



# NORTH PINE COUNTY NEWS

A CONTINUATION OF THE ASKOV AMERICAN,  
HINCKLEY NEWS AND PINE COUNTY COURIER

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022

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**SPORTS:** East Central, Hinckley Finlayson sports **P10-11**

## Introducing the North Pine County News

BY JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS  
EDITOR@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

Welcome to the first edition of the North Pine County News.

Northstar Media has been working hard these past few months to be able to provide you, our valued readers and advertisers, with a better newspaper. And, here it is.

The North Pine County News will be a continuation of the Askov American, Hinckley News and Pine County Courier. All three communities, both school districts and the county news will still be covered. We are confident that with this change we will be able to give you a better quality product with more news, school, sports and feature stories each week.

For our subscribers who currently have a subscription to more than one of the three old papers, the months you have left on each subscription will be added together and the subscription will be extended by that number

SEE **INTRODUCING**, PAGE 2

## East Central superintendent prepares to leave

BY JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS  
EDITOR@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

East Central Superintendent Andy Almos, has been with the East Central School District since 2013 has announced he is leaving the district. The North Pine County News reached out to Almos with a few questions. Below are his answers:

**Q: What do you believe is your biggest accomplishment?**

**A:** I don't believe "I" have accomplished anything myself. A team consisting of the school board, administration, teachers, and support staff have accomplished a great deal in nine years. We do this work together and I am very proud of our team. I think we have built a great deal of trust in our school system with our community. Our hope was to create a great place for students to learn and a great place for staff to work. I think we have done that and I hope our team feels good about what we've accomplished together.

**Q: What was your favorite part about being superintendent?**

**A:** My favorite part of being a superintendent has been watching our students learn and grow. School leaders get a yearly reminder, at the graduation ceremony, about the importance of our work. I very much enjoy seeing students become adults and head off to do great things. Additionally, I have very much enjoyed watching the skills of our educators grow, especially during the COVID pandemic.

SEE **LEAVING**, PAGE 6



SUBMITTED

**David K preforms as Roy Orbison. David will bring his talent to the Pine County History Museum on May 14, 2022 with shows at 2 and 6 p.m.**

## Ultimate Roy Orbison Tribute show

BY SARA GOLDSTEIN  
NEWS@PINECITYMN.COM

"Over the river and through the woods" traveling up Interstate 35 toward Duluth is how a man from Eden Prairie, Minnesota, remembers Pine County. He also recalls the stories from his father of fishing and ice skating on the Kettle River as a child. Those fond memories of long ago are what are being brought to an exciting show to the Pine County Museum.

Growing up the son of a Methodist minister, David K was performing for others at a young age. David started singing in church, writing

his own music at age 11 and, in his teen years, holding concerts at the church youth coffeehouse. Getting people together and performing seemed to be David's calling. David performed for years - solo and with various bands - when tribute shows became popular. It was a chance meeting in a Los Angeles airport with an agent from CBS records that transformed David K into "Roy Orbison."

Come see the Ultimate Roy Orbison Tribute show at the Pine County Museum, May 14 with shows at 2 and 6 p.m. Grab a bite to eat at the Little Mermaid Café in the museum and check out the

exhibits before the show.

In keeping with the legacy of Roy, you can expect a fun show with the classics, some Rockin' Rockabilly, a few jokes and laughs as well as get to know Roy Orbison's history. This promises to be a show you'll be glad you checked out.

Tickets can be purchased at [www.royshow.com](http://www.royshow.com) where you can also see videos, photos and more information about David K.

The event center at the Pine County Museum is located at 6333 HC Anderson Alle, Askov, MN.

Tickets are \$20 and shows are two hours long.

## Pine County added to spring burn restrictions

**MN DNR**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has added Pine County to the area subject to open burning restrictions as warm and dry weather spreads throughout the state.

Restrictions remain in place in the following counties:

Anoka, Benton, Chisago, Hennepin, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Ramsey, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Washington, Wright

The DNR will not issue permits for open burning of brush or yard waste in these counties until restrictions are lifted.

"Wildfire danger is especially high in April and May because dormant or dead vegetation from the previous year has dried out and there is no snow protection," said Allissa Reynolds, DNR wildfire prevention supervisor. "Once the landscape 'greens up,' fire danger goes down – but until then, burning restrictions reduce the potential for wildfires."

If people need to dispose of yard waste, Reynolds said composting, chipping, or taking brush to a collection site are all good options. For more information, visit the wildfire prevention page of the DNR website

([mndnr.gov/Wildfire/Prevention](http://mndnr.gov/Wildfire/Prevention)).

People cause 90% of wildfires in Minnesota. If a debris fire rekindles or escapes, the person who set it is liable for any damage caused, as well as for wildfire suppression costs.

Burning restrictions will be adjusted as conditions change. For more information and daily updates on current fire risk and open burning restrictions, visit the statewide fire danger and burning restrictions page of the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/BurnRestrictions](http://mndnr.gov/BurnRestrictions)).



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# HHS waives child care licensing fees

**PRESS RELEASE**  
PINE COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE

National Childcare Provider Appreciation Day is May 6, 2022. Pine County Health and Human Services would like to take this opportunity to thank childcare professionals throughout

the county. Safe, affordable and convenient childcare is necessary for family wellbeing and to maintain a productive workforce.

To express our gratitude to county-licensed childcare providers, Pine County Health and Human Services is waiving the \$100 relicensing

fee for county-licensed childcare providers May 1, 2022, through April 30, 2024. To encourage more providers, the \$50 initial licensing fee for all new licensees is waived from May 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022.

Pine County Health and Human Services is also excited to announce

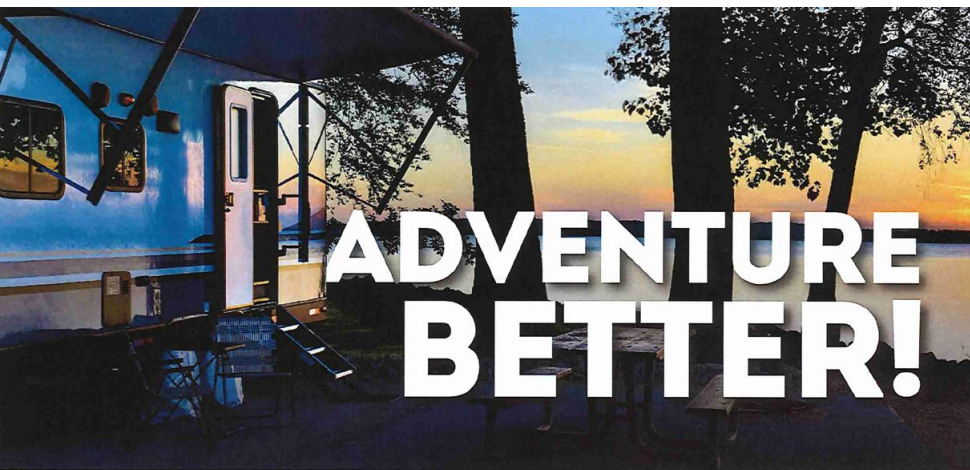
that it is partnering with Pine Technical and Community College to offer a childcare informational session on Monday, May 16th at 5:30 p.m. at the Innovation Center Classroom on the campus of Pine Technical and Community College.

The event will include a review of information on the childcare licensing process and Child Care Aware staff will provide information on Parent Aware, which is Min-

nesota's quality rating system. They will highlight all the Child Care Aware resources that are available to individuals who are licensed childcare professionals and those who wish to pursue becoming a licensed childcare professional. These resources include grants, training, coaching and information on scholarships for Pine Technical and Community College.

A light meal and

refreshments will be provided. The first 10 registrants will receive a first aid kit which is necessary to have in the home as a licensed childcare provider. To register for the event, please contact Bonnie Rediske at Health and Human Services at 320-591-1581. For questions on licensing or the May 16 event, call Social Worker Nikki Wiener at 320-591-1614.



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## INTRODUCING: Welcome to the North Pine County News

FROM PAGE 1

of months.

Every issue will also have a page dedicated to each town, there will be an Askov American page, a Pine County Courier page and a Hinckley News page that will focus on that area. Another benefit is we will be able to offer a larger community events section.

The offices in Sandstone and Hinckley will remain open. Staff members, phone numbers and emails will also all remain the same.

As work on the North Pine County News has progressed, we have met

with many advertisers and community leaders/members. Those we have spoken to have been very supportive of the change, and we are continually grateful for that support.

We welcome any questions, concerns or story ideas you may have and encourage you to reach out to us. The editor, Jennifer Yocum-Stans can be reached at 320-384-6188 or editor@hinckleynews.com. Publisher, Jeff Andres can be reached at 763-689-1181 ext 114 or Jeff@northstarmedia.net.

We hope you enjoy reading the new North Pine County News.

**It pays to advertise in the North Pine County News!!**

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**NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED:  
MAY 4 – MAY 20 ONLY**

**VOTING:  
JULY 13 – AUG. 7**

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED:  
OCT. 6**



If you have an event you would like to be posted in the Out and About section email us at [editor@hinckleynews.com](mailto:editor@hinckleynews.com)

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42											43

CLUES ACROSS

1. A power of perception

4. Slotted hinged metal plate

8. Popular crop

10. Siamese fighting fish

11. Larval crabs

12. South American mammal

13. Occur as a result of

15. Slavic language

16. An electric underground railway

17. Transporting

18. A direction

21. Opposite of start

22. Mock

23. People love and hate it (abbr.)

24. A people of Myanmar
25. A Queens ballplayer

26. Southern Thailand indigenous person

27. Famed actress

34. Thin strips

35. Bluish greens

36. Ridiculed

37. Having the shape of a cube

38. Came down

39. Indian religious god

40. “Bewitched” actress Moorehead

41. Leak through slowly

42. Buzzing insects

43. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

1. Skin condition

2. Earlier

3. Right away

4. Vomiting

5. Go to

6. “The Police” frontman

7. Bullfighting maneuver

9. Pacific island

10. A system of algebraic notation

12. A room used for the activities of a group

14. The longest division of geological time

15. Car mechanics group

17. A barrel of liquid (abbr.)
19. Bound to do

20. Explosive

23. Ridicules

24. Adult male

25. Military personnel

26. French and Belgian river

27. Found in the sea

28. A share lost in default (abbr.)

29. Type of medication (abbr.)

30. City on the Rhine

31. Animal disease

32. They’re in martinis

33. Get away

34. Wampum

36. Lacking brightness

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022

Designer Purse Bingo

If you haven’t gotten your Mother’s Day gift yet, bring her out for our Designer Purse Bingo on Saturday, May 7 starting at 1 p.m. at the Sandstone Area Golf Course. Advance tickets are only \$35/person and it’s great fun with food provided and lots of prizes to be won!

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022

Sandstone citywide and park clean-up

The Sandstone Lions will be doing brush pickup on Saturday, May 7. Please have your bags of leaves by the curb by 9 a.m. Also on that day the city of Sandstone will be doing their citywide/park clean up. Clean up for our local parks, pick one and join in. Or pick a street to walk. The city will provide bags & gloves. Call 320-245-5241 for more details.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 6 & 7, 2022

Quarry Lions Big Spring Sale

The Sandstone Quarry Lions are having their annual garage sale on Friday, May 6 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday May 7, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the John Wright Building 130 Oriole St. E, Sandstone. All proceeds from the sale

will go back out into the community.

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022

Christian Women’s Connection

The Women’s Christian Connection will meet on Monday May 9, 7 p.m., in Tobies’ Big Kettle Room in Hinckley. All ladies are cordially invited to attend so come on out and enjoy a springtime evening of friendship, fun, and inspiration!

The theme for the evening is “Heartwarming Highlights.” The special feature will be on homemade soaps and candles presented by Katie Cundiff of Sandstone. Musical guests will be Katie Cundiff with her daughters Rebekah and Keturah. Guest speaker will be Karol-Rae Rokala of Grand Rapids, Minn.

She will share her experience which she refers to as “Empty Dreams: From Barren to Bountiful.”

Reservations may be made by calling Maxine at 384-6413. Please DO NOT call Tobies’. Reser-

ventions are important in respect of Tobies’ preparation and set up.

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022

Sandstone Flower and Garden Club

The monthly meeting of the Sandstone Flower and Garden Club will be held at the Community Room of the John Wright Building, 130 Oriole St. E., Sandstone, on Tuesday, May 10, at 1:00 p.m. Laura McCaughan and Diane Howard are hostesses. Plans will be finalized for the pumpkin kids and the plant sale. All are welcome!

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022

Hinckley Lions Club Spring Clean Up

The Hinckley Lions Spring clean up has been postponed to Saturday, May 21. Please have your bags of leaves by the curb no later than 9 a.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2022

Annual Memorial Day Service

The public is invited to the Royalton Memorial Cemetery Association’s Annual Memorial Day Service on Sunday, May 29 at 2 p.m. at 2511 Church Road, Braham, Minn. Pastor Joel Preston of the Pine City Evangelical Free Church will give a devotional, music will be provided by Adrienne Roubinek. A luncheon will follow service, free will offering accepted. Contact Les Orvis at 320-492-4579 if you have any questions.

It’s rhubarb time in Minnesota



Food N’ Friends  
Mary Ellen Dewey

IF YOU have a favorite recipe you would like to share, send it to Mary Ellen at [recipe@pinecountycourier.com](mailto:recipe@pinecountycourier.com). ENJOY!!

RHUBARB CREAM LAYER PIE

- 4 c. rhubarb
  - 1 c. sugar
  - 1/2 c. water
  - 3 Tbsp. corn-starch
  - Red food coloring
  - 1 pkg. instant vanilla pudding
  - 1 c. milk
- 1-1/2 c. mini marshmallows
  - 1 carton (8 oz.) frozen whipped topping, thawed
  - 1-prepared graham cracker crumb crust (9-inch)

Cook together rhubarb, sugar, and water. Add cornstarch and red food coloring. Cook just until thickened. Cool. Prepare pudding as directed on the package, with only using 1 cup milk. Stir together the marshmallows and whipped topping. In a prepared crumb crust, layer cooled, cooked rhubarb mixture, then the marshmallows in the whipped topping, then the vanilla pudding as a topping. Refrigerate several hours before serving. Yield: 6-8 servings.

