



PINE COUNTY COURIER

THE VOICE OF PINE COUNTY SINCE 1894

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EC ONE ACT: Rehearsals are underway for One Act play. **P12**

Local hospitals flex to meet COVID-19 demands

BY JAMIE LUND
NEWS@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

COVID-19 cases spiked in November and have been steadily declining, according to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).

Mike Youso, administrator at Essentia-Health Moose Lake and Essentia-Health Sandstone said he noticed the trend at both hospitals.

He said he is glad that the Moose Lake Hospital partnered with Essentia last August because being a part of the larger facility offers more access to resources than the hospital had prior to the partnership.

“We did have a surge. We were at capacity off and on for about three to four weeks,” Youso said.

Youso said both hospitals were at peak capacity 75% of the time. He said about 30% of the patients were COVID-19 positive.

He explained there has been a shortage of medical staff long

before the pandemic hit.

“We have been short staffed, that’s not new,” Youso said. “COVID-19 has magnified the shortage.”

He said the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) were the most stressed of the staff.

“They have done a phenomenal job,” Youso said.

Even though the hospitals were at capacity, it may not mean all of the beds were full.

“We need to have enough staff to manage the beds,” Youso explained.

The Sandstone location has nine beds and Moose Lake has 25.

While there was a COVID-19 surge, Youso said it was similar to the influenza peak at both hospitals every winter. The difference is the severity of the symptoms seen with COVID-19.

“The common flu can be deadly,” Youso said.

According to the MDH, there were 4,022 people confirmed positive for influenza hospitalized in Minnesota from Sept.



SAMANTHA YOCUM | JASKOV AMERICAN

Essentia Hospital in Sandstone reports COVID-19 numbers are declining.

29, 2019 to May 16, 2020. There were 197 influenza deaths and three deaths in children under 18 years old.

As of Jan. 11, 2020 there have been 22,541 confirmed COVID-19 positive cases hospitalized in Minnesota and 5,779

deaths, according to MDH. Closer to home, Pine County

SEE **HOSPITALS** PAGE 2

Winter trout season opens on Grindstone

JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS
EDITOR@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

This past weekend was the winter opener for trout in Minnesota which meant a busy weekend for Grindstone Lake. Driving by the south end of the lake on Sunday one could see vehicles lined up and down Grindstone Lake Road as anglers used the beach area to access their favorite spots. According to Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Conservation Officer Bret Grundmeier, people come from all over to fish Grindstone on trout opener.

DNR Area Fisheries Supervisor, Leslie George, stressed

extreme caution on the ice every year, but more so this year. “No ice is ever ‘safe’, there can always be ice heaves, cracks, places where the snow has insulated the ice. The snow we got a couple weeks ago has insulated the ice and slows down the production of more ice.” Many area lakes, she said, have roughly 10 plush inches of ice, with the exception of Grindstone Lake which freezes later than other lakes in the area due to the depth. The thickness of the ice is not safe to drive a vehicle on, said George. “We are seeing a fair amount of snowmobiles and

SEE **FISHING** PAGE 2



JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS | COURIER

Fish houses dotted Grindstone Lake this past weekend during the winter Trout opener.

More grants help Pine County businesses, non-profits stay afloat

BY MIKE GAINOR
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

Pine County businesses and non-profits impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and shutdowns can apply for a new round of grants from the State of Minnesota ranging from \$10,000-\$30,000.

“These grants are targeted at those businesses which have experienced the greatest loss of revenue due to the pandemic and the emergency executive orders,” said Pine County Administrator David Minke.

Pine County now has \$568,498.97 in state funds to distribute from now until Feb. 6, funds that can be used to help with expenses incurred by these businesses and non-profits during the pandemic.

The Minnesota Legislature approved the funds during the seventh special session in December as part of \$114,800,000 allocated to counties for the relief effort.

“We are so proud of our small business owners and how they have worked hard to get through these rough times,” said Pine County Board Chair Steve Hallan.

“We hope this next round of grants will help them get re-established so they can continue to be a vital part of our local economy.”

ELIGIBILITY AND ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Pine County describes the guidelines for the programs as following. Eligible businesses are:

- Business or non-profit with a physical presence in Pine County
- Generated at least \$10,000 of revenue in 2019 or 2020
- Documented financial hardship
- Eligible expenses:
 - Mortgage or rental payments
 - Communication or enforcement of public health orders such as signage and markings for social distancing measures.
 - Utility Payments – electric, gas, sewer, water, trash removal
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for employees or customer use, including sanitizing products, masks, face shields, gloves, etc.
 - Vehicle and equipment lease or rental payments for items rented that were

unable to be used due to business interruption

- Costs of perishable inventory disposal (those that have a limited shelf life) due to impacts from Emergency Executive Orders

- Property/casualty and liability insurance
- Salaries/wages paid to employees

- Property Taxes

Minke said priority will be given to businesses which experienced a 25% or greater reduction in gross business revenue. Second priority will be given to those businesses with less than a 25% reduction. Businesses which did not have a reduction in gross revenue but were impacted by the pandemic will be lowest priority.

Maximum grant amounts will be based on the number of employees and range from \$10,000 if no employees to \$30,000 if 101 or more employees.

