Cooperative Creamery wins best tourism destination

BY SARAH KNIEFF
Staff Writer

Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery – with 300 dairy farm partners – won best tourism destination at the Chamber awards banquet Feb. 21.

The Republican Eagle spoke with John Freeman, senior manager, about the award, upcoming creamery events and more.

Did you think you'd win this award?

We are up against some pretty stiff competition each year and since the awards are selected by the community, you never know which way it will go. We attract nearly 200,000 visitors annually to our retail store here in Ellsworth. It's a great feeling to know that the community recognizes our contributions to the local tourism economy.

How did you react when you heard you won?

It was a surprise right up until we heard our name announced at the Ellsworth Chamber of Commerce's "Under the Big Top" annual dinner. It was a proud moment for our team members who were in attendance. Many of their spouses and significant others were in attendance as well and they enjoyed sharing in the celebration.

What goals and hopes do you have for your business in 2022?

We are always striving to make the experience of visiting the Cheese Curd Capital a great one. That will always be a goal for us. The curd wagon that serves up deep-fried cheese curds Thurs-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

CEO Paul Bauer (orange shirt) and employees pose with award.

day-Sunday in front of the store May through October will continue. We've also been offering more in the way of promotions in our stores, with periodic specials on the items popular with our customers, like our cheeses, take n' bake pizzas and fudge.

Our hope is that now that life is getting back to normal and people are feeling comfortable getting out again, they will come visit us and spend the day exploring the Ellsworth community and Pierce County.

How has your business been impacted by COVID-19 and related restrictions over the past two years?

Yes, those past two years have been challenging in many ways. Challenges were experienced in every aspect of our company, from the farm to production to the stores. Top of mind for our retail store team was

to make the experience in our stores safe and enjoyable with as few disruptions as possible.

When supply-chain issues disrupted inventory, or required we temporarily change packaging, we communicated and were transparent with our customers so they understood the situation. For the most part, everyone was very understanding.

How does being located in a smaller town impact your business and the work that you do?

I would say the biggest challenge is conducting business within the limited footprint we have here in Ellsworth. We not only sell cheese here, but we make it too. 180,000 pounds of cheese curds are produced here every day. We are working at capacity in all areas right down to the parking lot. We have no more room to grow. Beyond that, we are very proud to be

the Cheese Curd Capital and of our small town roots. Every team member feels a true love and connection to the Ellsworth community.

What do you want to share with the community about your business?

We're excited to soon be opening a new production facility and retail store in Menomonie, Wisconsin. The store will feature a larger footprint and inventory, more take-out food options that spotlight cheese as the main ingredient, ice cream, viewing windows into the production facility and some fun selfie-spots. Watch our Facebook page for an announcement of our opening day, <https://www.facebook.com/EllsworthCheese>.

Do you have any exciting events coming up in 2022?

We're excited that the Ellsworth Cheese Curd

Festival is back for 2022, including all the cheese curds, food, tasting events and music. Mark your calendars for June 24 and 25 in East End Park.

We have also launched two new products this year. A four-year aged cheddar cheese we have named 1885 Ellsworth Reserve. The name honors the ingenuity and determination of local Ellsworth pioneers who carved the Ellsworth caves for food storage and preservation.

Quantities are very limited with this release, but as they say, we're making more. In addition, we have a new flavor of cheese curds, Dill Pickle, which can now be purchased at retailers nationwide, in our own retail stores and online via our website. Already this cheese curd flavor is a big "dill" and making headlines. It was ranked No. 5 most delicious flavored cheese curd in the world at this year's World Championship Cheese Contest.

Speaking of the World Championship Cheese Contest, several of our cheeses came home with top prizes. Our Habanero ghost pepper jack came in first place in the pepper flavored Monterey jack, High Heat category. In the Flavored Cheese Curds category, our hickory bacon took first place and our hot Buffalo flavor took second place in the world. It's quite an honor to receive international recognition. Consumers can find these cheeses at our retail stores and national retailers.

Readers can reach Sarah Knieff at sknieff@ourourke-mediagroup.com.

ELLSWORTH

Ambulance service wins best health and wellness

BY SARAH KNIEFF
Staff Writer

Ellsworth Area Ambulance Service won best health and wellness business at the Chamber of Commerce annual awards banquet Feb. 21.

The Republican Eagle spoke with service director Jessi Willenbring about the award, being located in a smaller town and more.

Did you think you would win this award?

I did not expect this award and am quite humbled by it. I am very proud of the staff here. Their dedication to our community is remarkable.

How did you react when you heard you won?

We were surprised and honored to be recognized by our community.

What goals and hopes do you have for your business in 2022?

Our goals for 2022 are to return to in-person training exercises, continue to provide public education programs and continue to provide top-notch emergency medical services to our community.

How has your business been impacted by COVID-19 and related restrictions over the past two years?

COVID-19 brought some unique challenges to our agency and to emergency medical services as a whole. In the beginning we struggled with the fear of the unknown. Fear that we would become sick or that we would bring ill-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

From left: EMT Dave Kidd, director Jessi Willenbring and EMS Scott Fuchs.

ness to our loved ones.

There was also a fear that we would be tasked with caring for many more very ill patients. There was so much unknown.

We worked to provide adequate personal protective equipment and support to our staff. We took advantage of every financial aid option available to us to obtain PPE and to be able to provide our staff with time off as needed. The American Recovery Plan funding and the payroll protection programs were huge assets to us.

We also took advantage of grant funding to purchase air sanitizers for our building and ambulances to ensure a clean working environment. We did have to transition to primarily online

education processes to ensure that we were able to keep up on training topics without creating unnecessary exposures.

We also had to take steps to limit that number of people in our building and work to create safe working spaces that allowed for physical distancing whenever possible. Again, credit goes to the staff, many of whom are volunteers, for their flexibility and courage facing this pandemic.

How does being located in a smaller town impact your business and the work that you do?

We love our small community, and we love being able to care for our neighbors and families. Rural work does present some unique challenges to us. It is harder to recruit and maintain

ideal staffing levels and our access to resources is limited at times.

We are funded by support from eight different municipalities, and we know the struggle of these municipalities when it comes to budgeting and financial distribution. We work hard to maintain a balanced budget and to be good custodians of the resources we are allocated.

We benefit from enormous support from business and public service partners, community members, the Ellsworth Community School District and individuals throughout our community.

Small communities are filled with some of the best people around.

What do you want to share with the commu-

nity about your business?

We are a non-profit paramedic level municipal ambulance service. We have five full-time staff and roughly 30 paid-on-call and volunteer staff. We serve an area of approximately 210 square miles in seven towns and one village. We also provide support to our neighboring EMS agencies.

We have provided low-cost CPR training to hundreds of people across Pierce County. We are very proud to partner with a number of other organizations including Pierce County EMS, Ellsworth Fire and Police departments, Pierce County Sheriff's Office and Pierce County Dispatch.

Do you have any exciting events coming up in 2022?

We are looking forward to providing EMS support to several public events this summer and fall, including the Bay City hill climbs, the FFA truck and tractor pull and all of the great Pierce County Fair events.

We are beginning to plan for our annual fall fundraiser, which will be in September of this year. We will again be having a food stand fundraiser as well as auctioning off quite a few great prizes. Please check our Facebook page in the coming months for more information about these fundraising events.

Readers can reach Sarah Knieff at sknieff@ourourke-mediagroup.com.

ARTS

ARTZ GALLERY

Gallery offers eclectic mix of artists

The artZ Gallery in Amery, Wisconsin, is featuring five area artists through the end of March.

Dan Flory

Bark-edged wood bowls

"Inventive Intentions" is certainly a good description of Dan Flory's type of bowl turning. All of his pieces are sourced from trees which have blown down in summer storms, either on their farm or on nearby wooded areas.

"The individual blocks of wood provide the inspiration as well as the limitations of each bowl," Flory said. "Typically, I am well along in shaping the bowl before the final shape and size emerges." The splendor of Flory's artwork is in the myriad of shapes and colors that are possible from a simple block of wood.

Joyce Halvorson

Forged steel and hammered copper

Joyce Halvorson became hooked on blacksmithing 30 years ago when she took a horseshoeing class and learned to take a simple steel bar and turn it into a horseshoe.

With a natural curiosity about how things are made, her first question is often, "What else can I make?"

Over the years, this original question has expanded to embrace a new one: "How else can I make that?" As a blacksmith, Halvorson forg-



SUBMITTED IMAGES

Bowls by Dan Flory.

es many items including bottle openers, hooks and handles – both for personal use and as custom work for her clients.

"When I take a blank piece of steel or copper and heat, hammer, and shape it into a functional piece of art – and in doing so I'm able to answer both questions – it gives me great satisfaction and joy," Halvorson said.