RHUBARB CUSTARD TREATS

- 2 c. all-purpose flour
- 1/4 c. sugar
- 1 c. cold butter

FILLING

- 2 c. sugar
- 7 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 1 c. heavy whipping cream
- 3 large eggs, room temperature, beaten
- 5 c. finely chopped fresh or frozen rhubarb, thawed and drained

TOPPING;

- 6 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 c. heavy whipping cream, whipped

Combine the flour and sugar in a bowl; cut in the butter until the mixture resembles small coarse crumbs. Press in a greased 9x13-in. baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes. For filling: combine sugar and flour in a bowl. Whisk in cream and eggs. Stir in the chopped rhubarb. Pour over the crust. Bake at 350 degrees for 40-45 minutes or until the custard is set. Cool. For topping: beat cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla, until smooth, fold in whipped cream. Spread over top. Cover and chill. Cut into bars. Store in refrigerator.



RHUBARB UPSIDE-DOWN CAKE

- 3 c. sliced fresh or frozen rhubarb
  - 1 c. sugar
  - 2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
  - 1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg
  - 1/4 c. butter, melted
- 1 large egg, room temperature
  - 1-1/2 c. all-purpose flour
  - 2 tsp. baking powder
  - 1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg
  - 1/4 tsp. salt
  - 2/3 c. whole milk
  - Sweetened whipped cream, optional

BATTER:

- 1/4 c. butter, melted
- 3/4 c. sugar

Place rhubarb in a greased 10-inch heavy ovenproof skillet. Combine sugar, flour and nutmeg, sprinkle over rhubarb. Drizzle with butter. Set aside. Batter: in a large bowl, beat the butter and sugar until blended. Beat in the egg. Combine the flour, baking powder, nutmeg and salt. Gradually add to egg mixture alternately with milk, beating well after each addition. Spread over rhubarb mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Loosen edges immediately and invert onto a serving dish. Serve warm with whipped cream. 10 servings.



# Hard to say goodbye

osing part of the family is always hard. This past week we had to say goodbye to our 13 year old shih-tzu. It was one of the hardest things I have ever had to do. I didn't want to, but I knew keeping him around would just be selfish on my part.



**'Pond'erings**  
Jennifer  
Yocum-Stans

We got Max when my daughter was just 13 and my twin nieces were only about two months old. We originally got him for my mom, or that was the plan anyway, then she decided she couldn't handle taking him out in the middle of the night to go potty. So he became ours. He was still grandma's dog. He knew exactly how many turns we had to take to get to her house, and when I made the final turn he would get all excited and the first couple times

(until he learned) he even tried to drive.

He was the best dog ever, he knew when I was sad or in pain. He was always right there to comfort me with his kisses and love.

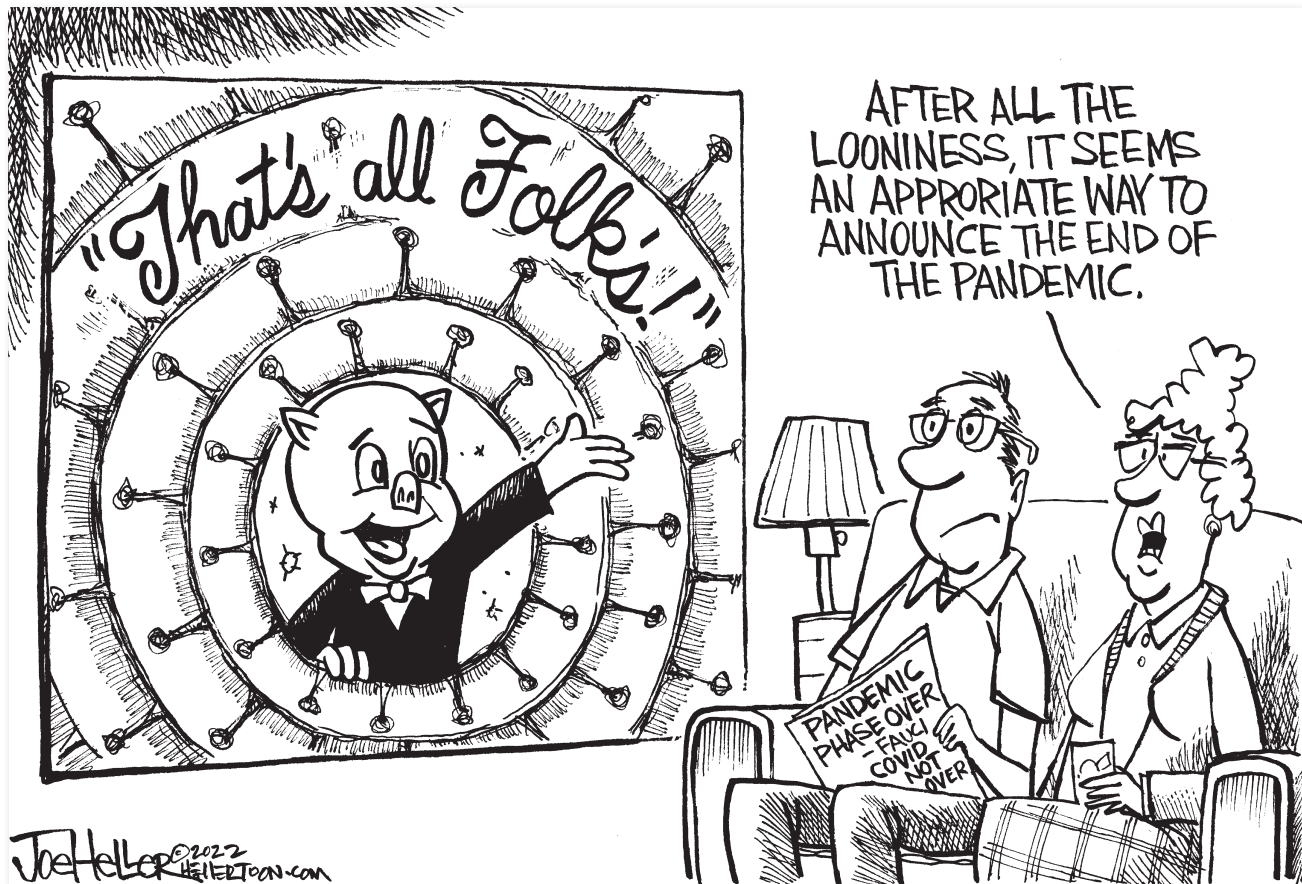
When mom moved into town we would bring him to visit quite often. He loved going to the manor to see all the ladies and get the attention he believed he was lacking. Mom would sit in her recliner and put her feet up, Max would wait patiently until she was situated and then jump up and curl up between her legs. Mom certainly loved it.

When my mom made the decision to go off of dialysis, I pretty much moved into her apartment for those three weeks...and she insisted that Max be there too. He never left her side, other than to go outside. He was laying right next to her when she passed.

I know now they are up in heaven and Max is giving grandma all the love she can handle...and then some.

It's hard to lose them, but the joy they give us in our lives is something that is definitely irreplaceable. The moral of the story is to give them the unconditional love they give us. Thanks for listening.

JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS is the Editor of the North Pine County News. She can be reached at 320-384-6188 or editor@hinckleynews.com



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Donate life

#### To the Editor:

I've known Randy and Wendy for a long time. Living close you knew your neighbors in the neighborhood. Randy is a very hard working man and took responsibility for many things at the farm. His father-in-law knew Randy could do the job and he went and did his part on the farm.

I believe when Randy was on the list for a kidney donation the only way was from a deceased donor. It was sad that someone had to die for someone else to live. That isn't the case anymore for some donations, a kidney being one of them. Everyone is born with two kidneys and some with three. We can live with one healthy kidney. I know

because I was able to donate to a friend. I've been a donor since we could put it on our drivers license. This way I didn't have to die for someone else to live. I got to see my friends life improve which it does to this day.

John and I were asked to come tell our story at a meeting for people that needed transplants and were looking for a donor. I was surprised when a doctor said that so many organs aren't able to be transplanted from the deceased because of so many reasons.

We were lucky my kidney was compatible for John. They asked if I would give even if it wasn't compatible and I said yes because someone else could use it. Because of this John was to get a kidney

even if it wasn't from me.

**Thank you**  
**Jerry Telker**  
**Sturgeon Lake, MN**

### Choose local

#### To the Editor:

The last few years have shown that if we want to keep our community strong and adaptive, with a diverse selection of options, we need to choose local. This is true of real estate as well. Whether buying or selling, choosing a local agent not only provides a job for a neighbor and keeps business in our community, it also offers some big advantages.

SEE **LETTERS**, PAGE 5

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

The North Pine County News encourages readers to share their viewpoints of community issues by writing Letters to the Editor. Publishing decisions are made on questions of free speech, good taste, public interest and public sensitivity.

The North Pine County News reserves the right to edit for accuracy, clarity, libel, and civility and reserves the right not to publish a letter. Personal complaints or attacks, plagiarized material, religious treatises or submissions from organized letter-writing campaigns will not be published.

#### GUIDELINES FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS

- Letters must be submitted by 3 p.m. Mondays to editor@hinckleynews.com or via mail to P.O. Box 230, Sandstone, MN 55072 or P.O. Box 310, Hinckley MN 55037
- Letters to the editor must be 400 words or less.

- Each letter writer may have one letter published every 30 days, or four print cycles (exceptions made for rebuttals).
- Anonymous letters will not be published. Letter signatures must include the writer's first and last name, community of residence and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published.
- Only letters originating from writers who live, work or have some other relevance to the North Pine County News circulation area will be published.
- An identification line may be added to the writer's letter identifying his or her occupation or title as it applies to the topic of the letter.
- Special rules apply during election season.

#### PAID ENDORSEMENT POLICY

The North Pine County News accepts election letters endorsing or advocating for

or against a ballot measure, party or candidate as paid advertising announcements. The fee is \$25 for the first 250 words, plus 10 cents per additional word; no word limit. This policy is only in effect during election season (from the candidate filing date through election day.)

Like other letters to the editor, the writer's name, address and phone number are required. Phone numbers are not published. The North Pine County News has the right to reject letters which don't meet publishing standards and will determine if the letter qualifies as a paid endorsement.

Paid letters will be identified with a label and may or may not appear on the opinion/letters page.

For questions about the North Pine County News policies on letters contact the editor at 320-384-6188 or editor@hinckleynews.com.

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**A Continuation of**  
**The Askov American,**  
**Hinckley News and Pine**  
**County Courier**



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# Traveling: from fires to snow storms, glad to be home

You will be happy to note that the Fourth of July festivities have not been canceled for this year. The Finlayson Community

Club's next meeting is May 9 at 6 p.m., so this is also an important meeting to further organize festivities. Many thanks to all who have stepped forward and any additional folks willing to step up are always gratefully welcomed. Our friends and families make special plans to come for this holiday event and we can't wait to see them.

You may recall that last February, Gary Meyer returned to the University Hospital for further testing and it became over a two month commitment. Well, Gary's truck was left in Arizona, big mistake. Last week Gary and Maxine flew back to get his truck and spend a few days in Arizona. A few days later, Janet Halonen flew to Arizona, joined us and helped us drive the truck back.

Before hitting the road in our truck, we shopped a local flea market and found some cute landscape donkey ornaments. And, when Gary spotted a full size red fire-hydrant, he knew just

the yard where it belonged.

It's one thing to sit and watch the evening news and hear about the wild fires. It is an entirely unreal experience to see miles and miles of smoke as you drive through three states. We researched the fires to make sure our route was not impacted. The Flagstaff fires were north of our route, the New Mexico fires were merging, but were northwest of our route, and smoke was pushing north along our route as we traveled the entire state of Colorado.

The smoke filled sky makes one so sad to think of the losses people were suffering, and their scrambling to save animals, and before we left Arizona the "hot-shot" fire fighters put out a call for more help. They needed more help, and relief. We only saw one small engine heading into the mountains with what appeared to be additional help.

Wyoming had no wild fires, but I did happen to get a Facebook message about four foot drifts in Wyoming days before we drove there. We never dreamed we were going to find two foot tall snow banks pushed into the center of a small town called Lusk, but there the snow was melting slowly in 50 degrees. As we drove further into Wyoming towards the road leading to Hot Springs, South Dakota there was much more drifting and snow still there.

About a week prior to our drive I

read about a woman who had four or five horses there in Wyoming. In the snow storm, her husband got halters and ropes on her horses and walked them behind the tractor as she plowed through 3 and 4 foot drifts to get them to their barn. Until her note, I hadn't heard how bad their storm was. I thought I heard North Dakota had a lot of snow, not Wyoming.

As we drove the Wyoming flat lands that sunny afternoon, we admired the hundreds of black Angus cattle everywhere we looked. There were lots of calves, but then Janet read a local story about the timing of that snow storm. It was "calving season" when the storm hit. The ranchers were scrambling to find the calves being born over the hundreds of acres, in snow drifts where the cattle were suddenly socked in, many calves were lost in that storm. We never heard about those stories on the news.

So our trip was not an ordinary admiration of the landscape, and we were happy to arrive at our friend's home in Rapid City. It's nice to know other cities are having a good time ripping up the streets, but it was our bad timing to need the missing street signs. Our navigation system belted out instructions to be turning, but orange cones lined corners and directed us away. And, during the pandemonium of trying to figure out where we should be

driving, Gary, in the back seat, directed Janet (who was driving), to make a right turn. We drove right up to our friend's driveway. I have no idea how we got there.

It was only a few days on the road, and all donkeys made the trip in fine shape. And, our dog sitter's, Tiffany and Tom Farr, Eden Prairie, loved the fire hydrant Gary found for their backyard. And, once we found a working garage door opener (don't ask), Gary was tickled to have his truck home, tucked back in our garage.

Hey, it's Cinco de Mayo this week, as you most likely know. That date is celebrating the Mexican army's victory over France in 1862, also known as Battle of Puebla Day. But did you know it is a holiday mostly celebrated in the United States, I read it is a relatively "minor" holiday in Mexico. So, I'm a little confused about that now, were we short on holidays I wondered.