The application period will run until noon on Feb. 5. The complete requirements and the application are available on Pine County’s web page at www.co.pine.mn.us/news_

SEE **GRANTS** PAGE 4

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Residents leave unclaimed money to the state

BY JAMIE LUND
NEWS@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

Many Pine County residents have not claimed their property tax refunds. According to Pine County Assessor Lorri Houtsma, the Minnesota Department of Revenue states that 67% of eligible homeowners claimed their 2018 property tax refunds in 2019. The refunds totaled \$1,724,000 and the average refund was \$725. That leaves 33% of eligible homeowners who did not apply. They left an estimated \$860,000 in refunds with the state. Homeowners can still

file for their refund for the last two years. Houtsma said homeowners can look at the back of their most recent property tax statement to see the income based threshold for each year. She said the state has expanded the rules for refunds, allowing more residents to apply. For example, on the back of the 2019 property tax statement it states that if a homeowners taxes exceed certain income based thresholds and the total household income is less than \$113,150 the homeowner may qualify for a refund.

When homeowners ask why their property tax has increased, Houtsma explains how the values and classification process works and helps them look for other options that might help them. “They may not get the answer they want but they get the information they need,” Houtsma said. There is also a special property tax refund for homeowners whose property taxes increased by 12% or more and at least \$100 from 2018-2019. The increase must be due to taxes only and not improvements to the property.

Qualifying senior citizens who need help paying property taxes can file for a property tax deferral. The homeowner must be 65 or older, have a household income of \$60,000 or less and lived in the home for the last 15 years. Homeowners should be aware that a tax lien will be placed on the property until the deferred taxes are repaid, according to the Minnesota Department of Revenue website. There is also a homestead exclusion for veterans with a disability. A surviving spouse of a qualifying veteran can also take advantage of the

exclusion. Veterans with 70% or greater service connected disability may qualify for an exclusion of property taxes of up to \$150,000 of market value. The forms and more information can be found on the MDR website at www.revenue.state.mn.us/property-tax-refund or call 1-651-296-3781. Call the Pine County assessor’s office Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30p.m. at 320-591-1632 for questions about property value and/or classifications.

FISHING: Poor ice conditions for winter trout opener

FROM PAGE 1

ATV use in the area, with some people still walking out.”

TROUT OPENER

In an email interview, CO Grundmeier said on Saturday’s trout opener on Grindstone Lake he found people from all over the state. It was a slow bite for most anglers and they struggled to get the fish to get their limit. Grundmeier reported very poor ice conditions on Grindstone, “Ice was anywhere from four inches to eight inches thick and there was a lot of slush and water on top of the ice,” said Grundmeier. This caused problems for those anglers fishing out of pop up shelters as they had to deal with standing water inside their shacks. The snow and slush also caused some problems with ATVs getting stuck. “Thankfully everyone seemed to be checking the ice often and staying away from dangerous, thin ice spots,” he said. Littering violations have been a huge problem in past years, said Grundmeier, so he spent much of his time keeping an eye out for those. “A few people were talked to about cleaning up their area but overall everyone was very compliant. Those that did need a reminder were more than willing to clean up in lieu of a citation,” he said.



Barrett Peterson shows off his catch from Grindstone this weekend.



Rainbow Trout caught on Grindstone Lake this weekend using a spoon lure.

HOSPITALS: Caring for patients through a pandemic

FROM PAGE 1

had 2,479 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 13 deaths. Carlton County had 2,385 cases and 41 deaths. Youso said he hopes that the pandemic will fade away when people get the vaccine in coming months. He said the staff that interacts with patients such as doctors and nurses are at the top tier for vaccines. Staff at both hospitals have received their first dose of the vaccine, although about 30% of the hospital staff declined to take the vaccine. Those that did receive the vaccine did not have significant reactions, according to Youso. The second dose will be administered in the next few weeks at both hospitals. “Hopefully the peak is behind us,” Youso said. “I’m cautiously optimistic.”

WELIA HEALTH

“Welia Health, like other hospitals, is experiencing a fluctuating patient count,” said Kimberly Tepley, marketing director, in an email. She explained that according to the Minnesota Hospital Association, Minnesota hospitals and health systems operate efficiently with little unused capacity, even during “normal” times. She said the concern is the limited number of intensive care unit (ICU) beds that are available along with enough staff to care for the patients. Welia Health is a critical access hospital for patients who need immediate attention, for example, in the event of a stroke or heart attack. Tepley said Welia and other hospitals work together to monitor hospital and ICU capaci-

ty across the state. She said they reached higher in-patient days than normal during the COVID-19 peak in November. Pine Technical Community donated extra beds to Welia Health. They were set up in the old inpatient wing in preparation of a large surge. The beds have been returned, but are available if there is a future need, said Tepley. Many other changes were implemented at the hospital due to the constant change in rules and understanding of the virus over time. One change was the improvement to the heating venting and air conditioning system in the recovery rooms of COVID-19 positive patients, according to Tepley. There was also a purchase of a new commercial washer and dryer to keep up with the laundry and a new disinfection device that uses ultraviolet light technology for high-touch surfaces in the hospital and clinic. Nurses and other staff received extra training to learn about the new virus and how to meet the needs of the patients, said Heather Sanftner, a Registered Nurse and Nurse Manager for inpatient care. “There was a lot of training about the virus, such as what strategies to use from a medical standpoint,” Sanftner said. “It’s all hands on deck.” There was training for repositioning a COVID-19 positive patient, medicine delivery, oxygen delivery and more. She said it was a huge team effort. Another change at Welia was cross training staff members when possible, said Tepley.

