

## Obituaries

## Community Stars

**Lewis R. Walker**

Funeral service was June 16, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sauk Rapids for Lewis R. Walker, age 90, of Rice, who died June 12, 2022, at The St. Cloud Hospital. The Rev. David Hinz officiated and burial was at Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery near Little Falls. Visitation was Wednesday at Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home in Sauk Rapids and one hour prior to the services Thursday at the church in Sauk Rapids. Rice American Legion Post 473 prayed at 6 p.m.; Eagles Order 622 prayed at 6:30 p.m. followed by Rice Area Sportsmen's Club at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

**Lewis R. Walker**

Lewis was born March 5, 1932, in Popple Creek to Roy and Caroline (Golembeski) Walker. He married Patricia Gainer May 22, 1953, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in St. Cloud. Lewis was president of Woodcraft Industries until retiring in 2000. He

served our country in the United States Army from 1952-54 and lived in the St. Cloud area most all of his life. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Good Shepherd Foundation Board, Rice American Legion Post 473, Riverside Lions Club, Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 622 of St. Cloud, Duck's Unlimited, Rice Area Sportsmen's Club, National Kitchen Cabinet Association, Home Builders Association, National Rifle Association, Amateur Trap Shooting Organization and National Hardwood Dimension

Manufacturers. He enjoyed his time on the river, fishing especially in Alaska, hunting, traveling, feeding animals especially deer, and snowmobiling in the Swiss Alps.

Survivors include his wife of 69 years, Pat of Rice; niece, Jodi (Rico) Aizcorbe of Sartell; great nieces, Isabella and Abigail; and cats, Cece and Abear. He was preceded in death by his parents; infant brother, Orville and 16 half brothers and sisters.

Obituary, guest book and video tribute available online at [www.williamsdingmann.com](http://www.williamsdingmann.com) R-24-1B

"Our Country is in Mourning, A Soldier Died Today."

**Peacock takes second in bus roadeo**

**ST. CLOUD** – David Peacock, of Sauk Rapids, received second place in the Metro Bus local bus roadeo May 19 at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud. Peacock, who drives a Dial-a-Ride bus for the company, qualified to compete in the small bus division July 15-16 at the state competition in Austin.

**Students named to academic lists**

**AMES, Iowa** – Landry Seaman, of Sauk Rapids, was named to the Iowa State University spring dean's list for achieving a GPA of 3.5 or greater.

**BRAINERD** – Kara Sobania and David Wolfley, both of Rice, were named to the Central Lakes College spring president's list for achieving a GPA of 3.75 or greater.

**Cole Orton**, of Sauk Rapids, was named to the Central Lakes College spring dean's list for achieving a GPA between the range of 3.25 to 3.74.

**BROOKINGS, S.D.** – Connor Olson, of Rice, and Dylan Maanum, of Sauk Rapids, were named to the South Dakota State University spring dean's list for achieving a GPA of 3.5 or greater.

**RIVER FALLS, Wis.** – Alison Smelter, of Foley, and Brady Zylla, of Rice, were named to the University of Wisconsin-River Falls spring semester dean's list for achieving a GPA of 3.5 or greater. Smelter is a dairy science major, and Zylla is studying marketing communications and communication studies.

**MADISON, Wis.** – Courtney Snoberger, of Rice, was named to the University of Wisconsin-Madison spring dean's list for achieving a GPA of 3.6 or greater.

**MOORHEAD** – Former Sauk Rapids-Rice High School students – Kirsten Borash, Allyson Carstensen-Boe, Mary Deleon-Escobar, Abigail Kramer, Grace Middendorf, Francesca Palmer, Camden Patterson and Zac Spohn were named to the Minnesota State University-Moorhead spring dean's list for achieving a GPA of 3.25 or greater.

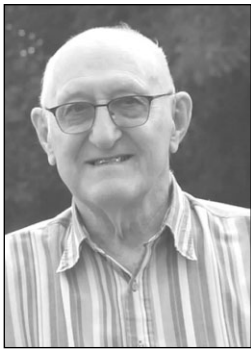
**SRRMS students achieve perfect attendance**

**SAUK RAPIDS** – Students at Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School achieved perfect attendance during the 2021-22 school year. Those students include: sixth graders Brielle Beierman, Autumn Bosshart, Abigale High, Rhema Knudson, Aubrey Marketon, Abigail Theisen, Carson Voss, Faith Watkins and Caroline Zasoski; seventh graders Nolan Darwin, Nathan Hassett and Autumn Hedstrom; as well as eighth graders Habtamu Eshleman, Zachary Euteneuer, Kaley Gazett, Kristen Kimman, Carter Molitor, Macy Peterson, Lane Piotrowski, Lenora Probasco, Nevaeh Rademacher, Ellie Scherping, Grace Smith, Hannah Solorz and Isabella Wilson.