Well the White House seems to be passing the latest Covid variant around now. I imagine it will soon make its way to the west, so don't toss those masks out yet. Have a good, safe week.

**MAXINE MEYER** is a columnist for the Askov American and Pine County Courier. She can be reached at 612-590-6907, or email [mnmaxgram@yahoo.com](mailto:mnmaxgram@yahoo.com).

## Nominations for Third Annual Readers' Choice contest start now

In the newspaper business, when something works well and gets a lot of people looking at it, you do it again.

How do you know something worked well? When you engage readers to make over 1,420 nominations and almost 22,500 votes in a promotional contest plus field several calls from readers wondering when it will start in 2022, you know it was a success! This week is the start of the

nomination period of our third annual Readers' Choice Best of Pine County section. This is your opportunity to support your favorite local business, artist, teacher, professional and more by nominating them in one of the over 100 categories divided up into eating and drinking, arts and entertainment, health and fitness, local, services, shopping, and sports and recreation.

To nominate, simply go to [pinecountynews.com/bestof](http://pinecountynews.com/bestof) and recommend your favorite place or person. You can nominate as many times as you like and can nominate for one or all of the categories. The website also helps you with filling in the full name and address but please remember to be as complete as possible.

For example, recommend your favorite waitstaff person but be sure to include the name of the restaurant with their name so we know how to contact them if they are the winner.

The nomination period runs from May 4 until May 20, a short time period so make it a point to do your nominations early. We will have promotional ads running in the newspaper, on social media, and online during that time to remind you to submit your nominations. As an added bonus, we will draw the name of one person who makes a valid nomination and they will win \$100 at the end of the contest.

After the nomination period is over, we will go through each of the categories to select the five businesses or people

who have gotten the most nominations. We also will look at the nominations to make sure they are valid. Those categories that don't not receive two or more nominations will not move on to the voting period.

The voting period for this year's contest will take place July 13 through August 7. You will be able to go to the same website, [pinecountynews.com/bestof](http://pinecountynews.com/bestof) and see the 5 finalists in each category. Vote for as many categories as you want. You are able to vote one time every 24 hours. The contest is online only, no paper ballots will be available.

The winners will be announced on October 6 in a printed section of each of the Pine County newspapers and online at [pinecountynews.com](http://pinecountynews.com).

[com/best of](http://pinecountynews.com/bestof). Winners receive a certificate to hang in their business and a window cling. You may have seen some of these in businesses from previous years or in advertisements in the newspapers.

Our goal is to have some fun while bringing awareness to those in our communities who are our favorites. The number of people who made nominations and voted has increased each year and we know it will continue to be popular again this year. Please participate in the fun!

**JEFF ANDRES** is the publisher of Northstar Media and Kanabec Publications. He can be reached at [jeff@northstarmedia.net](mailto:jeff@northstarmedia.net) or 651-407-1258

## LETTERS CONTINUED

### FROM PAGE 4

1) People who live in a community know the insider details, like where the fish bite, which internet service is best, what neighborhoods are quiet and all those things that help find the perfect property. We also know the area resources available to help with financing, repairs, inspections and other key steps that lead to a successful transaction.

2) Someone who lives in this community can give first-hand brags about the schools, library, restaurants, parks, organizations, etc. and be a

sincere, enthusiastic salesperson for our area AND your property.

3) Chances are you'll get honest, over-and-above service from someone you could run into as you go about your daily life. Living in a small town tends to hold people accountable, because word gets around. Plus, someone from your community is more likely to care about you than a stranger from out of town.

4) We local agents are the experts on this particular market. We study the listings and statistics daily, and we've developed a solid knowledge

base, as well as gut instincts. Often, getting the best outcome on a sale starts with listing at the right price and time, and nobody is better prepared to help you with that than those of us who work in our local market day in and day out. Plus, we're familiar with septic systems, wells, agricultural zoning, waterfront rules and other situations common to our properties that agents from metro areas can find confusing or intimidating.

5) Your local real estate agents WANT to work with you. We don't complain about having to drive out to "the

sticks" or make off comments about rural quirks and lifestyles. We feel honored to help you.

So if you're thinking of buying or selling real estate, make the informed, conscientious decision for yourself and your community and choose local.

**Cat Jackson  
Pine City**

### Repaying unemployment fund

**To the Editor:**

The Minnesota Chamber released a statement following

the agreement reached on repaying the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.

"Lawmakers finally using available funds to replenish pandemic-induced unemployment debt is welcome but long-overdue news. Economic recovery cannot wait for partisan politics, and employers face real challenges now, including historic inflation and worker shortages. We appreciate those lawmakers who supported and took steps to make this fix from the beginning."

**Ann Yoder  
Minnesota Chamber  
of Commerce**

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# LEAVING: Andy Almos reflects on his years with East Central School District

FROM PAGE 1

The dedication and flexibility our staff have shown through it all has lead to a dramatic increase in their skills.

**Q: Was there anything that surprised you during your career here?**

**A:** The spirit of collaboration that exists between the area schools and Pine County agencies has been surprising to me. This is a special place because of this collaboration. I am grateful for the relationships we have with Pine County and the support they give our school system.

**Q: What will you miss the most?**

**A:** The hardest part about leaving East Central has been breaking the news to our team. I am humbled and honored to have worked with such a fine group of people and I will miss them greatly. I have witnessed first hand their dedication and passion to do good things for kids. They have made me a better person.

**Q:** Have you accomplished most of what you hoped you could when you took over?

**A:** Nine years ago the school board had the desire to stabilize East Central Schools. They wanted stable consistent

leadership, improved stability in the financial health of the school district, a long range facility maintenance plan, improvement of student outcomes, and to develop a collaborative culture. We have accomplished these things but there is still much to be done. Our team has established a culture of continuous improvement so the work on behalf of children marches on.

**Q: Anything else you would like to add?**

**A:** I would like to thank the East Central School Board and community for taking a chance on a rookie superintendent nine years ago. This is a great place to work and I am grateful for all the school district has done for me and my family these past years.

East Central Board Chair, Julie Domogalla said, “I recall the first glimpse of this young man named Andrew Almos in his first interview at East Central School. As a board member I was not certain he would be up to the task, but his articulate and serious tone convinced me to vote for him. Through the last nine years of Andy’s tenure he has made sweeping changes. He may state that we were all a team, but the leader



East Central Superintendent, Andy Almos, will be leaving the school district at the end of June. He has accepted a position with the Elk River Area School District.

of the effort belonged to Andy. The long range planning, collaboration and fiscal stability is credited to his tenacity and leadership. We owe him a debt of gratitude.

I wish him and his family the best on this new venture. And yes, I will most likely shed a tear on that day in late June day.”

Almos has accepted a new position as Executive Director of Business Services for the Elk River Area School District. With his new position starting on July 1, the Almos family will be moving to the Elk River area this summer.

# Canoe race this Saturday

BY KIRSTEN FAURIE  
EDITOR@MORAMINN.COM

A sure sign of spring is the annual migration of canoeists and kayakers flocking to Mora for the Snake River Canoe Race this Saturday, May 7.

The 41st running of the 15-mile race starts at 9:30 a.m. on May 7 at CSAH 3/300th Ave. (the Hinckley Road) bridge north of Mora. This is an excellent spot for spectator’s to see off the paddlers. There are several places along the race route to catch a good glimpse of the action. (Check out our Spectator’s Guide to the Snake River Canoe Race on page \_\_\_\_ for the best places to watch the paddlers and tips for adding more fun to the day.)

The water is high and sure to be swift for participants—but exactly how high is anybody’s guess. The water level gauge typically used to measure the river depth for the race is not usable this year.

Race organizer Susan FranceWeber has monitored the river for years and estimates the water is approximately \_\_\_\_

The event includes many classes and people with a wide range ages and skill level can participate. Registration for the event is online only. For more information visit [vasaloppet.us/snake-rivr-cano-e-race/](http://vasaloppet.us/snake-rivr-cano-e-race/)

## Spectator’s Guide to the Snake River Canoe Race

### RECOMMENDED SPECTATING AREAS

**1. Starting Line — 300th Ave**  
The first and perhaps best place to view the canoe race is at the starting line on CSAH 3/300th Ave. (locally known as the “Hinckley Road”). Spectators can stand along the shore or the bridge.

Warning: The area is very busy with canoes loading and unloading, spectators and the hustle of the starting line. Be cautious and courteous.

There is a public access boat landing west of the bridge, on the south side of the road which provides good access for spectators.

**2. The 19 Bridge**  
The first bridge crossing since the starting line is on CSAH 19/250th Ave. This is a great area to see progress of the racers.

**NOT RECOMMENDED: Hwy 65 Bridge**  
It is not recommended to watch for racers at the Highway 65 bridge north of Mora. The high level of traffic makes this a dangerous place to be on the side of the road. There is no public water access.

**3. Canoe Park**  
The City of Mora’s Canoe Park located on the south side of CSAH 6 /205th Ave. has ample space for parking, picnic tables and lots of lawn area that makes watching the canoes easy. This location is about 1/2 mile from the finish line.

**4. The Finish Line**  
Parking, canoe transportation and awards are held adjacent to the Kanabec County History Center at 805 Forest Ave. W, Mora, 55051. Post-race food and drinks are available for purchase.



### TIPS FOR EXTRA FUN

Canoe and kayakers can take roughly 2-5 hours to finish the 15-mile race. That gives their supporters on land time to explore the area. Consider these activities:

**Shop the Sales**  
May 7 is also the day of Mora Lions’ Parade of Garage Sales. Pick up the May 1 copy of the Advertiser for a town-wide map of sales. This also makes the city a bit busy—please drive with caution.

**Visit the Farmers Market**  
The Mora Area Farmers Market will open for the season 8 a.m. -1 p.m. May 7 at the Mora United Methodist Church. Parking at 401 MN-65, Mora, MN 55051

**Pack a Picnic**  
When watching the canoe race, it might be nice to sit on the shore with a little snack. Pack some lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on and some food for a picnic.

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# RELIGION

## Through God’s love, may we be better listeners

How often do you feel like you are interrupted when you speak? Lots? Not so much? Okay, how often are YOU the one interrupting? What is so hard about listening?



Spotlight on Faith  
Mike Metzler

It’s not that hard of a thing to do. When we do listen, we can enjoy the pleasantness of communication and fellowship without confusion. Why then, is it soooo hard to listen, even after we see the benefits of listening?

It’s because of our selfish, sinful human nature that we are often overcome by the urge to be the center of attention and have everyone listening “on the edge of

their seats” to everything that we have to say. Even if we don’t say it out loud, many folks think it, and many struggle with this daily or even hourly.

This wouldn’t be a problem if we could all listen as well as we talk. Sadly though, we usually get upset or worse when we get “cut-off” in mid-sentence without finishing what we were trying to say. God doesn’t want His children to treat each other this way and He knows that we’re powerless to help ourselves.

You might have heard the saying “If you’re talking, you’re not listening.” Or maybe when you were younger, it sounded something like “close your mouth and open your ears.”

In fact, in the Book of James, God speaks to us through His servant James in chapter 1, telling us to be “quick to hear and slow to speak” (emphasis added). Through His servants, and

especially His Son, Jesus the Christ, God gives us the encouragement and strength to become better listeners.

How, you might be asking? Glad you asked. When a person becomes a believing Christian, he or she becomes a child of God. When a person is a child of God, he or she is given strength of the Holy Spirit that helps each child of God become an ‘improved’ person. A “better” person. And that Holy Spirit is freely given to believers from God and through His Son, Jesus the Christ.

Through God’s love for us, shown by the sacrificing of His Son Jesus to save us, we now have the gracious opportunity to become better human creatures. The person it has an effect on does not know that it’s happening and sometimes only those that are closest to that person can see that the person is changing for the better. And as we be-

come better people, the better listeners we become.

Not only does God give us the encouragement, He also gives us the best reason to listen better. Being able to read and hear God’s written Word. Listening is very critical when we are hearing the Word of God.

Hear what Apostle Paul shares with us from Romans 10:17, “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ.”

Did you hear that? Your faith in God and what His Son, Jesus the Christ has done for you is actually influenced by your unearned gift of listening. Now that’s a good reason to listen up

**MIKE METZLER** is the pastor at the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hinckley, Minn.

## Worship guide

### Bible Baptist Church of Hinckley

209 Old Highway 61 N  
Hinckley, 320-384-7879  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. service,  
Thursday: 7 p.m. prayer and song service.  
Matthew Moris, Pastor

### Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Askov, Larry Johnsen Branch President  
EQ, RS, YM, YW & Primary 9:30-10:20 a.m., Sunday School 10:30-11:10, Sacrament meeting, 11:20-12:30, in the chapel

### Clover Community Church

15 miles east on Highway 48, next to St. Croix Park entrance, 320-384-6639.  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:45 a.m. Worship.

### Community Worship Center

114 Minnesota Street  
Sandstone, 320-245-2464  
On-line live stream on Sunday at 10:30 am  
Facebook address: community worship center or /www.cwcfamily.com

### Danforth Community Chapel

Pastor Peter Dobson  
320-245-2813  
57092 Wolf Creek Rd, Bruno  
Facebook Danforth Community chapel  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. service.  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Bible study.

### Emmanuel Lutheran

16726 Grindstone Lake Road, Dell Grove  
320-245-2449  
Rev. Kimberly Sturtz  
Sunday: 10:45 a.m. Worship. 10 a.m. Sunday School (Communion every Sunday) Fellowship coffee prior to worship.

### Evangelical Free Church Hinckley

320-384-6387  
Pastor Russ Whitikar  
Sunday: 8:45 Prayer Service  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
10:30 Worship  
Wednesday: 5:50 p.m. AWANA,  
Thursday: 6 p.m. Men’s Group

### Evangelical Free Church

Sandstone, Pastor Chris Cundiff  
320-245-2459  
Sunday: 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. worship, 9 a.m. Education hour.  
Wednesday: Awana, ages 3 yo to 6th grade. 6-7:30 p.m.