Brian Hall

Furniture maker and timber framer

Brian Hall builds his furniture primarily from reclaimed material. Much of this wood is recovered from remodeling projects that he does for his construction business, along with branches and slabs from the woods around his home. Timber framing appeals to him in the same way as furniture making – the process is challenging



A wood bench by Brian Hall.

and fulfilling, and the end product is functional as well as beautiful. "I think it is probably a Midwestern mindset to always focus on the practical; this doesn't necessarily discount aesthetics," Hall said. "Furniture and timber framing can embody both of these philosophies."

Han Huisman

Mixed media

A native of The Netherlands, Han Huis-

man received a Ph.D. in molecular biology and immunology from the University of Amsterdam. In 2001, he relocated to Wisconsin and worked as a neuroscientist.

As a self-taught artist, Huisman views performing art as a personal activity that entails responses to his career as a scientist.

"I ask myself, how art can be relevant to anyone else and are there boundaries when you call it 'not art' anymore," Huisman said. "My aim is to show others what I see, not precisely what I saw."

His paintings, mixed media objects and sculptures and installations are all manifest of his creative work. Huisman considers himself a material artist and is always searching for associations and compositions using paint, wood, canvas, artifacts and antique objects.

Autumn Carolynn

Photography

A freelance travel writer, photographer and former flight attendant, Autumn Carolynn has the distinction of visiting 30 countries, 48 states and five continents – before her 30th birthday. She graduated in English Literature, and in her last semester of school, she lived in England while



Dragon hooks by Joyce Halvorson.



Mixed media art by Han Huisman.

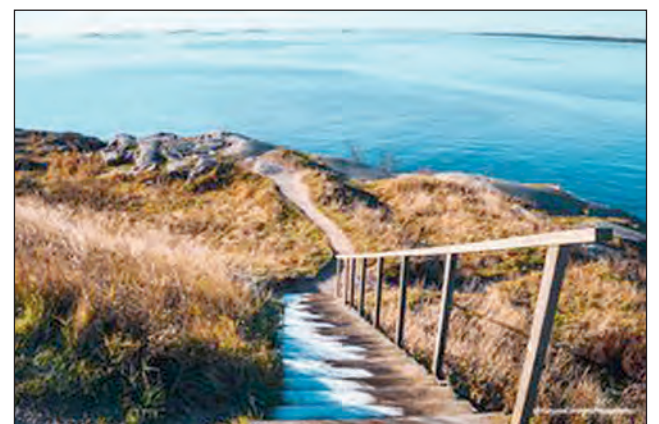


Photo by Autumn Carolynn.

If you go ...

artZ Gallery is located at 208 North Keller Ave. in Amery, Wisconsin. Hours are Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

studying for a creative writing specialization.

With her backpack and Nikon camera, she spent her weekends traveling to 13 countries in Europe. After completing her degree, she received an opportunity to be a flight attendant.

"I was able to combine my busy life of flying and blogging on the side, all while having my beloved camera attached to my hip

throughout all my adventures," Carolynn said.

While she enjoyed flying, she wanted to explore other travel opportunities and so became a travel agent and travel design manager.

"My experiences have brought me to many different places in life, but my one true love has always been travel photography," Carolynn said.



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SPORTS

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Goodhue unable to score down the stretch

Falls in Section 1A final

BY MARTIN SCHLEGEL
Sports Editor

Goodhue trailed by single digits at the half. Not making open shots and being able to get the ball to its playmakers in the second half was its downfall.

First-seeded Hayfield, the defending Class A champions, pulled ahead quickly in the second to beat No. 3 Goodhue 53-42 in the Section 1A championship at the Mayo Civic Center Thursday evening.

Head coach Matt Halverson applauded the season the Wildcats put together.

"This was a heck of a season," he said. "Section 1A this year was just a gauntlet. For us to get to this point, I'm proud of that."

The Wildcats made its first section final since the 2016-17 season when the team beat Rushford-Peterson in double overtime. It was also the last time the team made it to the state tournament.

Much of the success for the Wildcats this year came from the emergence of juniors Will Opsahl and Adam Poncelet as well as senior Dayne Wojcik. The trio led the team in scoring while Justin Buck, Gavin Schafer and Tyson Christensen provided necessary, and at times clutch, secondary scoring in their large amount of minutes. The Wildcats finished 23-7 overall.

Halverson said the ascension of Wojcik made a huge difference in what every player around him was able to do.

"He has added so much to our program, not just as a player but as a person," Halverson said. "I've loved coaching him. He's a workhorse. He's coachable. He does all the things that a coach



MARTIN SCHLEGEL / O'ROURKE MEDIA GROUP

The Goodhue boys basketball team poses with the runner-up trophy after losing in the Section 1A final to Hayfield on March 17.

asks for. It's one of those players that you're going to miss having because he brought so much and he's a good kid."

The Wildcats celebrated plenty of wins this season. It is the second season in the last three with at least 20 wins for the Wildcats. Their 23 wins is third-most for the program in the last 18 seasons behind three seasons in which the Wildcats won at least 24 games and made the state tournament in each of them.

Ethan Pack made three 3-pointers in the first half, each to thwart any momentum the Wildcats might have gotten by getting a little closer to tying the game. In the second, Pack and Isaac Matti each made a 3-point shot. Overall, the Vikings have shot the ball incredibly from long-range. Coming into the section final, the Vikings had

made 30 shots from beyond the arc in three games.

The Wildcats held the Vikings to their fewest 3-pointers in this section tournament.

"I thought we did a really good job on Matti throughout the game. The lapses in coverage the few times, that's when Pack (made his 3-pointers)," Halverson said. "I thought the sophomore (Zander Jackson) really hurt us. I thought he was the X-factor of the game. We didn't jump on his right hand like we talked about unfortunately. He made some tough shots over our big kids."

Halverson added that on offense, the Wildcats were going to need "two made threes" from Tyson Christensen, Gavin Schafer and Carson Roschen. The Wildcats got just one from the trio as the Vikings were able to

avoid screens and collapse on Wojcik, sealing kick-out passes.

The Vikings slowed the game down after going ahead by double-digits. Four of their starters ended with at least nine points and three had at least 12. When the Vikings needed shots, they were able to get the ball into their best player's hands.

HAYFIELD 53, GOODHUE 42
RP 26 27 — 53
G 22 20 — 42

Hayfield 53
Ethan Pack 17, 4 3-pt; Isaac Matti 13, 1 3-pt; Zander Jackson 12; Easton Fritcher 9; Karver Heydt 2.

Goodhue 42
Dayne Wojcik 17; Will Opsahl 15, 2 3-pt; Adam Poncelet 3, 1 3-pt; Tyson Christensen 5, 1 3-pt; Gavin Schafer 2.
Free throws: H 14-20, G

8-13.
Three-point goals: H 5, G 4.

Wojcik powers Goodhue to section finals

Dayne Wojcik was ready for this moment.

The Goodhue senior bullied his way to the basket in the paint and recorded a handful of blocks on defense.

The last shot, however, was just out of his reach. Similar to an ending in his freshman year when he played for Red Wing in a section upset of Simley, Wojcik was there to guard the final shot, a 3-pointer at the buzzer that would have given the other team the win.

"Me and Will (Opsahl) both closed out on the guy in the

See Wildcats Page B2

SWIMMING AND DIVING



MARTIN SCHLEGEL / O'ROURKE MEDIA GROUP

Aidan O'Brien of Red Wing swims in the 200-yard medley relay at the Class A state meet preliminary races on March 4.

Getting it done in the pool

Wingers reflect on tight-knit culture

BY MARTIN SCHLEGEL
Sports Editor

Each team has their own tradition when competing at state. Some shave their heads. Some wear certain pool-side clothing or accessories. Others have pre-race chants.

The Red Wing boys swim and dive team dye their hair bleach blonde.

Some traditionals like that might not last from year to year. This one did.

"I genuinely thought that it was going to die. It's not going to come back this year," said head coach Mikayla Beuch.

In questioning why dying hair, the banter between the athletes

begins. One comment or observation spirals into a full-blown comparison between all the variables.

"How long were you in the salon for, six hours," Beuch asks Ethan Ihrke.

"Five and a half hours," he replies.

"He was in the professional solan for five and a half hours for that," Beuch said.

When asked how much Ihrke paid for it, his response gets a chuckle and more comparisons.

"Over \$200," he said. "I had the best though," Aidan O'Brien said.

"Yeah, but yours is dull now," Ihrke quickly responds.

"A haircut, dying my hair in 45 minutes, and a

conversation in 45 minutes for \$45," O'Brien said.

"\$20 hair kit. Hour and a half," Patrick Hines follows with.

"And it's washed out already," O'Brien said.

The same sort of back-and-forth conversation was had involving "Shamrock Shakes" and how they taste, whether they are actually good or have enough mint to vanilla ratio in them.