For example, nursing staff began taking blood draws for lab staff in order to reduce the number of people entering a COVID-19 positive patients room. Sanftner said she noticed COVID-19 patients tend to require a longer hospital stay then influenza patients. “They can get sick very fast,” Sanftner said. “They can be doing well, then they are not doing well. It can happen very quickly.” She said the staff has learned how to tell when patients are taking a turn for the worse and they respond quickly. She said the one word that sums up working with the COVID-19 virus is unpredictable. Many other hospital services were modified to meet COVID-19 regulations set by the Minnesota Department of Health such as staggering appointment times, limiting the number of clients and asking staff to work from home a few days a week if possible as well as social distancing and personal protective equipment. Saftner said staff worked hard to keep patients in communication with their families. Visitors are not allowed in hospitals during the pandemic and that has been difficult for many patients. The staff has done a great job trying to connect families when they cannot have visitors,” Saftner said. She added staff has learned how to use Facetime and virtual visits to help patients talk to their loved ones. “Hospitals are meant to flex up and down to meet urgent needs,” said Tepley.

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Dog cone: A new experience

Greetings,
One of our dogs needed an ear surgery a little over two weeks ago. It wasn't a bad injury, it was a sudden appearance of a swollen ear flap. A couple days later it was a very inflated ear-flap. So he had the surgery to drain the swelling and he came home wearing a cone. I bring this up because I never had a dog wear a cone before. I'm probably the last person on earth to get familiar with this plastic device that fits around the dog's neck, attached to their collar. It allows them to eat and drink, and you can put medication on an ear, and it protects a head, neck or ear injury from being scratched by them. I can vouch for its effectiveness.

It was only the first day when Brewster was home from surgery that he acted sad and moaned a bit. I felt bad for him, but my sympathy didn't last long. After that first day of heavy sedation wore off Brewster declared war on the cone. And frankly, until you experience it-you just can't imagine his determination to rip that cone off.

It is amazing how many times that dog can slam that cone against the back of someone's legs without him being bothered. I'm sure it's his way of telling us he wants that contraption off, but the more he slams it-the more we know we can't take it off just yet. So, we have all been trained now to steer clear of his wide berth. I am just not sure that the door frames, lightweight furniture, other dogs, and the back of people legs will survive.

COVID-19 still is taking lives. Soon vaccinations will be available, meantime continue to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community with masks, sanitizing hands and areas you and others touch in your home as well as social distancing. I always appreciate hearing from readers. If you have news please feel free to drop us a line, or call in your news to Maxine, 612/590-6907, or email mnmaxgram@yahoo.com.



Finlayson
News

Maxine
Meyer

Applications sought for EC Hall of Fame

CASSIE GAEDE

CGAEDE@EASTCENTRAL.K12.MN.US

East Central School is pleased to announce its annual Hall Of Fame Induction Ceremony will tentatively be held on Sunday, May 16. This is the opportunity for people to nominate former graduates of our school and our school's heritage schools. This list would include Bruno, Askov, Sandstone, and East Central. We are seeking nominations of individuals who have contributed to our world in a significant way.

The Mission Statement reads:

It is our goal to recognize Sandstone, Askov, East Central students that have distinguished themselves by their contributions in their field of work/study, to their individual communities, and to society as a whole. By providing these positive role models to our current students, they will understand the positive impact ECHS has made on individuals from our community in the past. This inspiration will provide hope and relevance to our current students in their area of studies as well as extra-curricular opportunities.

The Hall Of Fame program is under the direction of the National Honor Society at East Central. The NHS recognizes students of excellence, academically, and philanthropically. The Hall of Fame serves to recognize these strengths and accomplishments in past graduates.

A committee of area volunteers and EC personnel will review all nominations and then select submissions for the Hall of Fame Induction. We are seeking nominations for individuals who have excelled in their professional life. We also are seeking individuals who have been generous in their giving and volunteering. There are many who have served their country in the military achieving great recognition as well. These individuals may be awarded this honor posthumously as well.

We encourage all to consider submitting a nomination for someone you know who has been a good example in life. Nominees must be the alumni of East Central or the former districts it currently encompasses. Nomination forms and mission statements are available at the East Central High School Office or downloaded at https://www.eastcentral.k12.mn.us/district/hall_of_fame. Nomination forms may be turned in to the East Central High School Office or mailed to East Central Schools-Hall of Fame, 61085 State Hwy 23, Finlayson, MN 55735. Nominations must be received by February 28, 2021 to be considered for this year's induction.

January is Slow Cooker Month

OLD-FASHIONED CHICKEN AND DUMPLINGS

- 4 c. cooked chicken, cubed
- 6 c. chicken broth
- 1-1/2 tsp. dry parsley flakes
- 1 c. onions, chopped
- 1 c. celery, chopped
- 6 c. diced potatoes
- 1 c. carrots
- 1 c. peas, optional

DUMPLINGS

- 2 c. flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 4 tsp. baking powder
- 1 egg, beaten
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- 2/3 c. milk

Combine all soup ingredients, except peas in slow cooker. Cover. Cook on Low 4-6 hours. Transfer to a large soup kettle with lid. Add peas, if desired. Bring to a boil. Reduce to simmer. Make dumplings: combine flour, salt and baking powder in large bowl. In separate bowl, combine egg, olive oil, and milk until smooth. Add to flour mixture. Drop by large tablespoons-fuls on top of simmering broth until the dumplings cover the surface of the soup. Cover. Simmer without lifting lid for 18 minutes. Serves 8.

BEEF STROGANOFF IN THE SLOW COOKER

- 3 to 4 lbs. chuck roast, cut in 2-inch cubes
- 1 can (10.75 oz.) cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can (10.75 oz.) cream of celery soup
- 1 can (10.75 oz.) cream of chicken soup
- 1 c. dry red wine or beef broth
- 1 packet (1 oz.) dry onion soup mix
- 2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- Noodles, cooked according to directions
- Sour Cream (optional)
- 8 oz. whole button mushrooms (optional)

Mix all ingredients together. Cook on low in slow cooker for 8 hours or until beef is fall apart tender. (Or bake covered in a large casserole in a preheated 300 degrees oven for 3 to 4 hours until beef is tender. Serve over warm noodles or mashed potatoes. Can also add 8 oz. sliced or whole button mushrooms the last half hour of baking or serve with sautéed mushrooms. Delicious over buttered egg noodles. Great with a dollop of sour cream and chopped parsley on top.