### Faith Baptist Church and Academy

601 2nd Street SE, Hinckley, 320-384-6312, Reed Owens, Pastor, 384-6274.  
Sunday: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. worship, 6 p.m. worship.  
Wednesday: 6 p.m. Midweek Prayer service  
Thursday: 1:45p.m. (Oct.-Apr.) Release Time

### Finlayson United Methodist Church

Finlayson, 2197 Hwy. 18,  
Pastor Penny Bonsell, 320-216-7169  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. worship (Communion first Sunday, Coffee fellowship following)  
Youth group meetings: Contact pastor for schedule.

### First Lutheran Church

Rev. Brenda Wicklund,  
301 Lawler Ave. So., Hinckley 384-6393  
firstlcpastor@scicable.com  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. coffee fellowship, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School (Sept. May), 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion.  
Wednesday: 5 p.m. Confirmation, Faith in Action, 7 p.m. Worship with Communion.  
Community Meal second Tuesday of month, 5-6:30 pm, (except Nov.)  
Visit us on the WEB and FB.

### First Presbyterian Church

Hinckley, Pastor Kevin Carr, 1813 Fire Monument Rd., Hinckley, 384-6440  
www.firestreshinckley.org  
Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. worship service, 11:15 a.m. coffee fellowship.  
Thursday (Oct. April): 1:45 p.m. release time, 6 p.m. Dinner for a Dollar, 6:30 p.m. youth fellowship, Covenant Kids, adult Bible, 7:30 p.m. choir practice.  
(June August): 6:30 p.m. Southern Gospel concerts

### Grace Lutheran Church

339 Division St., Sandstone, 320-245-2449  
Rev. Kimberly Sturtz  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship/Sunday School (Communion every Sunday); 10 a.m. Fellowship coffee  
Tuesday: 9 a.m. Bible Study and coffee  
Wednesday: 6 p.m. Family Church Night light supper; 6:30 p.m. confirmation and church school

### House of Hope Community Church

105 N. Blair Ave., Hinckley  
Pastor Cory Carlson,

320-384-0696  
Sunday: 10 a.m. worship

### Living Grace Church

Cloverdale Senior Center  
38736 Cloverdale Rd., Hinckley  
320-279-7528  
Lead Teaching Pastor: Tony LeTourneau  
Sunday Service at 10 a.m.

### Peace Lutheran Church

2177 Hwy. 18, Finlayson  
Pastor Philip Hoppe  
320-384-6646  
Sunday Services: 9 a.m.  
Sunday School and Bible Study: Sept. May 10:15 a.m.

### River of Healing

Meets at 10:30 a.m. Sundays at Hinckley American Legion Hall.  
Pastors Duane and Susan Olson, 218-343-2799

### St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church

114 Elm Ave., Moose Lake  
218-485-4517  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship

### St. John’s Lutheran Church Kroschel,

Pastor Tim Schiller  
Church 320-384-6884  
Parsonage 320-384-9968  
Sunday: 9 a.m. worship (Holy Communion 2nd and 4th Sundays)  
Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Tuesday: 9 a.m. quilting  
Confirmation Wed. 6-7:30 p.m., Wings Group Wed. 6-7:30 p.m., LWML third Thurs., 1:30 p.m.

### St. John’s Free Lutheran Church

6461 Finlayson Road,  
PO Box 175  
Finlayson, MN 55735  
Pastor Gary Zikan  
Phone: 320-233-6462  
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.  
Sunday School: 10:20 a.m.  
children released during service  
Communion: First Sunday of the Month

### St. Patrick’s Church

Hinckley, Fr. Joseph Sirba, Pastor  
Saturday: Confessions 4 to 4:45 p.m. , Mass 5 p.m.  
Sunday Confessions 8 to 8:20 a.m.  
Mass 8:30 a.m., Religious education classes for pre-school 6th grade, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday: Religious education classes for grades 7-12, 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.  
Daily Mass Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:30 a.m., Friday 6:30 p.m.

### St. Luke’s Church, Sandstone

Hinckley, Fr. Joseph Sirba, Pastor

Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.

### St. Paul Lutheran Church

On Hwy 18, five blocks west of Hwy 61 and downtown Hinckley, 405 2nd St. NW  
320-384-6267  
email: st.paulhinckley@yahoo.com  
Pastor: Mike Metzler  
Sunday: 9 a.m. worship, 10 a.m. fellowship, Sunday School.  
Communion 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays  
Little Lambs pre-school - Tuesday & Thursday mornings  
Wednesday: 10 a.m. Bible Study (Sept. - May)  
Germanfest, second weekend in October

### The Cross Church

206 Main Ave, Sandstone  
Pastor Darren Sedler, 612-751-3291  
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. worship  
Wednesday 6 p.m. Supper & Bible study

### Seventh-day Adventist

Hinckley, Pastor Karen Lewis  
Saturday: 9:30 a.m. Bible study, 11 a.m. worship  
Radio Station 96.3 FM  
Visitors welcome.

### Trinity Lutheran Church LCMS

Box 656 Commercial Avenue, Sandstone, Pastor Richard Langhorst, 218-273-6248  
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship

### United Church of Christ

210 Commercial Avenue, P. O. Box 642, Sandstone,  
Pastor Penny Bonsell  
Sunday 11:15 a.m. worship followed by coffee fellowship. (Communion is the first Sunday of the month)

### Zion Lutheran Church

38523 State Highway #48, Cloverdale  
320-384-0096  
Sunday 9 a.m. Worship  
Communion 1st & 3rd Sunday, worship 2nd & 4th Sundays  
Sunday School 1st & 3rd Sundays 10:15-11:45 a.m.  
10 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 2nd & 4th Sundays  
Adult Bible study Wednesdays @ 3 p.m.  
W/ELCA 5:30 p.m. 2nd Tuesday.  
Council 3rd Wednesday @ 7 p.m.

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# Avian Flu could have catastrophic effect on certain birds

Just as we feel we are coming out of a deadly pandemic we learn that there is another virus that is deadly, but this time we are not the victims. The Bird Flu/Avian Flu/H5N1 is caused by influenza Type A. I remember some years ago when another outbreak of influenza Type A Avian Flu was running rampant and there was some concern

that people could catch it. This time there seems to be less concern for humans, but the impact on certain birds is

catastrophic. Poultry producers are the ones who stand to lose millions of birds - turkey, chickens and ducks. One farmer was quoted, "If you lose your flock, you're looking at \$200,000 to replace it." This could directly impact our food supply, both in eggs and meat.

This time the virus showed up in Canada on December 21. By mid-January, it had infected two wild ducks in South Carolina. Waterfowl are extremely susceptible to this highly contagious virus. The numbers are changing all the time but one recent U.S.D.A. report said there were 763 wild bird infections. These included snow geese in the Dakotas, brown pelicans in Florida and mallards in Minnesota.

All of the above mentioned

birds either live close together in sheds or spend the spring months of migration sharing highly congested smaller bodies of water. As of April 20, 29 affected states had highly pathogenic genetic features that cause severity of the disease.

It has also been reported that in New York state this version of Avian flu is killing bald eagles and other raptors. In south Minneapolis a family of 5 Great Horned owls all died of the disease. Black vultures have been stricken in Florida

Eagles can be infected by eating sick or diseased waterfowl. According to the U.S.D.A. 41 dead bald eagles have been infected with the virus since February. But it spreading and now eagles have been found sick in Ohio, South and North

Dakota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Vermont, and Maine. The timing is especially bad since this is the nesting season for the eagles and the probability of the pairs rearing two young if either parent gets sick is unlikely. In Georgia their Department of Natural Resources has done aerial surveys of nesting eagles in 6 coastal counties and nesting success appeared to be down 30 percent this year..

Sadly, most of the eagles that are found and brought to rehab centers do not survive. Symptoms with poultry include sudden fatigue, decreased egg production and nasal discharge.

In the beginning some Departments of Natural Resources were recommending that people stop feeding the songbirds that come to our feeders.

However, on April 24 the Cornell Lab of Ornithology said this would not be necessary unless you have poultry or live near a farm that does. Songbirds have shown little sign of the virus. They do recommend cleaning the feeders regularly and avoid direct contact with wild birds or their feces.

I'm glad the change was made regarding feeding the birds. It was hard to cut them off suddenly when we continue to have cold and wet weather. However, some people have had to take their feeders down since the bears and raccoons are back looking for food too. We head into May with optimism and anticipation for the many migrants that are headed this way and hope that the Avian Flu quickly disappears.

## Lakes and Pines group respite is back

PRESS RELEASE  
LAKES AND PINES

Lakes and Pines community Action Council is bringing back the in-person Respite Program for adults.

Respite is a short term, temporary relief to support caregivers who are caring for loved ones. Respite allows caregivers to step away from their duties to refresh and recharge, which benefits both the caregiver and care receiver. Offering respite is giving a gift of time!

Lakes and Pines is offering this gift of time to caregivers at respite sessions twice a month in each community; North Branch, Pine City and a newly formed session in Mora. They will also continue to typical respite session includes conversation, coffee and a light snack, brain-stimulating activities, an art project or craft and possibly light exercise like chair

stretches or pool noodle volleyball, and plenty socialization. There is one volunteer for each participant at the in-person sessions as well as staff.

Volunteers are essential for service. The number of respite participants is limited to the number of volunteers. There must be one volunteer for each care receiver. If you enjoy visiting with people, helping out with arts and crafts and are available for a three-hour block of time once or twice a month please volunteer.

Contact Lakes and Pines for more information or to enroll in respite or become a volunteer. Select option 4 when calling 320-679-1800 or 800-832-6082, or email lao@lakesandpines.org. These services are funded in part under contract with Central Minnesota Council on Aging as part of the Older Americans Act Program

## UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MAY STARWATCH

May opens with the two brightest planets low and close together in the eastern morning sky.



Minnesota  
Starwatch  
Deane Morrison

Red Planet will be glimmering to the upper right of the pair. Jupiter rapidly closes in on Mars and catches it on the 29th, when it will appear close above Mars.

Jupiter continues along the same path toward Saturn, but the ringed planet moves steadily westward, away from Jupiter, too fast to catch. That's because Saturn, the most distant from the sun of the three bright outer planets, orbits most slowly. Thus, Earth's orbital motion pushes it most rapidly westward across the sky. Mars,

being the closest and speediest of the three, resists the push and lingers in the eastern sky the longest.

To see the planets, try to get outside just before the sky starts to lighten.

In the evening sky, Leo, the lion, is high in the south at nightfall on May Day. The brilliant star in the southeast is Arcturus, in kite-shaped Bootes, the herdsman. Below and slightly west of Arcturus is Spica, the brightest star in Virgo, the maiden. All these stars move westward as the hour and the calendar move forward.

May's full moon treats us to a total lunar eclipse the night of the 15th-16th. The eclipse begins at 9:27 p.m. May 15, when the moon first contacts Earth's umbra—the inner part of its shadow, where the sun is completely blocked. Totality lasts from 10:29 p.m. to 11:53 p.m. The moon is deepest within the umbra at 11:11 p.m. After totality ends, the moon will be partially eclipsed again until 12:55 a.m. May 16. Let's hope for clear weather that night.

The University of Minnesota's public viewings of the night sky at its Duluth and Twin Cities campuses have been curtailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, see:

Duluth, Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium: [www.d.umn.edu/planet](http://www.d.umn.edu/planet)  
Twin Cities, Minnesota Institute for Astrophysics: [www.astro.umn.edu/outreach/pubnight](http://www.astro.umn.edu/outreach/pubnight)

Check out astronomy programs, free telescope events, and planetarium shows at the

University of Minnesota's Bell Museum: [www.bellmuseum.umn.edu/astronomy](http://www.bellmuseum.umn.edu/astronomy)

Find U of M astronomers and links to the world of astronomy at: <http://www.astro.umn.edu>

4/21/22 Contact: Deane Morrison, University Relations, (612) 721-6003, [morri029@umn.edu](mailto:morri029@umn.edu)

DEANE MORRISON is a writer and editor with the University of Minnesota Office of University Relations. Minnesota Starwatch is a service of the Minnesota Institute for Astrophysics, located in the Tate Laboratory of Physics and Astronomy.

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[administrator@sandstonemn.com](mailto:administrator@sandstonemn.com)

## \*\* REMINDER \*\*

**First Half Property Taxes due by May 16, 2022**

In person payments are accepted at the Pine County Courthouse Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Mailed payments must be postmarked by May 16, 2022. Checks should be made payable to Pine County Auditor-Treasurer  
635 Northridge Dr NW, Suite 230  
Pine City, MN 55063

If paying by regular check, please include all parcels on one check.

Credit card or electronic check payments can be made over the telephone by calling 1-800-272-9829 and then use jurisdiction code 3316 or online by visiting [www.co.pine.mn.us/auditor/pay\\_your\\_property\\_taxes.php](http://www.co.pine.mn.us/auditor/pay_your_property_taxes.php)

Multiple parcels must be processed individually for telephone/online payments. Credit card processing fee of 2.99% or a minimum fee of \$1.20. E-check processing fee of \$2.90 for payments under \$10,000; \$15.75 for over \$10,000.

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PROVIDED

# Celebrating 90 years

**Angie Gangelhoff, long time Sandstone resident, celebrated her 90th birthday on April 20 at the Sandstone Health Care Center with many family and friends present. She says thank you all for your birthday wishes & cards.**

# Stop Arm violations on the rise

**STAFF REPORT**  
HINCKLEYNEWS@SCICABLE.COM

#STOPONRED have you heard about this? STOP ON RED? What does this mean? Don't we always stop at stop signs and red lights so what is the big deal about the hashtag #STOPONRED?

At a training seminar for transportation supervisors, the biggest discussion was on stop arm violations. For this school year the State Patrol has the theme #STOPONRED. Attendees we were shown graphs, stats and even a video of an Edina student being hit by a driver that went through a stop arm. You can search for near miss stop arm violations and you will be surprised at how quick it can happen.