Seniors Jacob Flemke, Tyler Gorden and O'Brien all gave testimonials to how easy going they can be around the pool and with each other because they con-

See Swim Page B2

BOYS BASKETBALL

PEM's physicality too much for Lake City

Tigers lose in semifinal

BY MARTIN SCHLEGEL
Sports Editor

Facing the task of beating No. 2 Plainview-Elgin-Millville, Lake City did all it could given the circumstances.

A few of the starters for the Tigers were recovering from the flu but powered through to compete for the chance to move on to the Section 1AA finals.

PEM senior Peyton Schumacher and junior Kaiden Stevens each made contested layups and hounded the third-seeded Tigers in their 2-3 zone. The Bulldogs powered ahead in the first half and remained ahead throughout en route to a 59-44 win over the Tiger's in a semifinal at the Mayo Auditorium Saturday afternoon.

One loss, much sooner than the Tigers wanted, doesn't define a season. That was the message from head coach Greg Berge to the team after the game. The Tigers won their eighth consecutive Hiawatha Valley League title this season



MARTIN SCHLEGEL / O'ROURKE MEDIA GROUP

Keegan Ryan of Lake City (right) reaches around Kaiden Peters of PEM as the two fight for a rebound during a Section 1AA semifinal on March 12.

and had their seventh season in the last eight with at least 20 wins.

"You have to look at the totality of the season and the memories," Berge said. "You don't remember this game five years or even five months from now. You remember all the bus rides, the camaraderie, the practices. Eight straight conference titles. Not many teams can say that."

The Tigers needed his presence on the court. Always a supportive teammate, Wohlers sat with his team, helping in any way he could.

The Tigers missed Justin Wohlers and came into the game with three starters recovering from the flu. Berge could see they weren't quite themselves; nevertheless, they battled through it to try and produce on the court.

"The beautiful thing about sport is it teaches us about life," Berge said. "We had Jaden (Shones) out for the first few games to start, but over the heart of the year, we were completely healthy. You go into the tournament

See Basketball Page B2

BIATHLON

Local team will compete nationally

BY MARTIN SCHLEGEL
Sports Editor

A local biathlon club, Bluff Country Biathlon, has been building its proficiency in the last few years. The club has been in existence for the last three years and a development from the nordic ski team turned into a year-round team involved with Minnesota and United States Biathlon.

Now the team will compete at the United States Biathlon National Championships in Lake Placid, New York. The four athletes will compete in sprint, pursuit and relay races occurring between March 23-27.

It is a first for the newly formed team as all four athletes – Audrey LaHammer, Devin Klatt, Eric Anderson, Jack Cashman – will compete at the national level. LaHammer was the first to represent the team nationally in December at the Youth and Junior World Championship Team Trials in Utah.

“These athletes have put in the hard work in starting last spring, continuing through the summer and fall and are seeing the positive results of their hard work,” head coach Holly Hanson said in a press release. “I look forward to their performance on the national level,

as this is just another important part of the development process.”

The National Championships at Lake Placid conclude the winter season for the team. Next is the summer season that begins with a weeklong camp in June at Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The summer season features roller ski-based races in the Twin Cities and ends with a national championship in August.

More information on the races in Lake Placid can be found at mtvanhoevenberg.com.

Readers can reach Martin Schlegel at mschlegel@orourkemediagroup.com.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Bluff Country Biathlon team left to right Audrey LaHammer, Devin Klatt, Eric Anderson and Jack Cashman.

SPORTS CALENDAR

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Track and Field: Ellsworth at UW-River Falls invite, 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Boys Basketball: State Tournament Finals/3rd place

Baseball: Ellsworth at Elmwood-Plum City (scrimmage), 11 a.m.

Softball: Lake City at Austin (scrimmage), 8 a.m.

TBD vs Goodhue (scrimmage) (Rochester Sports Stadium), 7 p.m.

Dates, times and locations subject to change

BASKETBALL PAGE B1

run, and your four-year starter goes down with a knee injury. On top of it, the flu bug hit those three guys yesterday. I applaud our guys' effort given all that. We knew it was going to be a big task today and (PEM) got the upper hand.”

The physicality of the PEM made it a matchup for Lake City. The Tigers found it tough to guard Schumacher and Kaiden Peters as well. On offense, Schumacher was all over Hunter Lorenson. The Tiger sophomore scored 18 points but found it tough to get much separation on cuts to the basket.

“Hunter is a tough matchup for anybody. Schumacher is probably the best on-the-ball defender in our area,” Berge said. “We couldn't get Hunter separated from him a lot because he's such a good defender.”

Jaden Shones got the Tigers going early with five points in the opening



MARTIN SCHLEGEL / O'ROURKE MEDIA GROUP PHOTOS

Above: Carson Matzke of Lake City (left) handles the ball along the perimeter during a Section 1AA semifinal on March 12. Right: Lake City's Jaden Shones lets go a jump shot in the first half of a Section 1AA semifinal on March 12. Shones finished with 18 points.

minutes. The Tigers were then held to three points in a four-minute stretch where the Bulldogs capitalized and stretched a thin lead into a more comfortable 10-point lead.

“We needed to do a lot of things right,” Berge said on how to come away

with a win. “We needed to be patient. We did what we wanted to do early, we had a couple spurts where they had a four-point play that cost us. Then another couple turnovers we had. All of the sudden a 2-point game is a 10-point game, and we're playing from behind.”



PLAINVIEW - ELLING-MILLVILLE 59, LAKE CITY 44
LC 19 25 - 44
PEM 29 30 - 59
LC 44
Hunter Lorenson 18, 3 3-pt; Jaden Shones 18, 1 3-PT; Carson Matzke 3; Owen Meyers 3, 1 3-pt; Ryan Heise 2.
PEM 59
Peyton Schumacher 22,

2 3-pt; Kaiden Peters 13, 1 3-pt; Connor McGuire 7, 2 3-pt; Aeron Stevens 6; John Evers 6; Baden Fenton 3, 1 3-pt; Baylor Hagen 2.
Free throws: LC 8-13, PEM 10-21.
Three-point goals: LC 5, PEM 5.

Readers can reach Martin Schlegel at mschlegel@orourkemediagroup.com.

WILDCATS PAGE B1

corner. I thought it was in at first,” Wojcik said.

The 3-point, game-winning shot from the corner was short and the third-seeded Wildcats outlasted No. 2 Rushford-Peterson 44-42 in overtime in a Section 1A semifinal at the Mayo Auditorium Saturday evening.

Head coach Matt Halverson said Wojcik was so amped up for the first game at the Auditorium on Wednesday. Halverson calmed him down and reassured the senior he had the skills to take control of the game.

“I told him, ‘This is still the same game that you've been playing since you were a little kid. You are a great player, and you're going to play great tonight. Always just stay steady,’” Halverson said. “He brought exactly what we needed tonight and gave us a presence inside, rebounding defensively. That's what you expect out of him and he delivered.”

On offense, the Wildcats continued to feed Wojcik the ball in the paint. A couple of short hook shots fell to start the game. By the end, Wojcik was strong on the ball and imposing his will for the tying basket with 23.5 seconds left. It was the final made shot in regulation that went in. Wojcik ended with 15 of the team's 23 second-half points. He ended with a game-high 25 points.

“I think this is the best, most fun game I've been in,” Wojcik said when asked how he felt about his performance. “Just tight the whole game nonstop. Loud crowd. It was great.”

With the way Wojcik was rebounding – he ended with 14 – and how well he was playing overall, little was going to stop him. Halverson left him in the entire game; he continued to make difference on the floor.

Wojcik defended Rushford-Peterson's interior man, Justin Ruberg well, limiting him to 11 points. The

Trojans found it difficult to get through, around and over Wojcik. Instead they turned to their perimeter shooters, Dawson and Malachi Bunke.

The Trojans led in just about every offense category. Goodhue overcame that with stout defense in the final minute of regulation and in overtime in addition to just enough scoring to continually retake the lead.

“Our defense at the end was so great. Just locked it down every time,” Wojcik said. “They had a couple tough 3s, especially inside and rebounding after they missed. It was perfect.”

Apart from the opening minutes of the game, the Wildcats were either tied, up by two or down by two for the rest of the game.

Drawing back to earlier in the season, Halverson said the season changed for the better when Goodhue beat Kasson-Mantorville, Kingsland and Byron in the same week. The Wildcats were coming off their second loss to Stewartville less than two weeks after the first loss to the Tigers.

“Hopefully we can have two more weeks of that,” Halverson said. The Wildcats have won 10 straight games since losing to the Tigers on Feb. 4.

Goodhue takes on No. 1 Hayfield on Thursday at the Mayo Civic Center Thursday at 6 p.m. in the section final.

GOODHUE 44, RUSHFORD-PETERSON 42 OT
RP 17 23 2 - 42
G 17 23 4 - 44
RP 42

Justin Ruberg 11; Malachi Bunke 9, 3 3-pt; Grady Hengel 8; Dawson Bunke 6, 2 3-pt; Andrew Hoiness 6, 2 3-pt; Logan Skalat 2.