PORK ROAST WITH POTATOES IN SLOW COOKER

- 2-1/2 to 3 lb. boneless pork loin roast
- 1 large garlic clove, slivered
- 5-6 potatoes, cubed (or sweet potatoes)
- 1 onion, sliced
- 3/4 c. beef broth, tomato juice or water
- 1-1/2 Tbsp. soy sauce
- 1 Tbsp. cornstarch
- 1 Tbsp. cold water

Make slits in the roast and insert slivers of garlic. Put under broiler to brown. Put potatoes in slow cooker. Add half of onions. Place roast on onions and potatoes. Cover with remaining onions. Combine broth and soy sauce. Pour over roast. Cover. Cook on Low 8 hours. Remove roast and vegetables from liquid. Combine cornstarch and water. Add liquid in slow cooker. Turn to High until thickened. Serve over sliced meat and vegetables. Serves 6-8.



Recipes for
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. ENJOY!!

RECENT ACTIVITY BY REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives swear oaths

The 2021 Legislative Session officially began Jan. 5, 2021. In the Minnesota House of Representatives, Nathan Nelson (Dist. 11B) was among 134 state representatives who swore the oath of office during a ceremony at the State Capitol. Most representatives participated remotely via video.

Minnesota Supreme Court Associate Justice Paul Thissen gave the oath of office:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, and that you will faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which you have just been elected to the best of your ability, so help you God?

Raricks encourages bipartisans decisions on COVID-19 restrictions

Senator Jason Rarick praised a loosening of restriction on Minnesota's businesses.

Rarick wrote in a statement, "I'm glad to see the Governor loosening the restrictions and putting Minnesota on a path that will allow us to open up.

"That said, the Governor continues to implement broad COVID-19 restrictions as if the same rules that are needed in Minneapolis are necessary for Pine City and countless other communities across Greater Minnesota.

"The Governor's prolonged shutdowns have put numerous Minnesotan families and businesses in grim economic situations...

"With the legislature back in session, I am calling on the Governor to work with us, reach across the aisle, and develop collective solutions that allow Minnesotans to safely return to school, work, and their regular lives."

Rarick to serve 4 committees

Senator Jason Rarick (Dist. 11) was appointed to serve on the following committees:

- Labor and Industry Policy Committee
- Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee
- Energy and Utilities Finance and Policy Committee
- Jobs and Economic Growth Finance and Policy Committee

Nelson to serve 3 committees

Representative Nathan Nelson (Dist. 11B) was appointed to serve on the following committees:

- Agriculture Finance and Policy
- Environment and Natural Resources Finance & Policy
- Legacy Finance

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES



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Minnesota House of Representatives
District 11B
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A few thoughts

To the Editor:

Happy New Year
I was looking at things seen and written in the past and thought I would share a few thoughts. I read letters about what the greatest president ever has done. Let me recap. Fifteen days straight of playing golf. Doing nothing for the pandemic. Yesterday 4,000 Americans died. Went to Georgia and cried like a baby about his own missed election. Turned a red

state blue helping the Democratic Senate get control of all three branches of government. They managed to kill five more Americans including a police officer that was beaten with a fire extinguisher. Not to mention delaying all the stimulus checks.

It's great to see how our government and democracy survived four years without a president. Now we may thrive that we have a real one. Thank God they took his phone away before he could

babble on about more nonsense. I could go on about his wonderful accomplishments but it's only Jan. 07, 2021. Go Joe 2021. Not since the War of 1812 has our capitol been attacked, and that was by the British, not Americans. Remember the Republicans who voted to destroy our democracy when you vote next.

Rick Volk
Sandstone, Minn.

GRANTS: Helping keep businesses afloat

FROM PAGE 1

detail_T8_R111.php (or go to www.co.pine.mn.us. and look under news and announcements on the home page).

The program is funded by the State of Minnesota and is being administered by Pine County with assistance from the Initiative Foundation.

Questions should be directed to

Don Hickman DHickman@ifound.org 218-821-5623 or David Minke david.minke@co.pine.mn.us 320-591-1620.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

The Pine County Courier 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 Courier 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 courier@pinenet.com or via mail to 414 Main P.O. Box 230, Sandstone, MN 55072
- 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, com-

munity 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 Courier 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.

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County since 1894



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OBITUARIES

Nancy J. Nelson

June 5, 1937 - January 12, 2021

Nancy J. Nelson (formerly Lindquist) of Sandstone, Minnesota, passed away on January 12, 2021, surrounded by her children.



Nancy was born June 5, 1937. After completing high school at age 16, she graduated from the University of Minnesota in the late 1950's and became an elementary school teacher. She married Ronald L. Nelson on July 15, 1961 and continued to teach until 1967. Nancy was an avid outdoorswoman, and loved gardening, horseback riding, and dog-sledding.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Ron; her sister, Helen Lindgren; her parents, Victor and Marion Lindquist; and numerous well-loved horses, cats and dogs.

She is survived by her children, Kerri Nelson (Mike Kmiecik), Erik (Crystal) Nelson, and Brent Nelson (Tim Peterson); her grandchildren, Madison Nelson, Kirian Kmiecik, Tristan Mayer, Adam Nelson, Charles Mayer and Bronwyn Kmiecik; and her niece, Laureen Wilkens.