In the last two months ISD #577 (Willow River) has seen a major increase in Stop Arm violations. What is a major increase you might ask? Right now they are currently sitting at eight stop arm violations, and that is just in one district. They have gone from zero to eight in just a few months. From September to January they did not have one stop arm violation. "In all the years I have driven, I only know of one but from February and up to present day we have had eight, and the worst part about it is we have had three in one day all from the same stop, AND six from the same town," said Willow River Transportation Supervisor Nathan Berg.

I never want to be that transportation supervisor that has to respond to a bus accident and have to call the parents of a student that has been hit by a driver that felt that getting to their destination was way more important than waiting for a child to get off or on a bus.

Regardless of if you see a child outside the bus or not does not make it right in any way shape or form to run a stop arm. You do not know which way that child may be going, are they going to run across the road out from in front of the bus, are they walking out of their driveway, have they been delayed getting off or on the bus? You do not know, do not take

the chance on  
ending a young  
person's life.

Figures from the State Patrol on how many violations have happened, just in the first 15 days of school this fall reported 161 stop arm violations, that is almost 11 violation a day. On two occasions Berg reached out to the state patrol for updated numbers. On Feb. 22, there were 1,374 stop arm violations

in Minnesota. That was 105 days into the school year. If you take that 1,374 and divide it by 105 you end up with 13 violations a day.

As of April 21, there were 1,989 violations, and that is from 106 companies (School Bus Contractors, Private Schools or School Districts).

That comes to 14.6 times each school day between the hours of 7 a.m. - 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. that someone is going through a stop arm of a bus and risking killing or hurting a child.

“These are real numbers. For Willow River, there were eight times that someone from our community, could had a life changing event occur that could of been 100% preventable had they followed the law and #STOP-ONRED,” said Berg.

“It’s time to slow down and take a look around you, and remember that your actions have consequences that can affect more than just you.

“The next time you see a school bus remember that that bus is carrying our future generation, so many dreams, abilities and aspirations are on each and every bus,” he continued.

We can do better, it doesn't matter if your kids go to East Central, Hinckley Finlayson or Willow River, said Berg. "As communities that support each and every school we must do better and pay



**Stop Arm violations are on the rise in our communities. One school district reports eight violations since February. Remember it is the law to stop when a school bus has their Stop Arm extended.**

attention to how we drive in and around our buses.” Give them space (20 - 25 feet) so they can operate safely, slow down when the amber lights come on and then STOP when the red lights come on and the stop arm comes out. It’s very simple, that STOP sign on the side of the bus is not an option.

Berg added some final thoughts by saying “I would like to say one thing to everyone that has a child riding a school bus. Please stress to your kids to LOOK and LISTEN to your bus driver before getting on and off the bus. If your son or daughter crosses a road to get on the bus, have them look at the driver and wait for the driver to signal them across the road. Each driver is monitoring all their mirrors watching for traffic, looking forward and behind to make sure it is safe. Older kids feel they do not need to look at the driver to cross the road, but everyone does. Your kids may be busy being kids, or looking at their phones to not know to look for any dangers when getting on and off the bus. All it takes is for that one impatient driver so please encourage them to pay attention to their driver, it could mean their life.”



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TERRY BULLOCK | NORTH PINE COUNTY NEWS



MIKE DRAHOSH | NORTH PINE COUNTY NEWS

## East Central Eagles take on Rush City, Braham, Hinckley-Finlayson

The East Central softball team was finally able to take the field. The weather has not been cooperating so far this season. Last week they played at Hinckley-Finlayson on Tuesday losing 12-4. On Friday April 29, the Eagles headed to Braham to take on the Bombers, unfortunately the results were much the same as they lost 12-2 in five innings. Next on the schedule is Mille Lacs on May 5 and on May 9 they will take on the Barnum Bombers.

## Jaguars tracksters compete in windy 60 degree weather

**BEN VICKSTROM**  
HINCKLEY-FINLAYSON TRACK

On Friday the track and field Team went to Pine City for the annual Chengwatana Invite. It is one of the meets on the schedule that is circled because some of the best teams in the area participate including Mora, Milaca, Chisago Lakes, Pine, Rush, Proctor, Mille Lacs, and a good McGregor team. The athletes performed phenomenally on a windy

60-degree night (the best weather of the season).

The boys relays made up of Randy, Keanne, Giermo, and Noah set season bests in the 4x100 and 4x200. McCoy Cooper shaved off an astounding 9 seconds in the 1600m. Lucas Kreft set new lifetime bests in back-to-back races, the 800m, and 200m. Dylan Googins got a lifetime best in the pole vault. Marcel Richey and Harry Kreft set a lifetime best in the shot put as well.

The girls were not outdone! The 4x200 of Sophie Hodena, Violet Cox, Gemma Lenzen, and Corrina Tvedt set yet another season best. Lauren Thom decimated her lifetime best in the 1600m. Gemma Lenzen won the high jump with a jump of 4'10". Sara Casavejos continues to improve her lifetime best in her sprinting events setting new PRs in the 100 and 200.

The throwers have been coming ready to

crush it. The JV team of Isaac Brindamour and Holden Williams traveled to Braham on Thursday. In shot put Isaac out-threw the competition with a PR distance of 31' 5.5" taking home a 1st place ribbon. Holden also had a PR of 28' 1.5" taking 4th place overall. In discus they had some good throws, Holden had 67' 11" put him in 3rd place and Isaac had a 4th place throw of 57' 3". The varsity team of Marcel, Harry, Devyn, Gemma,

Evelyn and Ivie competed at the Pine meet. In shot put Marcel placed 5th with a PR throw of 38' 7" and Gemma placed 4th with her PR of 30' 2". In discus Gemma had a season best 84' throw which was good enough for a 3rd place finish. Ivie had her season best in both Discus and Shotput. Devyn, Harry, Ivie and Evelyn continue to have strong throws in both Discus and Shot.

**If you are a parent of a spring sport athlete, and like to write, we would like to talk to you about contributing to the North Pine County News! Contact us at 320-384-6188!**





SUBMITTED

## Finlayson-Giese Lions donate to Empower Learning Center

Finlayson-Giese Lions president Stacey Fales presented learners at the Empower Learning Center with a check for \$3,000. Thanks to the continued generosity of the Finlayson-Giese Lions, Empower learners are able to participate in growth activities like the student leadership program MAAP STARS, field trips and other services offered to Empower learners. Pictured are Stacey Fales, Willow Thomas, Angus Benjamin and Arriana Benjamin.



SUBMITTED

## Hinckley-Finlayson trap team receives donation

The Jim Jordan Chapter of Minnesota Deer Hunters Association donated \$1000 to the Hinckley-Finlayson Trap Team. Pictured are trap team members: Matthew Nelson, Owen Arrington, Clayton Fritz, John Colsrud, Jack Meier, Charlie Mayer, Levi Matson, Zac Weidendorf, John McEachran, Dana Marks, Owen Johnson and Jim Jordan Chapter representative Gerald Schmidt.



TERRY BULLOCK | NORTH PINE COUNTY NEWS

## Jags softball wins over rival East Central

The Hinckley-Finlayson Jaguars' softball team hosted the East Central Eagles last week. The Jags came out on top 12 -4. Above left: Hannah Hartl is put out at first base with a nice play by East Central's Gracie Hartl. Above right: Jag junior, Joey Hopkins, had a very good day on the mound for her team. Allowing only four runs, striking out six and walking only three. Her Jag teammates responded by scoring 12 runs on 10 hits.

## Big win over Rush City for the Jaguars

JAY KREGER  
JKREGER@ISD2165.ORG

The Jaguars traveled to Rush City on April 28 for a game under the lights and came home with a huge 7-1 win over a very good Rush City team. Lane VonRueden pitched a complete game gem by allowing only four hits and striking out nine Tiger

batters. Lane was outstanding and dominant on the mound the entire game. Jacob Grice led the offense with three hits and one RBI. Griffin Stiel, Mac Storlie, Jordan Masterson, Brody Froehling and Lane VonRueden also contributed a hit apiece in the win. The Jaguars host conference rival Braham today at 4:30 p.m. at Brennan Field.

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# NEWS

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# Transitions abound at Hinckley- Finlayson school district

Dear Hinckley-Finlayson Community, There is a lot going on in Hinckley-Finlayson Schools this May. Mr. Masterson is working hard on his transition to the Superintendent role. As always, with Brian Masterson, he is working hard to learn every system and get to know every program.

Some other transitions we will be working on this summer. Mr. Masterson will present Ms. Kim Henke to our school board in May as the next HFHS Principal. Ms. Henke comes to us with a variety of experience and great knowledge of our community.



Empower Learning Center will have new staff as Mr. Jensen is retiring and Mrs. Prater is moving to Wisconsin. Empower has been an amazing addition to our community. They have already had 13 students graduate this year. Mr. Masterson is finalizing staffing for Empower next year.

We transitioned back to doing some pre-Covid activities recently. The 2022 Prom was fantastic. The prom committee planned a great event that was attended by a record number of attendees. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs Richther for Emceeding Grand March. Mrs. Kreger led the prom planning team again and received great feedback from our host venue as all the staff and students looked sharp and were great guests.

One last change to note this week. Please stop by to say thank you to Mary Ellen VonRueden for her 24 years of service on our school board. Join us on Monday May 9th at 6 p.m. in the HFHS cafeteria. The school board and community wish to recognize Mary Ellen for her many years of service as Board Chair, Board Clerk, advocate for special education, advocate for hockey programming, service on negotiations committees, and the lead voice in supporting new school board members as they transition onto our board.

This is teacher appreciation week. Please thank any of our wonderful teachers.

# Hwy 61 to be closed May 10-12

Drivers using Highway 61 in Hinckley will need to find another way around the railroad crossing next week. According to Kyle Morrell, Hinckley City Administrator, the Burlington Northern Santa



JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS | NORTH PINE COUNTY NEWS

Fe railroad crossing near Slim's Service will be closed early morning of May 10 and will remain closed until sometime in the day on May 12. The city has designated a detour that takes vehicles east on Fire

Monument Road, north on Lawler Avenue, then west on 3rd Street NE. Please check the North Pine County News website for further updates or changes.

# Fire Museum opens for season on May 25

L.E. FURBER  
HINCKLEYNEWS@SCICABLE.COM

On the afternoon of September 1, 1894, a fire driven by high winds and fuel endlessly by the forest timber became a raging firestorm, with flames reaching into the sky over four and a half miles. In just four hours a quarter million acres burned and consumed a half dozen communities.

The story of train engineer James Root is just one of the heroic stories told, at the museum, of the actions of heroes who saved hundreds of lives. More than 150 people climbed onto Root's train as he drove in reverse for five miles to reach Skunk Lake, a tiny lake north of Hinckley. The Saint Paul & Duluth Railroad train was the last train out of town and took many to safety. Though badly burnt, Root remained at the throttle until the train reached safety. A sign on the Willard Munger State Trail marks Skunk Lake today.

The Hinckley Fire Museum is located at 106 Old Highway 61 in Hinckley, MN. The museum will open on May 25, 2022 and be open Thursdays through Sundays until mid October. Hours are 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Plan for up to two hours to see all of their exhibits and a short film which tells the story of the fire.

The Hinckley Fire Museum can be reached at 320-384-7338 or you can find more information on their website at <http://hinckleyfiremuseum.com/>



TERRY BULLOCK | NORTH PINE COUNTY NEWS

**Hinckley's Fire Museum will open for the season on May 25. For a mere five dollars, you can visit and learn about the Great Hinckley Fire of 1894.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HINCKLEY FIRE MUSEUM

**Skunk Lake is located just north of Hinckley. Engineer James Root drove his train five miles in reverse to reach Skunk Lake. There was 150 people on Root's train that sought safety in the water.**

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# Finlayson-Giese Lions, Askov American Legion supporting veterans combating trauma

BRAD JENSEN  
ASKOV AMERICAN LEGION

Finlayson-Giese Lions president Stacey Fales presented event organizer Janelle Jorgensen a \$2,500 check to local veterans raising funds for the 23rd Veteran program. 23rd Veteran is a program helping veterans deal with trauma and adjusting to civilian life.

Janelle organized a spaghetti dinner sponsored by the Askov American Legion to raise additional funds. Members of the Askov Legion, the All American Club team and the staff of Little Mermaid cafe prepared and served an excellent dinner for the local community. Mike Waldron, executive director of 23rd Veteran, gave a presentation on the background of the organization and the successful work they do to assist veterans dealing with trauma by using fitness

to boost learning. These sessions also target mindfulness, anger and aggression, service and communicating with the non-military community.

The All American Club Team is a small group of area veterans and friends that will Ruck (march with a 25-35 pound backpack) 10 miles in the Nearly Naked Ruck March, raising funds for the 23rd Veteran. This year the Ruck march is at Mount Du Lac on May 21. Thanks to outstanding community support, the team generated an additional \$1,612 from the proceeds of the spaghetti dinner. Many local businesses contributed to making this event so successful. They include the Pine County Historical Museum, Schneider Custom Meat and Chris' Food Center. To learn more about the 23rd Veteran Ruck March and the All American Club team check out their website at <https://impact.23rdveteran.org/team/399357>



Pictured left to right are Brad Jensen, Sue and Ron Redding, Mike Waldron, Janelle Jorgensen, Stacey and Sonia Fales, Julie Maki, Natalie and Mark Johnson.

## Pray for peace in Ukraine

**Dear Tante Ingeborg,**

I'm sure not happy about what's going on over there in Ukraine. There they were, getting ready to do their spring planting and all of a sudden they were overrun by Russian tanks and jeeps and hostile people with weapons shooting at them. To make matters worse, Ukraine had a very wet winter which made a lot of mud. The tanks and jeeps and Russians (with the IQs of nail polish) were buried in mud. Can't those Russians learn from history? That's exactly what happened to Napoleon when he invaded Ukraine. That Putin is a regular Prince Alarming. You try producing a fifth of the world's wheat with all that

machinery stuck in your back forty. Don't you think the Russians should go home and mind their own business?