Goodhue 44
Dayne Wojcik 25; Adam Poncelet 9, 1 3-pt; Will Opsahl 6, 1 3-pt; Gavin Schafer 2; Tyson Christensen 2.

Free throws: RP 7-7, G 4-7.
Three-point goals: RP 7, G 2.

Readers can reach Martin Schlegel at mschlegel@orourkemediagroup.com.

SWIM PAGE B1

tinue to make things light hearted. The team has had smelling salts and special weightlifting shirts, hoodies in addition to premeat subway and pasta. From the older swimmers to the younger ones, the laid back nature of the athletes makes each day more enjoyable.

“The weightlifting culture this year, the practice culture, everything is what they are setting it to be, which is really fun as coaches as well because I get so excited to go teach them,” Beuch said. “Their academics are high and their work ethic is high. They deserve the awards they got.”

Led by six seniors, the Wingers have one of the smallest teams in the Big 9. They were easily the smallest team in any of their dual meets. O'Brien was quick to point out the Wingers could win every event, but that would not translate into a meet win for the team by the end.

“We beat them in almost every single event, timewise, but because we did not have the second or third place finisher, they gathered the points from those spots,” O'Brien said reflecting on a few of the past dual meets this season. “You will be the faster team yet you will still lose.”

Nevertheless, there are some results they are proud of.

Senior diver Tyler Gorden, the lone All-Conference representative,

went undefeated in diving in dual meets this season. He qualified for the state meet and finished in 20th place with a score of 200.95.

“It was good to see some of those same guys there at state,” Gorden said. “That was my goal for the year was to qualify again for state.”

Gorden dove with three eighth graders. He said he wouldn't be surprised to see them earn better scores than he did in the next couple seasons.

“I think we have a really good future for the divers,” he said. “Zach and Landin, especially, will compete and do really good in the future. They'll probably beat my PR in a couple years.”

The other four to qualify for the state meet were Flemke, O'Brien, Ihrke and Hines. The four swam in the 200-yard medley relay, while Ihrke was in the 100 butterfly (55.96).

The Wingers didn't qualify for the finals in either event, finishing in 17th place in the medley relay with a time of 1 minute, 44.16 seconds and 19th place in the butterfly (55.96).

Having competed all last year virtually, which O'Brien pointed out makes a huge difference how hard it is to compete, getting to state was great. Having some time to be there and get exposure was just as meaningful.

“How close we were to finals; it was emotional that that's how we ended our careers as seniors,” O'Brien said. “A lot of things were running through my head, but at the end, with how much time we dropped from the beginning of the

season through our careers, was also a good reflective moment on our careers. It was really nice to have that reflective time.”

Flemke, who missed the beginning of the season and returned near the midway, said he's not too disappointed to have missed swimming in the 100 backstroke at state. Being there was more important.

“It was fun to take it all in the U of M pool, it was still the same experience if I would have made it in the 100 backstroke,” he said.

Ihrke, the only freshman to compete in the Class A 100 butterfly, said he feels more ready for next year.

“It didn't turn out as well as I expected, but it didn't really matter as much as I really just needed that exposure to the U of M for the upcoming years,” Ihrke said. “Hopefully I'm going to do better too.”

The team has no problem cracking jokes, but when it comes time to compete, they can get serious quickly. Part of having a smaller team this year was practicing with everyone in the pool. It allowed the seniors to become mentors, or in some cases, emergency coach for a meet.

“We compete to make each other better,” Hines said. “We don't necessarily compete against each other for our sake.”

“We're always here so our younger swimmers can look up at lane six and say, ‘that's where I'm going to be in a few years,’” O'Brien said.

Readers can reach Martin Schlegel at mschlegel@orourkemediagroup.com.

FOR THE RECORD

OBITUARIES

Rochelle Johnson

Rochelle B. (Girdeen) Johnson, age 90, died on September 8, 2021 at Bayview Manor in Red Wing, MN.

She was born on August 28, 1931 in Red Wing to Oscar and Della (Bystrom) Girdeen. She grew up on their farm in Pierce County, Wisconsin, and graduated from Ellsworth High School in 1949. On February 20, 1954, she married Robert D. Johnson in Red Wing, Minnesota. They lived in Red Wing for the rest of their lives.

Rochelle worked at PPG at first and then with the ASCS office for many years in a clerical position.

Rochelle is survived by sons Brad (Linda) of Red Wing and Gregory (Keiko) of Hawaii, four grandchildren: Brant Johnson, Brett (Kaley) Johnson, Elizabeth (Scott) Brizzolara, and Katie Johnson (Jesse Sky), and one great-grandchild, Milo Johnson. She was predeceased by husband Bob in 2019, her parents, her brother Rolland and infant sisters Donna and Dorothy. She donated her body to Mayo for medical research.

There will be a private memorial service at a later date.

Paul R. Cordes

Paul Robert Cordes, 64, of Bay City, Wis. died Sunday, March 13, 2022, at his home with his family by his side. He was born December 24, 1957 to Dennis and Sandra (Carlson) Cordes, Sr. in Lake City. He attended school in Lake City, MN and Pepin, WI before he went on to work at Riviera Cabinet from 1977 to 1992. In 1993 he began working at Fairmont Mineral Sand Mines where he was currently working. On October 26, 1979 Paul married Janice Wald and the couple made their home in Bay City. Paul enjoyed raccoon hunting, fishing, camping and playing softball and basketball. He loved Minnesota sports and enjoyed cheering on the Vikings, Twins, and Gophers. He was a laid-back, easy-going person with a great sense of humor. A bit of a prankster, Paul had a great smirk that let you know he was an all-around good guy. He is survived by his wife, Janice of Bay City; father, Dennis Cordes, Sr. of Ellsworth; two step-children, Terri (John) Kuesel of Bay City, and Doug (Joely) Weber of Baldwin, Wis.; grandchildren, Cody Raebel and Logan, Owen and Alayna Weber; 4 step-grandchildren, Jordan and Tyler Eggenberger and Spencer and Levi Kuesel; siblings, Dennis (Kathy) Cordes, Jr. of Red Wing, Bill (Cindy) Cordes of Red Wing, Jean (Dan) Coonse of Prineville, Oregon; Patrick (Darlene) of Ellsworth, Lori (Curt) Christofferson of Red Wing, Janice (Tim) Hinz of Red Wing, and Joyce (Anibal) Maldonado of Ellsworth; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins and his sand mine family, who affectionately called him "Big Daddy". He was preceded in death by his mother and grandparents. Funeral service will be 11 a.m., Friday, March 18, 2022 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church with Rev. Dana Jackson officiating. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m., Thursday, March 17, 2022 at the Mahn Family Funeral Home, Bodelson-Mahn Chapel and one hour prior to the service at church. Burial will be at Oakland Cemetery in Stockholm Wisconsin. Memorials are preferred to the American Cancer Society. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com



Marlyce Quittem

Marlyce Elaine Quittem, age 89, of Cannon Falls, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 12, 2022, at her home.

Marlyce was born in Leon Township, on Dec. 28, 1932, the daughter of Lawrence and Doris (Lindell) Wagner. She grew up in rural Cannon Falls, graduating from Cannon Falls High School in 1951. She graduated from Kahler Hospitals School of Nursing where she studied to become a registered nurse. On Dec. 18, 1954, Marlyce was married to Oscar Quittem at Urland Lutheran Church. They first moved to Rochester for a short time, then to Chicago where they started their family. She worked in the Burn Center at Cook County Hospital. With Oscar's job demands, they found themselves moving to Wisconsin, St. Paul, Michigan, Webster and then eventually back to their hometown of Cannon Falls. Once settled, she worked many years at the Northfield Hospital. Later, Marlyce became Director of Nursing at the Cannon Falls Nursing Home. She found her other calling providing both Home Health and Hospice Care.

Marlyce and Oscar are members of Urland Lutheran Church. Family was her most important treasure. She loved to cook for everyone! Home was a place to leave all your worries behind and focus on that was truly important (faith, family and friends). Christmas gatherings were her biggest and "Best in Show"! She had a gift for growing flowers which no one could ever explain. She loved animals, especially hummingbirds. She had several feeders, and the birds came in droves for the gallons of sugar water she would go through. Marlyce was well known for taking care of and feeding any animal that needed it, or that showed up at her door. Eventually, racoon and possum began gathering at the cat bowl. For her, the more the merrier.

Survivors include her husband Oscar, children Gail Quittem, Brenda (fiancée John) Hernke, Daniel (Becky) Quittem, Erik (Londa) Quittem, and Nancy (Curt) Beissel; grandchildren Matt (Kristine), William, Cadence, Nathan (Melanie), Nicole (Brian), Heather, Mindy, Josh (Tori), Kallie (fiancée Otto), Kira (fiancée Robbie), Kerstyn (fiancée Josh), Kelsie (fiancée Dylan), Mason (fiancée Callie), and Brooke; 12 great-grandchildren; sisters-in-laws Dolly Wagner and De Quittem; brother-in-law Don (Karen) Quittem; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles Wagner (brother), son-in-law Mike Hernke, sister-in-law Bernice (Walt) Kessler, sister-in-law Lorraine (Curt) Haller, and brother-in-law Ronnie Quittem.