Due to COVID-19, there will be a private service at First Lutheran Church in Hinckley with Rev. Brenda Wicklund officiating. Music is being provided by Pat Anderson and Kirian Kmiecik. A private burial will take place at Lutheran Memorial Cemetery.

A public memorial service will be announced later in 2021. Nancy's family would like to express their deep gratitude for the compassionate care provided by the staff at Ecumen North Branch and Ecumen Hospice. At this time in lieu of flowers memorials are preferred.

Arrangements by Tatting-Methven Funeral and Cremation Services.

Lynda E. Roberts

Lynda Eileen Roberts, age 78, of Sandstone, Minn. passed away at home unexpectedly on January 12, 2021.

A full obituary with service times will follow in next week's paper.

Arrangements by Methven Funeral and Cremation Services of Sandstone, MN. www.methvenfuneral-home.com

Connor P. Olson

January 11, 1999 - January 14, 2021

On Thursday January 14, 2021 Connor Olson unexpectedly passed away at the age of 22. Connor was



born in Mora, Minn. to Jason and Marchell (Youngberg) Olson. He grew up in Hinckley and graduated from Hinckley-Finlayson High School in 2017.

Connor was very close to his brother Andy and grandmother Marie. He was very helpful and would do anything his grandmother asked, "he was finally tall enough to clean the gutters with just a small step ladder."

Connor had a passion for the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. If you were ever looking for him, he was probably on one of Minnesota's many lakes. Throughout his school years, he played baseball and football. He also enjoyed snowmobiling.

Connor was preceded in death by his grandfather Walter "Pete" and two cousins Jessica and Jenae. He is survived by his father Jason (Michelle) Olson of Askov, mother Marchell (Steve) Youngberg of Finlayson, brother Andy (Abby) Olson of Hinckley, grandmother: Marie Olson of Hinckley, Connie Schmidt of Fort Ripley, grandfather Raymond (Crystal) Youngberg of Askov, uncle: Jeff (Patty) Olson of Hinckley, Dawson Youngberg of Askov, aunt Jan (Zane) Johnson of Hinckley, girlfriend Athens Crouse of Isle and many cousins.

Gathering of Family and Friends
Saturday, January 23, 2021
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Tatting-Methven Funeral and Cremation Services
402 Lawler Avenue
Hinckley, Minnesota 55037
Celebration of Life Following the Gathering
Saturday January 23, 2021
4 p.m. to ?
Food and drinks will be provided. Bring your own alcohol and stories of Connor to share with everyone.
Cloverdale Senior Hall
38736 Cloverdale Rd.
Hinckley, MN 55037
Arrangements by Tatting Methven Funeral and Cremation Services, Hinckley, Minnesota, www.methvenfuneralhome.com

Justin J. Schleret

April 10, 1982 - January 13, 2021

Justin Jordan Schleret, age 38, of Sandstone, Minn. passed away unexpectedly on January 13, 2021 in Minneapolis, Minn.



Justin was born on April 10, 1982 in Carmichael, California to Gary Schleret and Lynette (Lambert) Waldow. Justin lived in California in his younger days. He moved to Barnum where he attended Barnum Elementary. Justin moved to Sandstone in his teen

years, where he attended the ALC school. After school, Justin seemed to find his niche in life working with people that had disabilities and became a PCA. He worked at CIP for many years. Justin had many hobbies and passions that he loved to share with people. He was great at inventing things and drawing beautiful pictures that brought places to life. Justin enjoyed taking walks in nature to look for wildlife and to find agates, which he collected. Music and cars went hand in hand in Justin's world, he loved to drive and listen to music wherever he went. Justin enjoyed having a wardrobe that included the hippest array of hats, jewelry, clothes and shoes. If you wanted to know what the latest fashion was, you just had to look at Justin.

Justin is preceded in death by his grandfathers, Leo Lambert, Sr., Ron Bushman; his grandparents, Felix and Bertha Schleret, and Wendell and Nancy Watson.

Justin is survived by his sons, Jaymeson, Jonah; his stepson, Jordan Haggen; his daughters, Jayla, Faith Grimm; his parents, Gary and Lynette; his sister, Jennifer Schleret; and his brother, Jason Schleret; special friend "Hummingbird"; many uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.

At this time there are no services being planned.

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

Chief Executive Benjamin calls band members a light of courage

PRESS RELEASE
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

In her 2021 State of the Band address, Mille Lacs Band Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin summarized 2020 as a year in which "some of the worst things we could imagine happened, but in many ways, it brought out the best in us we could ever hope for."

During one of the darkest times in our modern history, Benjamin said that many Mille Lacs Band Members became a light in the darkness, "being the best ancestors they could be."

"Small sparks together lit a great fire of community service, of fighting against injustice and of adapting to a new world. As Band Members and employees, you stepped forward to serve our Band with courage and compassion, risking your own safety to protect others. Together, we did not cower in the face of crisis. We faced it head-on and we fought it. We took decisive action, and quickly changed the way we do nearly everything so we could keep Band Members safe."

Normally delivered to a

ballroom filled with Band members and dignitaries, this year's State of the Band was delivered via an on-line webinar to protect the community from COVID-19.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SPEECH INCLUDE:
Band Employees Thanked for Service During Crisis

In her speech, Benjamin thanked Band employees who endured a temporary furlough during the COVID-19 crisis, as well as those whose job duties required them to continue to work during the pandemic. "All of you sacrificed for our Band, sometimes at great personal cost," Benjamin said.

MAJOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOL ANNOUNCED

Benjamin announced that the Mille Lacs Band received 8-A certification from the U.S. Small Business Administration for its Makwa Global companies. The 8-A program is for businesses owned by women, minority groups and tribes, and the 8-A status gives the Band preferential treatment for federal government contracting. "In March, four of our Makwa Global companies were accepted into the 8-A pro-

gram. This is a very big deal. In just the past few months, Makwa Global has landed several government contracts around the world that are very exciting."

NEW HEALTHCARE CENTER

In 2020 the Band opened its new healthcare center, a state-of-the-art facility where Band Members can get health and wellness services. "The move was very difficult due to the pandemic, but we did it."

LINE 3 PIPELINE OPPOSITION CONTINUES

"In 2020 we continued our legal battle to protect our lands and waters from a new pipeline through the courts, which is the proper role of government. Individuals worked at the grassroots level."

URBAN HOUSING AND MULTI-USE DEVELOPMENT

The Band purchased property in Minneapolis across from All Nations Church, where it will be building new housing in a multi-use building that will include a community gathering space for Band Members.

EAGLE FEATHERS PERMIT

The Mille Lacs Band is one of two tribes in Minnesota that received a special Eagle permit, which removes the challenges that made it hard to obtain eagle feathers. Band Members now have a much more fair and consistent process when eagle feathers are needed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPRESSION, AND AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Depression in the United States has tripled since the COVID-19 crisis, affecting one in three Americans, and is higher in communities of color. The number of Band Members who have passed away this year is double from the previous year. Hearts are broken from the loss of life and so many funerals. "It is important to acknowledge that there is great sadness in our community right now. If you or a loved one is suffering from depression, we have help available. Every Band Member's life is a gift. Your families and your Band need you."

RESILIENT BAND WILL EMERGE FROM THE PANDEMIC EVEN STRONGER

"As we begin this new year, many have asked, when will

the world return to normal? That depends on what 'normal' means. All of us have been impacted by the pandemic. We have all changed in some way. Things can never go back to the way they were, but that does not have to be a bad thing. Our future can be better than before the pandemic. If we move safely and continue to be smart, we can reemerge as the community we want to be, and know we can be. We can get through this pandemic together because we are resilient."

ABOUT THE STATE OF THE BAND

Mille Lacs Band statute requires the Chief Executive to "present to the Band Assembly an annual State of the Band Address on the second Tuesday of January of each calendar year" [4MLBSA 6(i)]. The first State of the Band Address was delivered in 1983, making the Band the first Minnesota tribe to provide a formal update in this way.

A full text version of the 2021 State of the Band speech can be found here: <https://millelacsband.com/news/2021-state-of-the-band-address>

Hinckley business provides foot relief

JAMIE LUND
NEWS@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

Frank Moyer reclines in a brown chair in a small room at the Cottage in Hinckley. Cottage owner Mary Beth Beseke holds his foot in her gloved hand as she uses a pair of needle sharp tweezers to poke the bottom of his foot. She explains that she is checking to see how much feeling Moyer has in his feet and if there is any change from his last visit. There is not.

Moyer, 51, has Type 2 diabetes and suffers from peripheral neuropathy in his feet. He has been visiting Beseke at the Cottage in Hinckley for many years for pain relief. He said the treatments help diminish the burning and tingling sensations in his toes and feet. They are common symptoms of neuropathy, according to mayoclinic.org. Other issues include sores or infections caused by injuries because of a loss of feeling in the feet. People with neuropathy should check their feet often and treat minor injuries immediately to avoid infection, according to the website.

“She could rip off a toenail and I wouldn’t feel it,” Moyer said.

Beseke worked as a social worker for 20 years before attending nursing school in 2004. She worked at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. for 10 years and started her own business in 2013.

She was surprised at the range of techniques used at Mayo Clinic. She said they utilized old school holistic treatments to cutting edge technology.

Beseke said about 50% of her clients are diabetics and the other half is a mix of other issues.

She is concerned about people who are not visiting doctors for simple maintenance care due to the pandemic, like toenail trims.

“A lot of elderly people are falling through the cracks,” Beseke said. She said many residents do not realize she offers everything from toenail trimming to foot work for diabetics.

Beseke said she was surprised and happy to see an increase in sales for gift certificates for elderly parents during Christmas.

She said overgrown toenails can cause problems such as ingrown nails and related foot pain.

Once Beseke determines Moyer’s feet have not lost sensitivity from the last visit, she moves on to the next step. She uses a Dremel tool to lightly file away debris around the edges of the nail as well as file the nail slightly. She explains the debris can allow bacteria to grow.

“I am a big believer in foot soaks,” Beseke said as she placed a bath bomb into Moyers water with his feet. Beseke rattles off a list of ingredients from camphor to bak-



JAMIE LUND | HINCKLEY NEWS

Mary Beth Beseke uses a sharp tweezers to check for any loss of sensation in the bottom of her clients foot. The client has diabetes and has issues with perephial neuropathy.



JAMIE LUND | HINCKLEY NEWS

Mary Beth Beseke files a clients toenail to clear debris and look for hangnails.

ing soda and explain the benefit of each one.

She said there are many nerves in the bottom of feet and she believes a person’s overall health can improve by a foot soak.

“My feet feel phenomenal right now,” Moyer said as he left the appointment.

Beseke said she recommends the client visit their primary physician for more serious issues. If the physician is busy or unavailable, Beseke can recommend other physicians nearby.

Moyers wife, Shelley, is a certified massage therapist. She is an independent contractor and rents

space at the Cottage in Hinckley for her massage business. She currently takes new clients on a referral basis only.

Beseke also sells a variety of soaps and creams that she creates. They include natural ingredients such as bear fat and beeswax.