**Signed, Connie on Kirkalle**

**Dear Connie on Kirkalle,**

Not only do I think the Russians should go home and take their burnt out tanks and jeeps with them, I am also of the school of thought that Putin is such a schmuck not even a mirror would want to be seen with him. While the Russian citizens are struggling to make borscht and heat their homes, Putin and his honchos are living large all over Europe and wherever they can park their super- yachts.

We Americans might not be living in Utopia but I wouldn't want to leave home any time soon.

Pray for peace and for the suffering people of Ukraine. Count your blessings and remember that on this matter, Tante Ingeborg cares.....a lot.

## Enjoy upcoming area events

**Bruno/ Kerrick News**  
Sylvia Schweiger

Deb Stadin attended a baby shower at Duquette hall for Jordyn Senty. It was a very fun time. Baby boy Senty is due June 18.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Bruno and Peace Lutheran Church in Finlayson received some exciting

The \$2 bag sale continues from April 30 to May 7 at the Bruno (Daisy's) Thrift Store. It includes clothes, shoes, purses and jewelry. Not included is books, coats/ jackets, toys, knick knacks, dishes, or bedding.

Kerrick Firefighters Relief Association will be having their Annual Turkey Dinner Saturday, May 7 serving from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Duquette Hall.

Cost: Age 5 and under free, age 5 to 12 years \$5, age 12 to adults \$8. Proceeds will benefit the Kerrick Fire and Rescue Dept.

There will be a Big Sale Friday and Saturday May 6 and 7 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Pine County Museum in Askov. There are vendors, crafters and garage sale.

Happy Mother's Day on Sunday, May 8!!!

## DO YOU REMEMBER 2012: Pine County Historical Museum receives \$20,000 from county

**100 YEARS AGO MAY 4, 1922**

- A small explosion in which H. Vortmann, northwest of town and Godfrey Jorgensen, who was helping in the garage at the time, were brusied/injured and occurred at the Askov Garage.
- Conrad Christensen, Askov baker made a tour to neighboring villages soliciting businesses. He was well received and will start a truck delivery to a number of places.

**75 YEARS AGO MAY 1, 1947**

- A Vet homecoming banquet and program will take place in Askov to honor the servicees from the area. E.B. (Ernie) Miller Department Commander of the Minnesota American Legion will be the speaker.
- There will be a \$1 Bargain Day at Kerrick on Saturday, May 3, where businesses in town will offer bargains.
- A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Halvdan Johansen of Askov on April 16.
- Several weeks ago Christian Pedersen and Agnes Clausen of Askov went to St. Paul where they were united in marriage.

**50 YEARS AGO MAY 4, 1972**

- Finlayson elementary students grades 1st-6th conducted a spring clean-up around the school and downtown area.

- Ade Degerstrom Askov High School cross-country star ran the two-mile Class A event in 9:33.1 time at the Cloquet Invitational track meet.

- Sport programs for girls is increasing in schools around Minnesota.

**25 YEARS AGO MAY 1, 1997**

- Dr. Peter Troedsen resigns at Pine Medical Center in order to open a private practice in Sandstone.
- The Pine County Board approves bids for seven new bridges throughout the county.
- Pros and cons were given at the hearing to close the Bruno Elementary School.
- The Beaven's family had a get together with family and friends at the Askov Community Center to celebrate Mildred's 90th , Bud's 70th and Swede's 40th birthdays.
- Roy and Evelyn Birkholm of Askov celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary by going to Banning Junc-

tion for dinner as guests of Brian, Debbie, Heath and Brenda Birkholm and Bernie and Joyce Teitz all of Willow River.

**10 YEARS AGO APRIL 26, 2012**

- Darlene Pavek receives recognition at the Askov American Legion Hall for the heart pillows she sewed and shared with hospitalized veterans. Presenting a plaque to her was Ray Youngberg president of the Cloverleaf Chapter of the Disabled Vets.
- New lab equipment is being added to Mercy Hospital in Moose Lake.
- There will be a partial solar eclipse on May 20.
- Pine County Historical Museum receives \$20,000 from the county for projects at the museum .
- Steve and Margaret Keillor of Askov welcomed a new granddaughter born to Will and Sonia Keillor. Edith Grace weighed 9 pounds 9 ounces and was 19 inches long.

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## OBITUARIES

## PEOPLE

## Kenneth M. Chambard

November 19, 1927 - April 25, 2022

Kenneth Merle Chambard, originally from Hanska, Minn., passed away Monday, April 25, 2022, at the age of 94.



Ken was born November 19, 1927 in Hanska, Minn. His family moved to St Paul, Minn. when Ken was a teenager, and he spent his junior and senior year of school at Humbolt High School where he graduated. Ken served in the US Navy from 1945 to 1947. After Ken's Navy service he spent time traveling with his cousin and friends across the United States. Alongside his brothers, Ken worked for his father's plumbing, heating and electric business in addition to working on family farms. In 1957, he married Luella Bakken from Hanska and started a family.



Ken and Lou moved to Sandstone, Minn. in 1964 as Ken began work as a Correctional Officer and was promoted to Mechanical Services Foreman working with inmates at the Federal Correctional Institution Prison. Ken retired after a 20 year career at the FCI in 1984. Retirement from one job created

time for new jobs as Ken then worked at the Sandstone Ford Garage and became a School Bus Driver. Ken selflessly served as a volunteer fire fighter for most of his life as the Fire Chief in Hanska, Minn. and then as a member of the volunteer fire fighter teams at the FCI and for the city of Sandstone, Minn.

Ken was a stoic man who could never say no to lending a hand to anyone. He had a no-nonsense approach to life but balanced his blunt demeanor with an authentic kindness and a deep understanding of duty. A gifted handyman, Ken stubbornly advocated for projects to be done "right" and he was a natural at coming up with smart solutions for all sorts of different challenges.

Ken enjoyed hunting and fishing, cheering on the Vikings and the Twins as well as watching a good Western show or movie. Ken was an adventurous man who lived a full and purposeful life. Ken was a member of the Board of Directors for the Members Credit Union, Post Commander of the Sandstone American Legion, Freemasons, Shriner, V.F.W. and the DAV.

Kenneth is survived by his wife, Luella, of 64 years. Ken and Lou have three children. Son, Kent Chambard of Rice Lake, Wisc. and daughters LeAnn (Tom) Gaede of Sandstone, Minn. and Kelli (Mike) Marcott of Hastings, Minn.

Ken's Grandchildren, who he always had a quarter in his pocket for, are Trevor (Jennifer), Darion (Danielle), Tyler, Tayla, Madeline, Rebecca and Jocelyn. Ken was a proud Great-Grandpa to Marlena, Aven, Raylan and Austin.

Ken is also survived by his sister Shirley Olson and sister-in-law's Carol Chambard and Joanne Chambard.

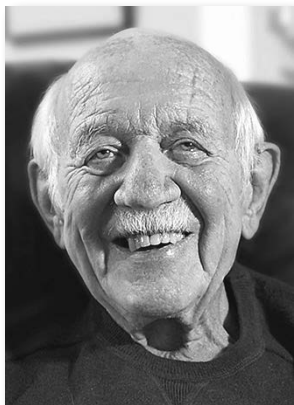
Ken was preceded in death by his brothers Alon, Glenn and George and parents Alma and Crosby.

Ken's family takes solace of his passing in remembering their favorite memories of him and look forward to sharing these at A Celebration of Life Service on Saturday, April 30, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Nora Unitarian Universalist Church, 12333 155th Ave, Hanska, Minn. 56041. Appleyard's Home for Funerals in Rice Lake, Wisc. is serving the family with arrangements.

## Eiler D. Frederiksen

May 14, 1924 - January 10, 2022

Eiler was born in Askov, Minn. in 1924 to Christian and Thora Frederiksen. Growing up on the family farm, tending to crops and livestock, and his



passion for the outdoors stayed with him his entire life – indeed, Eiler's heart was always in Askov no matter where his life's journey took him.

Eiler was in the second graduating class of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota. From his successful veterinary practice in southwestern Minnesota, he moved on to international business-

es including livestock research and nutrition, and livestock exports.

He enjoyed the travel and adventure, and saw the world!

Eiler is survived and will be dearly missed by his wife Heidi, his children Chris, Craig, Laura, Andy, Steven and Mia; and 12 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

## Phyllis M. Long Keyport

April 16, 1926 - January 8, 2022

Phyllis Mae Erickson Long Keyport was born April 16, 1926, in Duluth, Minnesota to Ben J. and Mary Schwartz Erickson. Her family moved to Pine County, Minnesota and she spent most of her growing up years in the Groningen area west of Sandstone, Minn.

Phyllis graduated from Sandstone High School at 16 years of age, having skipped two grades in elementary school. After graduation she went to work at a bank in neighboring Kerrick, Minn., until it was discovered she was underage.

During World War II Phyllis entered nursing school at St Luke's Hospital in Duluth, Minn., as part of the United States Cadet Nurse Corps. When she graduated, in 1948, the war was over, so she answered an ad in the Alaska Magazine for nurses needed at a hospital in Palmer, Alaska, and made her way north. At that time the Palmer hospital was two Quonset huts, connected. She lived in the "dorm" with other single nurses and teachers and because "there was little else to do in those days" earned her pilot's license during one of her first summers in Alaska.

Phyllis met and married fellow Minnesotan, Merritt Long in August 1950. They made their home in Palmer where they continued to live, work and raise their family. Phyllis and Merritt owned and operated the Matanuska Valley Credit Bureau and Collection Service for over 25 years.

After Merritt's death in 1989 Phyllis married Frances Edward "Ed" Keyport, who had proposed to her 50 years earlier. They made their home in Sandstone, Minnesota. Ed passed away in 2010 and Phyllis moved back to Palmer in 2013 to be closer to family.

Phyllis was an avid Mat-Su Miners fan and volunteer. She was also a member of Credit Women's International and a long-time and faithful Friend of the Palmer Public Library.

She loved a good mystery, a friendly cat, baseball and political talk shows.

Phyllis earthly journey ended on January 8, 2022, in Palmer. Surviving are her children, Diana Long, Jo (Mike) Weller and Grace Long (Mike Corbin) of Palmer; Laurie (Larry) Thomas, of Grace, Idaho; and Kirke (Sonya) Long, of Portland, Ore., along with 11 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

At Phyllis' request, no services will be held.

Burial will be in the family plot at the Emmanuel Lutheran Cemetery, Dell Grove, Pine County, Minnesota May 17, 2020 at 11 a.m. All friends and family are invited to attend. There will be a reception after 15766 Gronnigen Road in Sandstone.

## Nancy Lou Roschen

Nancy passed peacefully at home on April 15 at the age of 88. She was born at home in Spokane, Wash. on a dark November day in 1933. Dark, be-



cause the power had been turned off. Her father, Versal "Bud" Mowbray climbed a power pole and reconnected the electricity so his beloved wife, Elenore Wise Mowbray could give birth to their new baby girl. This act landed him in jail for 11 days! When 300 of his friends showed up at his trial to plead for mercy, the judge decided time served would suffice as a sentence.

With this auspicious beginning, Nancy came into the world, a spunky little girl, often up to mischief, but always the apple of her daddy's eye. In her younger days, Nancy worked as a secretary for the Olympic Hotel in Seattle, Wash. She also worked in various law offices in St. Paul, Minn. It took some time, but Nancy finally found her true love, marrying the tall, handsome Armon Roschen in 1976, and after living in St Paul for many years, the two of them retired to the beautiful



northern Minnesota woods near Bruno. They had 45 happy years together, traveling, entertaining and enjoying life. Nancy loved reading, music, entertaining and cooking gourmet meals for friends and family. Everyone said she was the best cook in the family, and she was. She could strike up a conversation with a stranger and they would become friends for life.

Nancy was preceded in death by her parents, sister Constance Hawes, brothers Denny and Glen Mowbray, daughter Patricia Dobeas and son James West. She is survived by her husband Armon, sisters Gwendolyn Mason and Joyce Soper, brother Marcus Mowbray, daughters Kathleen Jobe and Lisa West, sons Michael and Kevin Mooney, three stepchildren, eight grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the Ecumen Hospice team. A celebration of Nancy's life will be held at a later date.

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**1972**  
**JULY 9<sup>TH</sup> 2022**

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Deb Colombe 218-428-7353 so we  
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OBITUARIES CONTINUED

Donald Tasler

September 18, 1961 - April 26, 2022

Donald “Donnie” Tasler, 60, Denham, died Tuesday, April 26, 2022 in Moose Lake Village. He was born on September 18, 1961 in St. Paul to Don and Joanne Tasler. They lived in Scandia and in 1977 moved to the Denham area. Donnie attended Willow River High School graduating in 1979. He lived in Arizona for a short time before beginning to work with his Dad in the construction business for many years. His greatest joys in life were traveling to Alaska for fishing and deer hunting in Wisconsin. Donnie will be remembered for being a good person whom loved socializing with his friends, being quick with a joke, and his love to laugh! He was preceded in death by his parents, Don and Joanne Tasler; and his sister: Cindy Musta.

Donnie will be remembered by his sister: Cheryl; nephews and nieces: Cory (Dawn) Tasler, Keri Bumann, Jacob Musta, Bradley (Lauren) Starbird, and Samantha (David) Neumann; great nieces and nephews: Morgan Tasler, Riley Tasler, Evan Tasler, Wesley Starbird, Brianna Bumann, Adain Bumann, Ellie Bumann, Isabel Bumann, and Abby Musta; and numerous friends. The family would like to thank the Staff at Moose Lake Village for the wonderful care they gave Donnie.

A Celebration of Life will be from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 7, 2022 at the Corral Bar in Willow River. Arrangements by Hamlin-Hansen-Kosloski Funeral Home, Moose Lake, MN.

Jeremy C. Thoennes

October 2, 1974 - February 28, 2022

Jeremy Clark “Spot” Thoennes, age 47, of Sandstone, Minn. passed away unexpectedly at his home on February 28, 2022.