Funeral services will be Saturday, March 19, 2022, at 10:30 am at Urland Lutheran Church, 6940 Cty. 9 Blvd, Cannon Falls, MN 55009. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday. Interment will be in the church cemetery with a lunch to follow. Memorials are preferred to Urland Lutheran Church. Lundberg Funeral Home is assisting the family. Marlyce's funeral will be live streamed on Urland's Facebook Page and may also be viewed by clicking the link on her obituary page at www.lundbergfuneral.com.



Lydia Bailey

Lydia Lee Bailey, 68, of Red Wing, died Thursday, March 10, 2022 at the Mayo Clinic Health Systems - Methodist Campus in Rochester.

She was born April 25, 1953 in Zumbrota to Howard and Hazel (Berg) Bailey. She graduated from Zumbrota High School and went on to Winona State where she earned her teaching degree. She started her teaching career in St. Charles, Minn. before moving to Red Wing where she taught at various schools, both public and private, across the area school districts. She was a gifted sales representative with Schmidt Goodman in Rochester for a number of years. At the time of her death, she was serving as the Prairie Island Education Liaison. She also worked part time at the front desk at the Willows on the River Condominiums and also helped her daughter with her business, the Chickadee Cottage, in Lake City. On May 19, 1984 she married Arnie Kann and the couple had two children, Elliott and Lauren. They later divorced. Lydia was very involved in her children's activities while they were growing up, including Sons of Norway, 4-H, and various school and sporting events. Most recently, Lydia was serving as treasured member of the Red Wing Royal Ambassador Committee.

Lydia's lifelong passion was teaching and working with children. She loved living in the country on her "Hobby Ranch" where she raised many different animals. She was a skilled event planner and whether it was a Kindergarten kick-off, Tea parties at the Chickadee, or welcoming judges to the Red Wing Royal Ambassador Contest, she went out of her way to make each event a memorable experience for everyone involved. Always impeccably dressed, Lydia loved vintage jewelry and enjoyed searching antique stores for unique pieces. She also had an adventurous side which included traveling to Sturgis, white water rafting and many other adventures with her family. She relished getting to know people and always looked for ways to uncover common ground in every conversation. Above of all, she was a loving mother and devoted educator.

She will be missed by many including her children, Elliott Kann of Red Wing; Laurèn (Trent) Kann-Tingblad of Lake City; sister, DiAnna Kirk of Montana; many nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her sister, Mary Lynn Gustafson and her parents.

Memorial service will be 4 p.m., Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at the Mahn Family Funeral Home, Bodelson-Mahn Chapel with Rev. Justin Boeding officiating. Visitation will immediately follow the service from 4:30 to 8p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred and will be used to go toward an educational endeavor to be chosen by the family. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com



Father Marvin J. Klaers

Father Marvin J. Klaers, age 96 of Hampton, died peacefully at home on Saturday evening, March 12, 2022.

Marvin Jerome, the son of Bernard and Regina (Otto) Klaers, was born on the family farm in Loretto at 7:15 a.m. on September 5, 1925. From a young age, Marvin knew he always wanted to be a priest. Through many difficult times of growing up during the depression, Marvin graduated from Nazareth Hall and then enrolled in seminary school to live out his vocation.

Following his Ordination in 1950, Father Klaers was first assigned as Assistant Priest at St. Mark in Shakopee. In the following years he served as Pastor at St. Mathias in Hampton, St. Thomas the Apostle in St. Paul, and St. Mary's Catholic Church in St. Paul. In 1976, Father Klaers was assigned as Pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in New Trier as well as Church of St. Joseph in Miesville prior to retiring in 2002. Even in retirement, Father Klaers continued to serve many communities in the southern part of the Archdiocese.

Father Klaers enjoyed being outdoors and especially going for many walks. He loved his hometown of Loretto and was very proud of his heritage, especially the cemetery that he will be laid to rest at as it was initially part of the family farm. Father Klaers was dedicated to the historic genealogy information of his family and enjoyed writing about the details he discovered.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by his brothers, Clarence, LeRoy, and Theodore.

Father Klaers is survived by his sister, Annella Ahles; nieces and nephews, Peggy, Andy, Timothy, Joel, Howard, Patty, and Michael; longtime caretaker and friend, Patti (John) Kocur; and by many friends from the parishes he served over the years.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at Church of St. Joseph in Miesville, with Archbishop Bernard Hebda and Bishop Joseph Williams officiating. Interment will be held at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Cemetery in Loretto, Minnesota.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Monday evening, March 21, 2022, at Church of St. Joseph in Miesville, with a Vigil Service at 7:00 p.m. There will not be a public reviewal at church on Tuesday, but a rosary will be led by the St. Mary's CCW at 9:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Church of St. Joseph in Miesville, St. Mary's Catholic Church in New Trier, or to the donor's choice in memory of Father Klaers.

A special thank you to Joe, Joan, and Kim for their loving care they provided Father Klaers, and to Kat Reuter for your continuous care over the years.

For guestbook and further information, please visit www.hastingsmfuneral.com

Arrangements are being completed by Starkson Family Life Celebration Chapel of Hastings.



Robert Andrew Karlsrud

Robert "Bob" Andrew Karlsrud, age 71, of Owatonna, MN, passed away on Friday, March 11, 2022, at his home.

Bob was born on September 17, 1950, in St. Paul, MN, to Robert and Dorothy Gilbertson. At the age of 15, he and his brother Dennis were adopted by Arthur and Janett (Carstens) Karlsrud and moved to Red Wing, MN. Bob graduated from Red Wing High School and attended River Falls College. He was married to Betty Clifford on September 27, 1975, in Red Wing, MN, and they had one daughter, Jennifer. He worked at SB Foot Tannery in Red Wing, MN, from 1976 to 1982. He then moved to Owatonna, MN, and worked for Owatonna Tool Company from 1982 until his retirement. In his free time Bob was an accomplished artist, liked to shoot pool, watch the Vikings, hunt, and ride his Harley. Most of all though, he loved spending time with his 3 grandsons.

Bob is survived by his daughter, Jennifer (Jason Coon) Karlsrud; grandsons, Caleb, Alex, and Jaxon; and siblings, Dennis (Diana) Karlsrud, Nancy Ellison, Kelly Rehberg, and Dean Flaskegaard, as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Janett Karlsrud; biological parents, Robert and Dorothy Gilbertson; and sister, Mary Miller.

A Celebration of Life for Bob will be held by the family at a later date.

Michaelson Funeral Homes, Inc.
P.O. Box 482, 1930 Austin Road,
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 451-7943



Pet of the Week

Ace in the hole! Ace is coming out of his shell and showing more personality each week. He is a smaller grey and white tabby male and about 6 years old. Likes to be petted and with time will be easy to pick up and snuggle. He comes fully vaccinated, neutered and microchipped. Schedule an appointment to check out Ace and the rest of our wonderful residents at River Bluff Humane Society.



Adopt this animal or others at the River Bluff Humane Society, 1213 Brick Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066; 651-388-5286.

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SEE MORE
OBITUARIES
PAGE B5

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NEWS OF THE PAST



GOODHUE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Red Wing train depot circa 1917 where the Wolf family arrived from Russia.

Family flees Russia, arrives in Red Wing

GOODHUE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

25 Years-1997

A group of 14 students from Pine Island DECA chapter took part in the state DECA Leadership Development Conference. Each of the students earned the right to attend the conference by either placing in the top eight at the district competition or by submitting a written research manual. Throughout the state of Minnesota approximately 1,200 students attended the conference. All of the students competing at the conference did well but only two will be advancing to the National Conference in Anaheim, California.

The Pizza Barn in Zumbrota has new owners. Roger and Mona Draheim of Kasson will be taking over the business on April 1. Their daughter Nicole will manage the establishment which will soon be known as Jimmy's Pizza. Jimmy's Pizza is a franchise that has restaurants in St. Charles, Kasson and now Zumbrota. The Draheim's have owned Jimmy's Pizza in Kasson for the past four years. Mona has not only managed a Jimmy's Pizza but has been in the pizza business for the past 10 years.

50 Years-1971

Under a new law, will Minnesota 18-year olds be allowed to buy

liquor in Wisconsin and drink in bars? The answer to that question remains very much up in the air. State Rep. Mike Early of River Falls has made repeated inquiries of state officials and has not received a solid interpretation of the new law that gives adulthood to Wisconsin residents aged 18, 19 and 20. The law is virtually certain to receive the signature of Gov. Lucey. At that point, Wisconsin young people will be allowed the full drinking privileges now accorded to those 21 and beyond and also will assume a vast array of other legal rights.