**Verner "Vern" G. Haehnel**

Memorial services will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 6, at Graham United Methodist Church in Rice for Verner G. Haehnel, 88, of Sauk Rapids who passed away June 12, 2022, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Home in Sauk Rapids. The Rev. Ric Koehn will officiate and burial will be at Benton Cemetery in Sauk Rapids. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, July 5, at Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home in Sauk Rapids and also one hour prior to the services at the church Wednesday morning.

Vern was born July 20, 1933, in Sauk Rapids to Fred and Adelaide

**Verner "Vern" G. Haehnel**

(Doeden) Haehnel. He married Shirley Brown Oct. 8, 1960. Vern worked as a farmer for most of his life. After farming, he briefly worked in construction, building pole sheds and log houses. He enjoyed his work and his work was never done. Vern took pride in all he did,

and he instilled that strong work ethic in his family. He also liked playing cards, traveling, woodworking and caring for his horses. Vern was a genuinely friendly and pleasant man, who enjoyed chatting with others, gardening and deer hunting.

Survivors include his wife Shirley, of Sauk Rapids; son and daughters, Paul (Lori) of Pequot Lakes, Laurie (Mike) Zitterhopf of Gering, Nebraska, Marcia (Mike) Kyar of Lakeshore and Nancy Kampa of St. Cloud; grandchildren, Andy, Alisha, Kasey, Chelsey, Ashley, Brady and Whitney; 12 great-grandchildren with one on the way; and brothers,

Alfred (Beverly) of Sauk Rapids and Ernest (Diane) of Motley. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Laura Schroeder and brother, Erwin.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to dementia research ([www.dementiasociety.org/donate](http://www.dementiasociety.org/donate))

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Good Shepherd Memory Cottages and to Moments Hospice, for the loving and compassionate care that was given to Vern.

Obituary, video tribute and guest book available online at [www.williamsdingmann.com](http://www.williamsdingmann.com) R-24-1B

**Inman from front**

Inman admits that while she owned property in Sherburne County with her husband, she rented an apartment in rural Sauk Rapids to fulfill her residency requirement. The response states Inman was displaced from that home due to the coronavirus pandemic, and according to the documents, Inman admits to residing with her husband from March 2020 to January 2021 while she looked for suitable housing in Benton County amid the pandemic.

Inman denies not cooperating with commissioners and authorities in regards to speaking about her permanent residence.

**Inman files counterclaim**

In filing a counterclaim against the Benton County Board, Inman is alleging defamation, civil conspiracy, retaliation/violation of the whistleblower act and interference with a public official's statutory duties.

According to documents, Inman alleges the board defamed her by making false statements to constituents, employees and other individuals in the public regarding her character as she seeks reelection. She said statements made by the board and employees intended to harm her, lower her reputation in the community, and impact her ability to seek reelection or force her resignation.

Inman alleges the board and county administrator intentionally interfered and refused to allow Inman to perform her statutory duties – such as accounts payable, receipting of county funds, redistricting and developing financial policies – and that their actions were not justified.

She is asking the court system to dismiss the board's complaint, to permanently restrain the board from any further activities that impede her from performing her role as auditor treasurer and to award her damages in excess of \$50,000 as well as any other relief the court deems justified and

equitable.

Benton County Administrator Monty Headley said the board has until June 23 to formally respond to Inman's counterclaim.

While Inman could not be reached for comment before the Benton County News went to press, Stanislawski responded via email.

"While we are not inclined to discuss the facts of the case at this time, Ms. Inman looks forward to providing the public with her side of this story and the real reason why this lawsuit was initiated as set forth in the pleadings filed in court," Stanislawski said.

Inman has filed for reelection to her position as

of the county filing deadline of May 31. According to her response and counterclaim, her property in Sherburne County was sold May 26 and she is no longer the owner. Inman's filing address is located in Sauk Rapids.

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