Jeremy was born on October 2, 1974, to Richard and Susan Thoennes in Breckenridge, Minn. He attended school in Breckenridge until the family moved to Sandstone, Minn. in 1985 where he finished school and graduated from East Central High School. Jeremy attended Mankato State University for two years. After leaving school, Jeremy bartended at Rich’s Bar for over 20 years. He loved sports of all kinds, especially his beloved Minnesota Wild Hockey team. Jeremy always had a smile or a quick-witted remark for everyone that he knew. He was someone who always made sure everyone felt welcomed whether it was someone’s first time to Rich’s Bar or if they were a regular customer Jeremy was there with a “How are you doing today, it’s good to see you” greeting. Jeremy’s ability to make people smile and enjoy life will be missed by many.

Jeremy is preceded in death by his grandparents, Jerry and Lauretta Thoennes and Larry and Violet Rossiter.

Jeremy is survived by his parents, Richard and Susan Thoennes; his brother, Russell (Julie) Olson; his nephews, Jake, Richard; his niece, Kari Olson; and his two very loved puppies, Zeke and J.R..

A Celebration of Life will be held for Jeremy from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sandstone Golf Course on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

Arrangements by Methven Funeral and Cremation Services of Sandstone, MN.

Wear a White Ribbon for Osteoporosis Awareness

The Bone Health and Osteoporosis Foundation has designated May as National Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month. It may surprise you to know that fractures related to



Talking Health  
Bridget Dewey

osteoporosis account for more hospitalizations than heart attacks, strokes and breast cancer combined. The most common sites of fracture in a person with osteoporosis are hip, vertebrae and wrist.

Osteoporosis is defined as a bone disease that develops when bone mineral density and mass decreases, or when the quality or structure of the bone changes. These changes lead to a decrease in bone strength that can increase the risk of fractures. 10 million Americans over the age of 50 have osteoporosis, and another 44 million have low bone density,

which may progress to osteoporosis. Peak bone mass is achieved in the 20’s so it is important for young adults and even children to be aware of ways to optimize that bone mass, as well as the risk factors for osteoporosis. The main preventive measures include regular weight-bearing exercise, and getting adequate calcium and vitamin D intake.

The recommended weight bearing exercises can be high-impact such as dancing, aerobics, hiking, jump-roping; or low-impact like using stair-stepper or elliptical machines or even fast walking. Things that can strengthen muscles and bone density include lifting weights, using elastic bands or weight machines, or even wearing a weighted vest throughout the day doing your usual activities.

Osteoporosis is generally considered a disease of women and older people, and while those groups are most at risk, men and younger people can also develop it. Other risk factors which increase a person’s risk include: smoking, family history, excess alcohol use, being small or thin, and being of white or Asian ethnicity. Certain medications including prednisone, seizure medicines and acid medicines can also put one at risk. Women are at most risk in the post-menopausal years mainly due to low levels of estrogen. In younger women, low estrogen can be caused by other conditions and medications, putting them at risk also.

USPSTF (U.S. Preventive Services Task Force) recommends all women over the age of 65 and other individuals with risk factors should have screening for osteoporosis. The main screening tool is DEXA scan (dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry.) It is a quick non-invasive test which uses low levels of x-ray to measure bone mineral density at the hip and spine. The newer machines can also measure trabecular bone score, which is also important in evaluating risk for fractures. Using patient age and measurements as well as risk factors and the numbers obtained from these screenings, a FRAX score can be calculated. This FRAX score gives an estimate of that particular individual’s risk for fracture and can be used to guide treatment recommendations. This testing is available at Gateway Clinic in Moose Lake.

For those who do have low bone density or osteoporosis- it is important to continue getting adequate Calcium and Vitamin D as well as regular exercise and to take measures to prevent falls. This might include avoiding medication which can affect balance, using a cane or walker, wearing good shoes, keeping rooms free of clutter and being aware of the surfaces you are walking on. The medicines which are used to treat osteoporosis act by slowing reabsorption of bone or promoting new bone formation. These include bisphosphonates which come in oral and injectable forms, as well as medicines which act by increasing estrogen

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Saturday, May 7, 2022 Serving 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Duquette Hall

- Age 12 to Adult: \$8.00
- 5 to 12 years- \$5.00
- Under 5 years old- FREE

Proceeds will benefit The Kerrick Fire & Rescue Dept.

SENIOR DINING MENU

Catholic Charities provides meals to those 60 plus in the Hinckley, Askov, Sandstone, Finlayson and Bruno areas. Please call 320-384-6557 for more information.

Remember to call ahead (320-384-6557) if you plan to attend our monthly birthday and anniversary celebration on the second Tuesday of each month.

U.S. Military Remembered - War on Terror begins 11 September 2001

Senior Menu Sponsored by: Hinckley Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4118

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# Ask a Trooper: What to do after a crash

**QUESTION:**  
My daughter just got in a crash recently. Nobody got hurt but it got us talking on how important it is to know what to do after something like this. Can you write about that?



Ask A Trooper

Sergeant Jesse Grabow

**ANSWER:**  
The first and most important thing to do after you've been involved in

a crash is to get to a safe place. Worry less about "preserving the scene" for law enforcement and more about protecting yourself and your car from further damage, especially if you're on a highway or interstate. For the latter, this could mean driving (if possible) to the nearest off-ramp or underpass. If your car isn't drivable, stay inside it, but move to the passenger's side, so that there's more room between you and traffic.

Once you're safe, call 911. Even if the crash seems minor, you'll need a police report for your insurance company. Once first responders are

on the way, you can start talking to the other driver. Be courteous – you've both been through a traumatic situation – but don't talk fault. Instead, exchange information.

- Name
- Address
- Phone number
- License plate number
- Driver's license number
- Insurance company name
- Insurance policy number

Then take pictures, both of the damage itself and of the accident scene (but again, try to do so safely). Once you've done that, first responders should be there, and then you can start filling out a crash report.

Once you have a report number, you can call your insurance company. And if you can, see a medical professional. You may feel okay right after the crash, but injuries can show up after the adrenalin wears off.

The best way to deal with a crash is to make sure it never happens in the first place. So be sure to put your away distractions when you drive, find a sober ride if you've been drinking, obey all speed limits, and wear your seatbelt.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse

Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on Twitter @MSPPIO\_NW or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).

**SERGEANT JESSE GABOW** is Minnesota State Patrol public information officer for the state's northwestern, west central and central region. If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205 or at jesse.grabow@state.mn.us.

## PINE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT AND JAIL ROSTER

### Sheriff Report

**Sunday, April 24, 2022**

7:26 a.m. Incident With Squad, Deerfield Rd, Sturgeon Lake  
8:06 p.m. Tribal Call, Grace Lake Rd, Sandstone

**Monday, April 5, 2022**

11:47 a.m. Fraud/Scam/Id, Pine S,t Willow River  
7:14 p.m. Unknown Trouble, Wiigwaas St, Hinckley

**Tuesday, April 26, 2022**

5:11 p.m. Juvenile Trouble, Wiigwaas St, Hinckley

9:22 p.m. Juvenile Trouble, Twin Ponds Loop, Sturgeon Lake

**Wednesday, April 27, 2022**

3:53 a.m. Structure Fire, Hay Creek Rd, Sandstone  
8:16 p.m. Vehicle Recovered, Fire Monument Rd, Hinckley  
10:20 p.m. Overdose, Lady Luck Dr, Hinckley

**Thursday, April 28, 2022**

2:37 a.m. Suspicious Activity, Lady Luck Dr, Hinckley  
6:05 a.m. Vehicle In Ditch,

Tamarack River Rd, Hinckley  
**Friday April 29, 2022**

7:11 a.m. Grass/Wildfire, Tenquist Ln, Hinckley

**Saturday April 30, 2022**

**10:58 p.m. Customer Trouble, Lady Luck Dr, Hinckley**

### Jail Roster

**April 25**

**ARCHAMBAULT, JEREMY SCOTT**



Hold For Other Agency:  
Bench - Felony warrant issued by Hennepin, - Giving Peace Officer False Name-of Another Person - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Obstruct Legal Process-Interfere w/Peace Officer  
**DEFOE, SHANE WILLIAM**  
Pine County Warrant: Bench - Felony warrant issued by Pine, MN - Receiving Stolen Property  
**DRURY, SONNY JAMES**  
Hold For Other Agency Confined But Not Convicted - Predatory Offender Knowingly commits act or fails to fulfill registration requirement  
**LAROCUE, MATTHEW JAMES**  
Hold For Other Agency: Failure to Appear warrant issued by Aitkin, MN  
**LOZANO, LUCERO**  
Probable Cause - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana  
**RAMOS, TONIA MICHELLE**  
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours - Arrest of Adult - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult -Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult  
**ROBERTS, CHRISTOPHER JAMES**  
Pine County Warrant: Contempt warrant issued by Pine, MN - Contempt of Court - Fail to Pay Ordered Child Support

**ST JOHN, OLEIA RAE**  
Probable Cause - Traffic - DWI - Refuse to submit to chemical test; Blood or urine as required by search warrant - Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Controlled Substance  
**ELLING, KYLA RAINE**  
Pine County Warrant: Bench - Misdemeanor warrant issued - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Assault-3rd Degree-Substantial Bodily Harm - Domestic Abuse No Contact Order - Violate No Contact Order - Misdemeanor  
**KOFFLER, TIMOTHY**  
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult - Traffic-Drivers License-Driving After Cancellation - Arrest of Adult - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult  
**PEDERSEN, DALE THOMAS**  
Under Sentence Convicted - Disorderly Conduct  
**April 27**  
**BENJAMIN, CHASITY ANNE**  
Probable Cause- Disorderly Conduct  
**KUYKENDALL, THOMAS**  
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Give Peace Officer False Name/Birthdate/ID Card - Arrest of Adult  
**SWEENEY, CHARLES FRANCIS IV**  
Pine County Warrant: Arrest - Felony warrant issued by Pine, MN - Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon - Assault-3rd Degree-Substantial Bodily Harm - Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon-Substantial Bodily Harm  
**April 28**  
**BERNIER, JOSEPH CODY**  
Probable Cause - Domestic Assault-Misdemeanor-Commits Act to Cause Fear of Immediate Bodily Harm or Death - Domestic Assault - By Strangulation  
**BODINSKI, DANIEL JOSEPH**  
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult - Hold For Other Agency Confined But Not

Convicted - Probation Violation - Arrest of Adult  
**GALLARDO SOLANA, DIANA**  
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Receiving Stolen Property - Arrest of Adult - Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle - Arrest of Adult  
**HANSON, ZACHARY DALE**  
Probable Cause- Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours - Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Alcohol  
**IBARRA, ESTEBAN JR**  
Probable Cause - Domestic Assault-Misdemeanor-Intentionally Inflicts/Attempts to Inflict Bodily Harm on Another  
**LOLAR, BRANDON LAMAR**  
Probable Cause - Disorderly Conduct - Assault-5th Deg-Inflict or Attempt Bodily Harm  
**MORRIS, CHAD MITCHELL**  
Hold For Other Agency: Arrest - Gross Misdemeanor warrant - Receiving Stolen Property - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana  
**April 29**  
**ORAZEM, JOSEPH PAUL**  
Hold For Other Agency: Bench - Felony warrant issued by Mille Lacs  
**PETERSON, STEPHANIE ANN**  
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Domestic Assault-GM-Subsequent Violation - Arrest of Adult - Domestic Assault-GM-Subsequent Violation - Arrest of Adult  
**RISLUND, LISA ANN**  
Hold For Other Agency Confined But Not Convicted - Domestic Abuse - Violate Order for Protection - Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Domestic Abuse No Contact Order - Violate No Contact Order - within 10 years of previous conviction  
**WASCHE, JAMIE ANN**  
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Traffic - DWI - Third-Degree Driving While Impaired; 1 Aggravating Factor - Arrest of Adult  
**WILLERT, TRAVIS JO CLAIRE**  
Parole/Probation Violation - Order for Protection - Domestic Assault-Misdemeanor-Commits Act to Cause Fear of Immediate Bodily


Harm or Death - Domestic Assault-Misdemeanor-Intentionally Inflicts/Attempts to Inflict Bodily Harm on Another  
**April 30**  
**CASTILLO, JORGE MAURICIO**  
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Receiving Stolen Property - Arrest of Adult  
**CLEMENTS, TAMRA**  
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Hinckley - Public Nuisance - Arrest of Adult  
**GRISWOLD, JEREMY JOHN**  
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Traffic-DL-Driving after cancellation-inimical to public safety - Arrest of Adult - Hold For Other Agency Confined But Not Convicted - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult  
**JONES, CYNTHIA LEE**  
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Make Emergency  
**MARTIN, TAYLOR JAMES**  
Pine County Warrant: Arrest - Misdemeanor warrant issued by - Fleeing a Peace Officer By a Means Other Than a Motor Vehicle - Misdemeanor warrant issued by - Drugs - Possess/Sale Small Amount of Marijuana - No Remuneration - Drugs - Possession of Drug Paraphernalia - Use or Possession Prohibited


**May 1**  
**CAMPBELL, SAVANNAH**  
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Traffic - DWI - Third-Degree Driving While Impaired; 1 Aggravating Factor - Arrest of Adult - Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours - Arrest of Adult - Traffic-Drivers License-Driving After Revocation - Arrest of Adult  
**MORELAND, ANDREW**  
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Traffic - DWI - Third-Degree Driving While Impaired; 1 Aggravating Factor - Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours



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PUBLIC NOTICES CONTINUED

vii. Nicole Webinger, Long Term Teacher Substitute effective April 4, 2022 through the end of the 21-22 year; BA, Step 1.

viii. Sheila Cartwright, ALC long term substitute paraprofessional, 6.25 hours, AFSCME Class III, Step 1 effective April 11, 2022.

ix. Resignation - Terry Fawcett, Head Football Coach effective April 4, 2022.

x. Chelsea Fisher - Junior High Baseball Coach Year 1

xi. Sydney Fornengo - Junior High Softball Coach Year 1

xii. Dave DePaulis - Volunteer Track Coach

xiii. Brennyn DePaulis - Volunteer Track Coach

xiv. Missy Gangl - Volunteer Track Coach

xv. Resignation/Retirement - Jean Johnson, Food Service effective June 3, 2022.

xvi. Kerri Solomon, Food Service moved from 4.25 hours to 6.25 hours beginning at the 2022-23 school year.

xvii. Resignation - Andrew Almos as Superintendent of Schools effective at the end of the contract year.