"People must discriminate out of ignorance," says Prairie Island native Norman Campbell, "because I don't see how anyone with any common sense could dislike anyone else just because of his color." It is normal for a human being to believe that his way of living is superior to any other. Such bias was evident early in Indian and white relations. Whites and Indians substituted suspicion for an absence of understanding and knowledge; they generalized from unfortunate experiences. Stereotyping and generalizing are processes Indians encounter daily. Recalls Curt Campbell: "When I was working on construction my fellow workers figured Indians must be good on heights. Maybe they were thinking about some of the Mohawks in New York, but I've known lots of Indians who

couldn't stand to up five feet."

100 Years-1922

Four hundred gallons of grain alcohol shipped from Chicago was seized at the St. Paul Road station in Minneapolis last night. It is the largest single consignment taken here since prohibition became law. The shipment was valued at \$8,000. Ten-inch compartments in the ends of large packing cases bound with wire were filled with nails. The alcohol was packed in the center in sawdust in one-gallon cans. The alcohol was consigned to The Unity Brassworks and the Van Briggles Plumbing company by the Mill City Brass Works of Chicago.

Driven out of Russia during the reign of the Bolsheviks, when their home was pillaged by gangs of desperate criminals freed from the penitentiaries. They were beaten, and robbed and subjected to abuse by outlaws until they fled to Poland, Mr. and Mrs. Levi Wolf and their son Heron, 18 years old, arrived in Red Wing late Monday afternoon on the Great Western train. At the passenger station to meet them was Joseph Wolf, Red Wing furniture dealer, son of the aged couple, who had not seen them since he bade them goodbye 21 years ago. It was a most pathetic meeting as father, mother, and son and the two brothers embraced each other after the long separation.

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTE

B LIQIH XKYI MNVJBW
XBMNKYIM. TLPC QIHC,
QIHC EPIQIH TLIM. — OTGL
JIIP

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.

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Beat walkers | 1 Alaska neighbor |
| 5 Pants line | 2 Stump figure |
| 9 Stone unit | 3 Brace |
| 10 Cleaner scent | 4 Fasten one's seat belt |
| 12 Studio sign | 5 Wintry weather |
| 13 Brighten | 6 Long swimmer |
| 14 Daily grind | 7 Warring woman |
| 16 Chaotic spot | 8 Detroit nickname |
| 17 Tokyo's old name | 9 Hollowed out |
| 18 Frisk | 11 Some lights |
| 20 Evolution expert | 15 Tijuana bar |
| 22 Taverns | 19 Dance moves |
| 23 Like bar beer | 21 Area of development |
| 25 Study all night | 24 "What happened next?" |
| 28 Confidential | 25 Deep gorge |
| 32 Milliner's ribbon | 26 Drake or Dre |
| 34 Ariz. neighbor | 27 Duds |
| 35 Suitable | 29 Sulking |
| 36 It's under Wayne Mansion | 30 Gadget |
| 38 Piton, for one | 31 News item |
| 40 Words to a hitcher | 33 Aids illegally |
| 41 Deserve | 37 Soda choice |
| 42 Choose | 39 Young one |
| 43 Cincinnati team | |
| 44 Basketball's Archibald | |

JOSEPHSON PAGE B3

Franciscan monk whose contemplative center sends me a meditative email each day captured my attention with his cheerful edict to "be

present to a geranium." During another interview, an author (recommended to me by a pastor I'd worked with) referred to time as being more like a "lava lamp" than a "silverware drawer." Our young professor told her political commentator friend

during their conversation that in terms of spiritual alignment she often feels "a quarter turn away from something that's true."

It all comes down to enough — as for this Lent, for many the aspired to "mediocrity" of "good enough." I downloaded the study guide. Too many questions. Maybe next year. But I did enjoy this year's sermons about "herding chicks" and garden variety sanctification.

Elsewhere, she talks about brokenness and offers a blessing for it coated with the language of cold winters.

One time nestled in bed I heard something break. I couldn't find what it was. I'd imagined it to be the glass of a framed picture temporarily sitting on the floor nearby. But there was no evidence of such that I could see. So, I decided to think of it as some sort of a spell that had been broken — for the better.

Other breaks that could be good might include: the ice, eggs and, of course, the bread.

Kate Josephson worked as a church secretary in Red Wing. She seeks out religious experiences where she goes.

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		
9						10				11	
12						13					
14						15			16		
17						18			19		
20						21			22		
						23			24		
25	26	27				28			29	30	31
32						33			34		
35						36			37		
38						39			40		
41									42		
43											

3/19 PUZZLES Find these answers elsewhere in this edition!

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RIVER FALLS RESEARCH

Professor lands \$450,000 grant for South Pole study

A University of Wisconsin-River Falls professor has received a National Science Foundation award to support faculty and student research projects.

Physics Professor Suruj Seunarine garnered the \$450,000 grant, paid out over three years, that will allow faculty and students in the Physics Department to continue to pursue science while operating and maintaining the neutron monitor station at the South Pole.

The monitors at the South Pole are part of an international network that detects and measures radiation from space that reaches the Earth's surface. River Falls, along with the Universities of New Hampshire and Delaware, are part of the decades-long experiment that began in the 1950s.

"I was just relieved that the experiment would continue," Seunarine said. "I have been working on it since 2012. If we didn't get funding, we couldn't continue operating the South Pole neutron monitor."

The NSF funding supports a post-doctoral research assistant at River Falls for three years and allows River Falls students and faculty to make field trips to the South Pole to maintain and calibrate the station.

Cosmic rays

One part of the project is purely for science, to measure the cosmic rays that come to Earth, Seunarine said. "It is useful to students to study the cosmic radiation that arrives on Earth," he noted. "It

helps build our body of knowledge about cosmic rays and what is going on from a physics perspective in our solar system."

Also, the monitors measure radiation levels that could impact human activity on Earth and in space and interfere with electronics or the power grid.

"In some cases, the radiation could be harmful to astronauts on the space station," Seunarine said, noting the information is helpful to aircraft pilots to avoid radiation exposure.

"We provide the data from the neutron monitors in almost real-time," he noted.

The grant links all U.S. neutron monitors into the Simpson Neutron Monitor Network, coordinating the operations and data analysis. University of Chicago Professor John Simpson, who died in 2000, invented the neutron monitor in 1948 after his work on the Manhattan Project. During a massive solar flare in 1956, data collected by neutron monitors gave the first indication of the existence of the heliosphere, indicating that the sun's magnetic field extends well beyond the orbits of planets.

Undergraduate research

UWRF supports undergraduate research. The university offers the NSF-funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates: Research in Neutrino Astrophysics in the summer.

About six non-UWRF undergraduate students



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Suruj Seunarine at the South Pole in 2019.

and two to four UWRF students participate in summer research projects with the South Pole neutron monitors of the IceCube Neutrino Observatory. IceCube is a research facility at the South Pole that searches for nearly massless subatomic particles called neutrinos. These high-energy astronomical messengers provide information to probe the most violent astrophysical sources: events like exploding stars, gamma-ray bursts, and cataclysmic phenomena involving black holes and neutron stars.

The design and development of the detector were only made possible through individuals and institutions known as the IceCube Collaboration, which includes more than 300 people from 56 institutions in 14 countries, including River Falls.

Undergraduate research students

receive a stipend and funding to cover their travel and living expenses at UWRF. Students, who come from around the country, acquire research skills that are transferable to many science, technology and engineering fields.

"We have been fortunate to get a significant amount of NSF-support for research projects, and almost all of those funds support students," he said. "That's important to me. I'm not just doing research alone in my office. I'm surrounded by students doing research in a meaningful way. We're involving them in research where they get paid to do research, collaborate with other researchers and present their work at local and regional conferences. They also get to network with scientists in the field."

Physics students

Gretchen Hibbert and James Bowers had internships funded last summer through NSF funds. They worked a research project titled "Geomagnetic Effects on Particle Propagation at the South Pole."

Hibbert, of Maribel, a senior graduating in May, said the paid internships covered the costs of staying on campus over the summer.

"It allowed me to focus on the internship rather than have to work a job and work on the internship," Hibbert said. "You are doing something you love and is relevant to what you want to be. If you have the opportunity to take internships whether they are on- or off-campus, go for it. It can be fulfilling and is a great resource."

Bowers, of Richfield, Minnesota, said the internship allows students to earn professional development to put on

resumes and graduate school applications.

"It was an amazing opportunity," Bowers said. "It allows the ability to network. Gretchen and I made great connections with professionals across the work."

They both also were able to work with their peers across the world and develop camaraderie in their research.

To the South Pole

Seunarine has been to the South Pole five times, three times for UWRF. Travel to the South Pole has been restricted due to COVID-19 concerns.