She likes to support other small businesses as well and has developed custom products for a local beauty salon, Beauty and Beyond.

The Cottage in Hinckley is open Tuesdays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. For more information or to schedule an appointment call 1-507-272-2952.

Data suggests COVID-19 vaccination is much safer than COVID-19 infection

When the restrictions associated with the SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 pandemic were implemented in March of 2020, many looked forward to a vaccine which would end the pandemic. Now that vaccines are available, however, some individuals have questioned the safety of vaccination against COVID-19.



Ryan Harden
MD, MS

Generally speaking, getting a vaccine is safer than getting the disease the vaccine prevents. This is also true for COVID-19 and the vaccines produced by Moderna and Pfizer, which have been widely distributed to prevent infection with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Both vaccines act through a similar mechanism where an mRNA molecule is injected into the body and enters cells which then use the mRNA to produce a protein which is found on the surface of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

The presence of this protein stimulates the body to create antibodies which bind to and inactivate this protein. Therefore, when an individual who has been vaccinated is exposed to the live virus, the antibodies are already present to “fight off” the virus before the person becomes ill with COVID-19.

The rate of a serious adverse reaction caused by these vaccines is similar to that of other vaccines, occurring at a rate of about one in a million. Though allergic reactions to the vaccine can occur, they are very rare, and this is the reason individuals who get the vaccine are monitored for 15-30 minutes after the vaccine is administered, to allow for immediate treatment if needed.

The risk associated with getting COVID-19 infection, however, includes a 0.5 % risk of death if you are 45-54 years old and about a 10% chance of death if you are over age 85. This data from the Centers for Disease Control supports the fact that getting the COVID-19 vaccine is much safer than getting the COVID-19 infection.

The COVID-19 vaccine may cause side effects, including pain at the injection site, fevers, headache, muscle pain and fatigue. These symptoms are typically mild and resolve in 1-2 days. There is no evidence to suggest these vaccines cause Guillain-Barre syndrome.

Studies have demonstrated the protection offered by the Pfizer mRNA vaccine (which works through the same mechanism as the Moderna vaccine) may begin as early as 12 days after receiving the first dose of vaccine and efficacy of this vaccine may be as high as 95% 7 days after the second dose. Both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are two-dose vaccines with the doses being separated by 3-4 weeks.

If you have had COVID-19 it is recommended you wait 90 days before getting the vaccine. Though the vaccine is believed to provide better protection against COVID-19 than prior infection with SARS-CoV-2, repeat infection within 90 days is rare.

Additionally, it is recommended you not get any other vaccines within 14 days of the COVID-19 vaccines from Moderna and Pfizer.

For further information about the safety of vaccines against COVID-19, please consult your physician in person or by telephone appointment.

Information about the availability of the vaccines to prevent COVID-19 can be found at your local pharmacy or clinic. Gateway Clinic patients can go to the Gateway Clinic website (www.gatewayclinic.com) to complete the “COVID vaccine request” in order to be added to a vaccine list to be called when the vaccine is available

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MARY ELLEN DEWEY | PINE COUNTY COURIER

East Central Eagles Tyler Thorvig (#5) and Karamo Touray (#24) defending the Braham Bombers player John Mankie (#42) in their win at home, Thursday 76-50.

How are Tribes being involved in this project?

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Dickey charged with burglaries across Pine County

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

In three criminal complaints outlining a dozen felony burglary charges, Matthew Russell Dickey, 33, of Sandstone has been accused of carrying out a months-long spree of home and cabin burglaries in multiple properties across Pine County.



Matthew Dickey

- On Oct. 16 a deputy of the Pine County Sheriff’s Office responded to a burglar alarm at a residence on Cross Lake Road in Hinckley. A rear door was open and there was a chair outside an open window on the porch. The window to the porch was lying inside the house on the floor. Cabinet doors were open inside. No one was inside the residence, and an outbuilding was also standing open with no one inside.

The property owner said she had been notified of an interior alarm an hour before the door alarm was activated. She called the police when the door alarm was activated. The next day she provided photographs of the suspect’s vehicle from their game cameras. She said they were missing a substantial amount of property and later provided a list of items that had been taken.

- On Oct. 31 a property owner discovered that his pole barn door was open, the camper on the property was broken into and numerous items were missing. One of the items missing was a log splitter valued at \$1,900. A deputy saw that the rear service door to the pole barn had been forced open with something, possibly a pry bar. The chain to the roll up door at the front of the building had been cut and the door wedged open with a shovel.

- On Nov. 3 a deputy responded to the intersection of Beroun Crossing Road and Woodcock Lane outside Pine City after a report of a vehicle on its roof in the ditch. When he arrived, he found a gold Chevrolet Trailblazer with no license plates on its roof in the ditch.

No one was inside the vehicle but there were people around who said they heard arguing in the area.

The deputy could hear yelling east of the location and was able to make contact with a witness who said he had caught a man breaking into his trailer home at a residence on Beroun Crossing Road. The witness came home to find the man loading items from his home into the back of the Trailblazer. When the witness confronted him, the man got into the trailblazer and drove away. The witness followed him until the vehicle crashed. He tried to confront the man again but the man ran away and the witness eventually lost sight of him.

A deputy advised he had seen Dickey driving a gold Chevrolet Trailblazer earlier in the day. The witness was shown a photograph of Dickey and identified him as the man he had seen taking items from him and fleeing in the Trailblazer.

Numerous items that had been reported stolen were located inside the vehicle with a total value over \$2,000, including a crossbow, air compressor, bullets, shotgun shells, power tools, clothing and other gear.