III. REPORTS:

A. Community Ed Director reported on 565 participants January-March, popular classes, upcoming events, swimming party rentals have been popular and the need for lifeguards.

B. Activities Director reported on spring weather, current participation numbers, recap on winter sports, Great River Conference putting together a fan expectation message, pricing for new scoreboards due to new shot clock rule in 23-24 and nominated to serve on MSHSL District Football Alignment Committee and Northeast District Football Scheduling Committee.

C. Frank and 4.0 have secured a trailer for extra curricular activities to utilize. Discussion on coaching needs; new teachers/recruit!! Provide leadership to fill spots! Spring events - typically no event managers (on the coach).

D. Superintendent Almos:

i. Thank you to the board! Accepting a new position has been the hardest decision to this point in my career. I am committed to the transition process.

ii. Jenny and I are meeting with ARCC to review services and costs. We are considering leaving CMERDC due to broader training options. Recommendation to come at the May board meeting.

iii. Bond referendum set and ready to go by July 1. ICS marketing team to help with building a website and getting the information out to the community.

iv. Legislative update - house supplemental budget bills look different than senate. Recently met with

Stauber.

v. Open contracts - Food Service, Activities Director, two District Office staff, Community Ed and AFSCME.

E. High School - Mrs. Youngberg reported on various testing, upcoming lock-in, summer school scheduled for June13-30, finalizing master schedule for next year, working on ALC process and organization, new committee structure update and ADSIS going well this year.

F. Elementary - Mrs. Chryst reported on MCA testing, PLC's working on science standards, PTO carnival a big success, upcoming events and summer school to include field trips and also a preschool program ran by Jennie Carlin.

G. Business Manager - no report.

Mr. Almos reported a revised budget will be presented next month and a budget for the school year 2022-23 in June.

IV. Committees:

1. Schools for Equity in Education (SEE) – Brown, Loken

2. St. Croix River Education District (SCRED) – Domogalla

3. Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) – Domogalla

4. Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) – Thomsen

5. East Central Minnesota Education Cable Cooperative (ECMECC) – Swenson

6. Resource Training & Solutions – Almos

7. Safety & Security Committee – Ecklund, Brown

8. Facilities Committee (report under New Business) – Presley, Thomsen, Brown

9. Finance Committee – Loken, Ecklund, Domogalla

10. Marketing Committee - Domogalla, Presley

11. Student Representative – Grundmeier

12. MASA Board – Almos

ii. Set Meeting Dates:

1. Safety Committee Meeting - April 21st at 3:30 pm

2. May Regular Board Meeting - May 9th at 6:00 pm

3. Finance Committee - May 24th at 4:00pm

4. July Regular Board Meeting - July 18 at 6:00pm

V. COMMUNICATIONS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Eagle Pride:

i. Thank you to PTO and all the volunteers for putting on a great Spring Carnival. It was wonderful to see so many families and students in the building.

B. Motion by Loken, second by Presley to accept the following donations. Motion unanimously approved.

i. Backpack Program - Grace Lutheran \$565

ii. Post Prom - Kettle River Pizza \$250

iii. Post Prom - Vorks Auto \$100

iv. Post Prom - Cabak Law \$50

v. Post Prom - Northern Pine Aggregate \$100

vi. Post Prom - Warbler Properties \$100

vii. Trap Team - MN Deer Hunters Association Jim Jordan Chapter \$1,000

viii. Trap Team - Warbler Properties \$500

C. Motion by Brown, second by Thomsen to Authorize Administration to submit the Review and Comment to the Commissioner of Education for the proposed project of roof replacement, boiler replacements and chiller tower replacement to be financed by the issuance of voter approved bonds. Motion unanimously approved.

D. Discussion on Superintendent Hiring Process (tentative outline below).

• Job Posting - April 19 through May 9

• Board Members Review Application materials - May 10-12

• Interviews Scheduled = May 13

• Interviews Conducted - May 17/18

• Position offered and contract negotiations - May 19-23

• Board Approval of new Superintendent - June 13 School Board Meeting

• New Superintendent begins - July 1st, 2022 (dependent on candidate's availability).

VIII. Chair Domogalla adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Angela Presley, Clerk  
Published in the North Pine County News on May 5, 2022

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF THE PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING Regular Meeting Tuesday, April 5, 2022 - 10 a.m. Board Room, Pine County Courthouse, 635 Northridge Drive NW Pine City, Minnesota

Chair Hallan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Josh Mohr, Terry Lovgren, J.J. Waldhalm and Matt Ludwig. Also present was County Administrator David Minke and County Attorney Reese Frederickson.

The public was invited to join the meeting remotely by phone, Zoom, or watch via live stream on YouTube.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chair Hallan called for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig

to adopt the amended Agenda. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the Minutes of the March 15, 2022 County Board Meeting and Summary for publication. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence

Pine County Chemical Health Coalition Minutes – March 14, 2022

Pine County Zoning Board Minutes – February 24, 2022

Pine County Land Surveyor Monthly Report – March 2022

Motion by Commissioner Mohr to acknowledge the Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 5-0.

Approve the following:

A. Exempt Permit

i. Ruffed Grouse Society – Rum River Chapter to conduct Minnesota lawful gambling on August 6, 2022 at Wings North, 19379 Homestead Road, Pine City, MN

B. Pawn Shop License

i. Gerald Phillips, as the new lessor of Northern Pawn Shop, 60622 State Highway 23, Finlayson, MN (Finlayson Township) Approve Commissioner Lovgren's Expense Claim Form.

Approve the timber auction tracts and the general terms and conditions of the sale.

Approve Resolution 2022-19 authorizing the sale of property legally described as Lot 9, Block 27, Townsite of Sandstone Quarries to the City of Sandstone for \$1.00. The City will also be responsible for the fees required to complete the sale.

Approve the following agreements/grants:

A. Pine County Children, Families, and Learning Services Collaborative Agreement, effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2026. Health & Human Services is the fiscal host. No financial impact as the collaborative receives funding through local time studies.

B. 2022 Minnesota Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant in the amount of \$6,220. This grant may only be used for safety enforcement equipment purchases. The grant does not require matching funds.

Approve final payment of Contract #2002 in the amount of \$202,644.72 to Knife River Corporation for:

SAP 058-652-012 Located on CSAH 52, from CR 157 to CSAH 61 5.4 miles SAP 058-661-028 Located on CSAH 61 in Pine City, from CSAH 7 to Snake River Bridge 0.702 miles SAP 058-670-001 Located on CSAH 70, from CSAH 61 to TH 70 0.46 miles CP 058-020-003 Located on 2nd St in Sturgeon Lake from Lake Ave. to CSAH 61 0.7 miles CP 058-020-004 Located on Cemetery Rd in Sturgeon Lake from CR 161 to 0.268 miles south 0.268 miles CP 058-052-003 Located on CSAH 52 from CR 157 to 1.0 mile north 1.0 miles CP 058-108-001 Located on CR 108 from CR 109 to TH 70 0.50 miles CP 058-109-001 Located on CR 109 from CSAH 61 to Fair-field Ave. in Rock Creek 0.982 miles CP 058-157-001 Located on CR 157 in Denham, from CSAH 41 to CSAH 520.979 miles

Approve hiring of:

A. Part-time Hazardous Waste Recycling Attendants Rick Gross and Jean Peterson, effective April 6, 2022, non-union, FLSA non-exempt, \$15.87 per hour, pending successful baseline medical examination for working with hazardous waste.

B. Temporary Watercraft Inspectors Robert Sunstrom, Jay Kaelberer, Klaus Rechelbacher, and Ray Fenner, effective April 6, 2022, \$16.50 per hour.

C. Temporary Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Intern Emma Willhite, effective April 6, 2022, \$16.00 per hour.

D. Full-time Deputy Sheriff Ryan Helin, effective April 18, 2022; \$26.65 per hour, Grade 10, Step 1. Approve the following training:

A. Commissioner Lovgren to participate in the 12-week, online, NACo High Performance Leadership Academy. Commissioner Lovgren has secured a scholarship from AMC to cover the registration cost of \$1,695.

B. Out-of-state travel for any commissioner interested

in attending the NACo Annual Conference in Aurora, Colorado. The total cost is estimated at \$3,000.

C. Community Health Services Administrator Samantha Lo and Public Health Supervisor Jessica Fehlen to attend the Workhuman Live Conference. Total cost per person: \$2,950. All costs associated with the conference will be covered by the Public Health Federal COVID- 19 grant (not ARPA funds).

D. Fraud Investigator Kari Rybak to attend the 2022 MN Fraud Investigator's Association Spring Conference. Total cost \$565.

The Village Apartments, LLC Tax Abatement – Public Hearing

Economic Development Coordinator Lezlie Sauter explained The Village Apartments, LLC has requested a property tax abatement for the development of a 25-unit multi-family apartment building at 320 – 3rd Street SE in Pine City. The total amount is not to exceed \$200,000 over 15 years, or 95% of the county's share of the increase generated by the incremental new value of the project annually.

Chair Hallan opened the public hearing at 10:16 a.m. There being no public comment, Chair Hallan closed the public hearing at 10:16 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to adopt Resolution 2022-17 Approving Property Tax Abatement for the Village Apartments, LLC. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

2022 Redistricting Plan – Public Hearing

Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder reviewed current county commissioner districts and stated county commissioner district boundaries would need to be changed only if the county board determined the districts are not as equal in population as possible, while maintaining the rules of redistricting that districts must be regular, compact and contiguous.

Chair Hallan opened the public hearing at 10:23 a.m. There being no public comment, Chair Hallan closed the public hearing at 10:23 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to adopt Resolution 2022-20 adopting County Commissioner Districts with no changes in district boundaries and no changes in terms of office for commissioners. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to reconsider the action taken at the March 1, 2022 board meeting to sell the county's interest in Outlot A of Jackie's 1st Addition and to refer the item back to the Land and Zoning Advisory Committee. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Lovgren opposing.

Motion by Commissioner Mohr to approve Resolution 2022-18 approving the sale of the easement for \$3,500 to Wayne Murphy and approving the other terms and conditions of the sale. Second by Commissioner Waldhalm. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Mohr to authorize the Board Chair and County Administrator to execute the deed for the sale of the easement once terms and conditions are met. Second by Commissioner Waldhalm. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the Help America Vote Act Grant Agreement. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to approve submission of the application to the federal Community Projects Program through Senator Klobuchar and Senator Smith's office for the Pine County I-35 and Highway 48 Congestion Reduction, Tourism and Development Collaborative between Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Pine County and the City of Hinckley. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve Resolution 2022-21 Supporting Senate File 2793 and House File 3073 Encouraging Equitable Funding for Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Payment. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

Chair Hallan called a recess at 11:53 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 12 p.m.

Economic Development Coordinator Lezlie Sauter provided an overview of the Hometown Fiber Pine County Report.

With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy. 23

No., Sandstone, Minnesota. Stephen M. Hallan, Chair Pine County Board of Commissioners David J. Minke, County Administrator Clerk to County Board The full text of the board's Minutes are available at the County Administrator's Office and the county's website (www.co.pine.mn.us). Copies may also be requested from the administrator's office. Published in the North Pine County News May 5, 2022

MINUTES OF PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING SPECIAL MEETING-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE April 12, 2022 – 9:00 a.m. Board Room, Pine County Courthouse 635 Northridge Drive NW Pine City, Minnesota

Vice Chair Josh Mohr called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Terry Lovgren and Matt Ludwig. Also present was County Administrator David Minke. Due to an out-of-town commitment, Commissioner J.J. Waldhalm joined the meeting via interactive technology, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.02. Commissioner Waldhalm was seen and heard at the meeting via electronic means and participated from Quality Inn, 1505 Hillview Drive, Hillsboro, Texas, a location open and accessible to the public.

Others Present:

Solid Waste Ordinance Ad Hoc Committee representatives: Terry O'Rourke/Nickerson Township (township representative), Terry Peterson/Jones Construction (local solid waste industry representative), and Heidi Kroening, MPCA Representative. Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson, County Assessor/Recorder Lorri Houtsma, County Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Schroeder, Probation Supervisor Kevin Glass, Corrections Agent Devin Petersen, and Probation Director Terry Fawcett. Human Resources Manager Jackie Koivisto was present via electronic means.

The public was invited to join the meeting remotely by phone, Zoom, or watch via live stream on YouTube.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Those present introduced themselves.

Chair Steve Hallan joined the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Solid Waste Update

Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson reviewed the fees and solid waste services available to county residents, and provided an overview of the process to update the Pine County Solid Waste Ordinance, established in 1990. The board questioned what effect utilizing the solid waste management fee for enhanced garbage and recycling service has had on environmental conditions in other counties and inquired as to what the cost would be to make a significant enhancement on the county's environmental conditions and recycling rate. The board expressed that solid waste and recycling fees collected through property assessments may be preferable to user fees and recommended staff to bring some proposals or options to the Solid Waste Ordinance Ad Hoc Committee for recommendations to the County Board.

Property Value Update

County Assessor/Recorder Lorri Houtsma provided an update on current trends in property value increases and explained the appeal process. County Auditor/ Treasurer Kelly Schroeder provided information relating to calculation of property values and the effect on taxes.

Chair Hallan called a recess at 11:06 a.m.

The county board meeting reconvened at 11:08 a.m.

Pre-Trial Release

Probation Supervisor Kevin Glass and Corrections Agent Devin Petersen explained the Minnesota Pretrial Release Evaluation and Assessment Took (MNPAT) process. This process is used to improve pretrial outcomes for defendants and provide consistent information to judges and attorneys. In 2021, 470 bail studies were completed.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Stephen M. Hallan, Chair Pine County Board of Commissioners David J. Minke, County Administrator Clerk to County Board Published in the North Pine County News March 5, 2022

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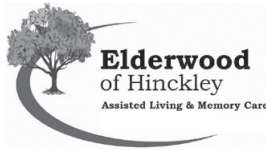
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