"When we can go, we spend 1½ weeks doing maintenance and calibration work on the neutron monitor," he said, adding a student usually travels along to experience the research. The equipment during the pandemic has been maintained by researchers who spend the winter at the South Pole.

"It is very cold, and I would imagine it is the closest thing to being on another planet," Seunarine said, noting the station is the only structure. "As far as you can see on the horizon is flat, white ice and you are standing on 10,000 feet of ice."

In February, temperatures plummet to 30 to 40 degrees below zero with wind chills of nearly 70 below zero.

"You are well prepared with clothing for the cold," Seunarine said. "The thing that is difficult is you are not prepared for the altitude and the lower oxygen levels."

PARENTING

How to talk with kids about Ukraine

BY UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

The war in Ukraine has affected all of us and brought constant images from our news sources. This can be frightening, especially for children, and often results in a host of questions.

American television host Fred Rogers has great insight for parents and caregivers that applies here:

"Anything that's human is mentionable, and anything that is mentionable can be more manageable. When we can talk about our feelings, they become less overwhelming, less upsetting and less scary."

Before we talk with children, it's important to make sure we have mentally and emotionally grounded ourselves. First, remember both you and your child may have feelings of anxiety, worry, fear and grief. Know that these are completely normal responses to stressful situations and, rather than trying to correct their negative emotions, you should honor their feelings.

Kids don't need us to fix everything; they need us to be present while they experience it. This is a teachable moment for you to model how to handle these emotions.

If you are part of the military community, this war hits close to home. Military kids aren't thinking only of the war in Ukraine, the constant

talk of impending global conflict is worrisome and brings about anxiety. They are close to war without being on the battlefield because they are fearful for the safety of their parents.

Be mindful

In addition to modeling emotions, focus on managing what you can manage. You have influence over what your family experiences within your home. It's important to remain mindful of the news your child is exposed to and the conversations between adults and other children in their lives.

Monitor the news you and your child are receiving. Ask yourself, "What information can my child or I handle today? What is helpful now?"

Choose what is most meaningful, not what happens to appear in front of you. Pay attention to how information affects your own stress and anxiety because this can spill over to children of all ages.

Be mindful of your child's behavior for possible signs of trauma. A traumatic experience is defined as an event that overwhelms a person's ability to cope. Examples of behaviors associated with trauma include: avoiding talking about the trauma; disruption in sleep patterns or frequent nightmares, and intrusive thoughts

related to the traumatic event.

The conversation

Once you feel ready, start the conversation. Ask your child what they know and whether they have questions. Address the questions as honestly and age appropriately as possible. If you don't have the answers, search for them with your child.

Remember to communicate carefully and listen to your child with empathy. Ask yourself: "Who do I want to be on the other side of this stressful situation? How does that guide my behavior now?"

Guiding the conversation

Talking about the topic might feel overwhelming. The answers to these questions are complex, and families should consider an ongoing discussion about what is happening, especially as the news about the war evolves.

Who is involved in this war? Discuss the names



PIXABAY PHOTO

Talking with your child about war may alleviate apprehension they have.

of countries mentioned in the news articles, online or television news with your children.

Where is this war happening? Find a map or a globe and have your school-age child locate those countries mentioned in news articles, online or on television news.

Why did the war start? Wars start for many different reasons. You might want to explain some of the reasons: competition over territory and resources, historical rivalries and grievances, and in self defense against an aggressor or a perceived

potential aggressor.

What can we do to help? Brainstorm some ideas with your child about ways you can help them grasp what they are hearing or seeing in the news.

Parents may, understandably, be hesitant to talk about such heavy topics with their children.

Keep in mind that global crises will have an effect upon children whether you acknowl-

edge them or not. Even if it feels difficult, the healthier choice is to talk with your kids and remember what Mr. Rogers said, "When we can talk about our feelings, they become less overwhelming, less upsetting and less scary."

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PHIPPS EXHIBIT



SUBMITTED IMAGES

"Flood" by Greg Lecker.

A watershed of color and light

Gallery described as living room, aquarium

For his current exhibit at Phipps Center for the Arts, Greg Lecker has transformed the Atrium Gallery into what visitors have called "a living room" and "an aquarium."

Greg Lecker's "Watershed" installation runs through April 16 at 109 Locust St., Hudson. His exhibit includes wall mounted and free-standing oil paintings – and also alcohol ink paintings on transparencies.

What is alcohol ink, you ask? Alcohol ink and watercolor paintings share a similar application. Artists apply both mediums to allow flowing washes of color. The difference is in the type of substrate – the surface on which the color is applied. Watercolor pigment is painted on smooth or rough paper that absorbs the color. Alcohol ink is applied to any non-porous surface – coated paper, film – even glass, ceramic, or other similar waterproof surfaces.

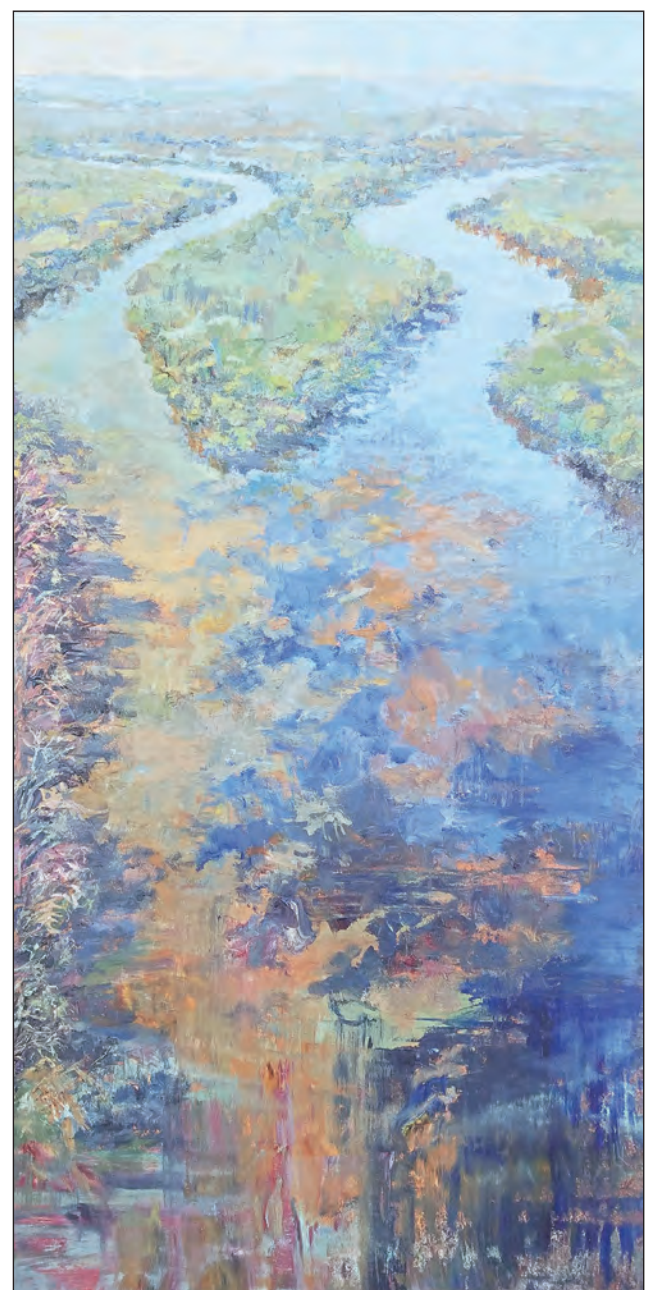
For the Phipps show, Lecker designed an immersive installation that truly must be experienced by day and night. The rich colors of alcohol inks appeal to collectors and artists. Because his assigned gallery is more glass than solid wall, Lecker chose to make this a feature not a limitation.



"Breaking Up" by Greg Lecker.

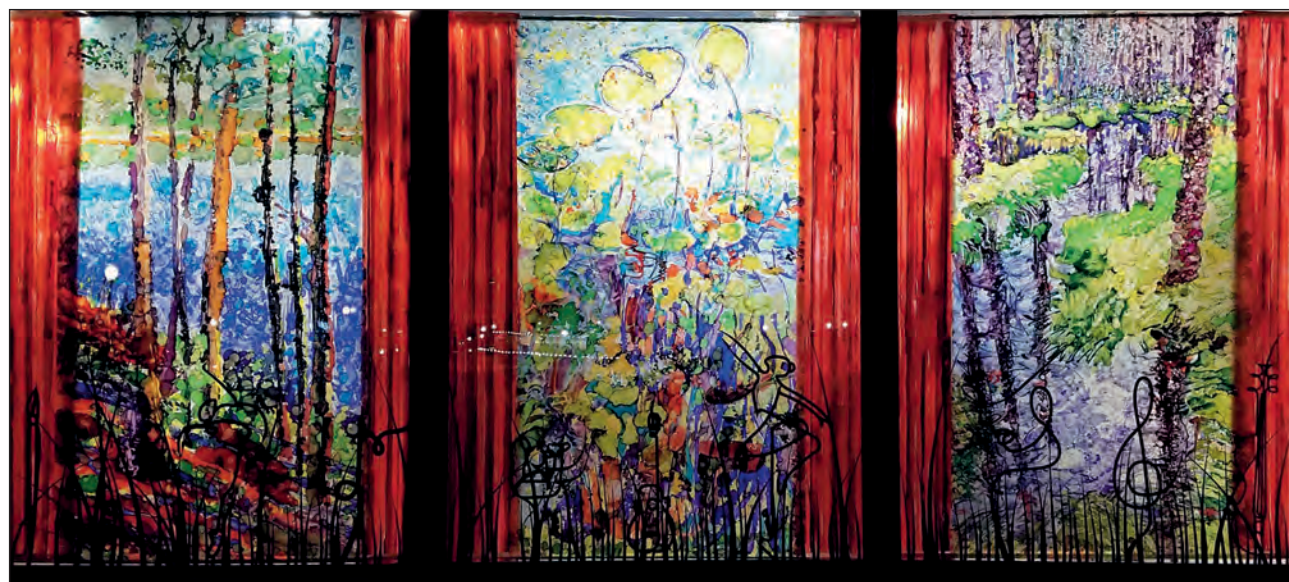
By day, the windows glow with the brilliance of stained glass. In the evening, the paintings are vis-

ible through the storefront windows of the art center on the corner of Locust and First streets.



BY GREG LECKER

Left: "Triptych". Above: "Confluence".



If you go ...

Phipps Center for the Arts in Hudson, Wisconsin at 109 Locust St.

<https://thephipps.org/galleries-exhibition/>

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OUTDOORS

NATURAL CONNECTIONS

Ice storm brings

BEAUTY AND DESTRUCTION

BY EMILY STONE
Naturalist

“Isn’t it beautiful?” I exclaimed over and over this past week as sunlight glinted off the ice-covered trees. The glassy twigs outside my bedroom window distract me each morning, and I find myself gazing into their patterns and sparkles while I should be getting ready for work.

Of course, it’s also a terrible beauty that has wrought destruction on our forests, created deadly challenges for wildlife, and become a headache for the people who manage, maintain and use our many roads and trails. (As well as for the people who had a branch spear through their roof.)

“A mark of true intelligence is the ability to hold competing thoughts or ideas while striving to better understand both,” wrote my philosophical friend on her Facebook page this week. It felt especially appropriate as my mind swirled trying to imagine all the impacts of this storm.

Clearly, it’s beautiful. Clearly, it’s destructive. What are the positive and negative impacts, both now and into the future?

The immediate impacts on our trees are visible everywhere, while the long-term effects remain hidden. Gracefully bent birches form archways and tunnels over our roads and trails. Some are flexible enough that the tips of their twigs are now frozen to the ground. Some broke off completely.

The bent trees may straighten up over the next few months; or they may not. A Mr. Ashe, in a 1918 issue of the *Monthly Weather Review* wrote, “a young stand ... bent into an inextricable tangle ... the signs of this storm will be written in this stand for a century”

Many of the straightened trees should be fine for lumber, but bent ones will be difficult to harvest and sell. Some smooth-barked young hardwoods may exhibit “stretch marks” on the outside of their bend.

What determines whether a tree will bend or break?



The ice-covered trees from the recent storm are stunning in their beauty and devastating in their destruction.

In part, it’s the structural characteristics of the species — wood density, flexibility, branching structure, height-to-diameter ratio, and surface area of the twigs and needles available to catch heavy ice.

When you cook asparagus, do you also find the place where the stem turns from tender to woody by bending it until it snaps? I imagine the force of the ice snaps trees in the same way. The breaking point may also be determined by the characteristics of older wood vs. younger, or a weak spot caused by decay, a knot, or other deformity.

The death of an individual tree is sad, of course, but the impacts on the forest as a whole are not all bad. Light gaps created by this storm will release saplings in the understory, and new trees will grow quickly to fill the gap. This storm is a rare opportunity for them — if they aren’t buried under debris.

Dead trees are an opportunity for insects and fungi — and, therefore, for woodpeckers and other wildlife, too. Paul Cigan, forest healthy specialist at the Wisconsin DNR, sent me

a long list of the most common fungi that might colonize trees killed or damaged in this storm.

Happily, oak wilt wasn’t one of them; the beetles that transport it being out of season. Also happily, chicken-of-the-woods was on the list — one of my favorite edible mushrooms.

“Trees are more alive when they are dead,” is a favorite quip of ecologists while they imagine the extensive network of fungal hyphae, bacteria, and insect tunnels inside a snag.

Where trees are damaged but not killed, the wounds left by ripped branches may develop into cavities. Dead trees rot evenly, so hollows only form in living trees, because the outer wood stays intact while heartwood rots away.

Tree cavities for nesting are a limiting factor for many birds, including bluebirds, sapsuckers, flickers, tree swallows, red-headed woodpeckers, wood ducks, and American kestrels. The wounds from this storm may yield more chicks in the future.

In general, the impacts on wildlife are negative in the short-term, but positive in the future. Several peo-



PHOTOS BY EMILY STONE.

These birch catkins were encased in ice and glued to the twig next to them. Then their stem broke. They won’t be producing flowers to attract warblers or seeds to feed grouse.

ple told me of seeing ruffed grouse confused and forlorn, walking hungrily across the crusty snow in the storm’s aftermath. The ice now prevents them from seeking warmth and protection from predators by diving into snow roosts.

The ice has also encased the aspen buds they love to eat in a hard, slippery shell. Not even the fringe of pectinations they grow on their toes — a combination of snowshoes and Yaktrax — could help them initially. They had to turn to starvation food, like the acidic fruits of high-bush cranberry.

Just a few days later, though, south-facing trees had captured enough sun to melt ice off the twigs, and flocks of grouse were spotted taking advantage of this microclimate to find food. Grouse and other birds might struggle again this spring and coming fall, though, since many of the cylindrical catkins that hold birch, hazel and alder flowers (and then become seeds) have snapped clean off.

Deer are strug-

gling through the crusty snow, of course — that’s an issue every year — but the weighted branches of pines are now within nibbling height, bringing them a food source that had previously been out of reach. My friend Jan even spotted a deer browsing on the twigs of a birch crown that had crashed to the ground.

Five days after the storm, as I snapped into my skis for a tour of the damage, Metro Maznio pulled up on the groomer. Metro has been in the area since the 1950s.

I asked if he’d ever seen a storm like this, and he shrugged a “yes.” He remembers some trees taking months to straighten, and seeing others permanently arched. Ice storms aren’t unprecedented here, but current models of climate change suggest that we’ll be seeing more of them ... their beauty and their destruction.

Emily Stone is the naturalist and education director at the Cable Natural History Museum near Hayward, Wisconsin.

PEPIE INSIGHT



High pressure CO2 pipeline planned

Recent studies on ethanol have revealed the true cost of this corn-based gasoline. Data shows that combining the water and land use impacts, ethanol emits 125% more carbon than traditional fossil fuels.

To bury that waste carbon, the ethanol industry is seeking to pipe high-pressure liquid CO2 adjacent to the central watersheds of Minnesota to the natural gas (fracking) fields of North Dakota. These pipelines pose a threat to both up and downstream communities of the Mississippi at Lake Pepin.

Summit Carbon Solutions (a subsidiary of Summit Agricultural Group) has been moving quickly to have landowners sign permanent easements that only compensate landowners for three years. Farmers and landowners are taking the risk of lower crop yields and living and working next to a hazardous liquid pipeline while Summit will reap the reward of hundreds of millions of dollars per year coming from taxpayer dollars via the 45Q tax credit.

When these pipelines rupture, concentrated CO2 acidifies water — pipeline leaks or ruptures can acidify wells, aquifers, and surface waters like lakes and rivers.

The pipeline must be pressurized at three times the rate of a natural gas pipeline (1,200 to 2,800 psi), and CO2 is colorless and odorless.

Local EMS response units are rarely equipped to manage a leak or rupture of this nature and under this type of pressure. This fact is particularly true in rural places. Sequestering carbon in this manner requires that the geological formation you inject the carbon into is stable.

We know from experience that the geology around fracking wells is not stable and there have been numerous leaks.

Cure MN River, a partner organization of LPLA, has hosted several community meetings on the topic that you can register for on their website to learn more. The Minnesota River, a critical upriver watershed in the health of Lake Pepin, stands at the greatest risk.

Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance (LPLA) advocates for upstream sediment reduction and local lake management to improve water quality, habitat, and accessibility in this vital stretch of the Mississippi River. For more information, including full blog posts, subscribe to our newsletter: www.lakepepinlegacyalliance.org/newsletter



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