- On Nov. 4, a cabin owner reported that his cabin on Beroun Crossing Road had been burglarized between Oct. 31 and Nov. 4. He provided a list of numerous items that had been stolen from inside the cabin as well as outbuildings. He also reported that a fire had been started outside with many items fully or partially burned and that the fire had burned up to the deck and partially around the cabin.

Another cabin owner reported on Nov. 4 that his cabin and outbuildings had been broken into and multiple items taken at some point prior to that date.

- On Nov. 4, 2020, the gold Chevrolet Trailblazer was searched after a search warrant was issued. Numerous items of suspected stolen property were recovered along with several baggies containing a crystal substance. The BCA analyzed one of the baggies and confirmed it contained .88 grams methamphetamine.

- On the evening of Nov. 5, a deputy responded to a report of suspicious activity at the

Pokegama Pines Self Storage Facility on Freeway Boulevard in Pine City. Not even the renters are allowed to be on the property after hours, and a sign is clearly posted at the gate to the property stating this.

When the deputy arrived, he saw a GMC pickup parked in front of storage unit D10. He could hear sounds coming from inside the storage unit and knocked on the door, identifying himself as a police officer. Dickey opened the door to the storage unit. He admitted driving himself to the storage unit. The deputy was aware that Dickey did not have a valid driver’s license.

Dickey was advised of his rights and agreed to provide a statement. He was asked about the gold Trailblazer and claimed it had been stolen from him a few days earlier. Dickey was placed under arrest and transported to the Pine County Detention Center related to a Wisconsin warrant. The owner of the storage units arrived at the unit with a lock to secure the storage unit since it did not have a lock on it. He told the deputy that Dickey had not been paying for his unit and was going to be locked out soon.

On Nov. 6, law enforcement obtained a search warrant to search Dickey’s storage unit. They recovered many items connected to several of the burglaries listed above with an estimated value of over \$5,000.

- On Jan. 8, 2021, a deputy reported to a Sandstone property where a silent alarm had been triggered at the garage and kitchen. The deputy found a vehicle parked in front of the driveway, and found Dickey hiding under a pine tree on the property. Dickey told the deputy his car ran out of gas; however, the deputy was able to confirm that the car started. The garage had a recently broken door frame and a window had been forced open in the kitchen in the house.

Dickey has been charged with six counts of second degree burglary, six counts of third degree burglary, two counts of receiving stolen property and one count of possession of a controlled substance. The maximum charge for second degree burglary is five years in prison, a \$10,000 fine or both.

Braham man charged with first-degree criminal sexual conduct

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

Scott Allen Englund, 62, of Braham was charged January 12, with two felony counts of criminal sexual conduct in the first degree after allegedly engaged in sexual penetration of juvenile victims. The victims were known to Englund.

According to the criminal complaint filed by the Pine County Court Administrator’s office, the Pine County Sheriff’s Office (PCSO) responded to a report of criminal sexual conduct where the victims mother reported her three daughters had been abused by the defendant. The juveniles were under the age of 13 at the time of the first alleged assault.

When Englund provided a statement to a PCSO deputy, Englund allegedly admitted to the criminal sexual conduct and stated “let’s just get this over with” before inquiring about the type of prison sentence he was facing.

If convicted, each charge carries a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison and/or a \$40,000 fine.

SHERIFF’S REPORT AND JAIL ROSTER

SHERIFF’S REPORT

Sunday, January 10, 2020
12:42 a.m. Vehicle Theft Lundorff Dr Sandstone
11:09 a.m. Vehcle Recovered Weber Ave S Hinckley
11:35 p.m. Vehicle In Ditch Government Rd Hinckley

Monday, January 11, 2020
6:52 a.m. Burglary Rutabaga Rd Bruno
8:20 a.m. Vehicle Theft 7th St Se Hinckley
9:05 a.m. Disturbance Mission Creek Cir Hinckley
3:34 p.m. Traffic Complaint State Hwy 48 Hinckley
4:38 p.m. Garbage Call Two Rivers Rd Hinckley
8:08 p.m. Suspicious Activity Beaver Tail Rd Askov

Tuesday, January 12, 2020
11:06 a.m. Suspicious Activity Lawler Ave S Hinckley
5:12 p.m. Customer Trouble Fire Monument Rd Hinckley
Wednesday, Jan 13, 2020
10:23 a.m. Disturbance Fire Monument Rd Hinckley
12:06 p.m. Burglary Angle Ave Sandstone

Thursday, January 14, 2020
9:21 a.m. Vehicle Recovered Northridge Rd Finlayson
11:00 p.m. Damage To Property 7th St Se Hinckley

Friday, January 15, 2020
9:44 a.m. Unwanted Person Fire Monument Rd Hinckley
10:50 a.m. Threats Old Military Rd S Sandstone
6:05 p.m. Property Lost/Found Lady Luck Dr Hinckley

Saturday, January 16, 2020
9:19 p.m. Unwanted Person Ashley St Sandstone Case Report Created
9:40 p.m. Suspicious Activity Dunn Ave N Hinckley

JAIL ROSTER

January 11
ANDRESS, JEREMY JAMES

Hold For Other Agency
Confined But Not Convicted - Predatory Offender - Knowingly commits act or fails to fulfill registration requirement Pine County Warrant
Confined But Not Convicted
Predatory Offender - Knowingly commits act or fails to fulfill registration requirement - Arrest of Adult - Introduce Contraband-Drug/Liquor into Jail/Lockup/Prison - Arrest of Adult - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent - Arrest of Adult

LANHAM, KENNETH GALE
Pine County Warrant: Failure to Appear warrant issued by Pine, MN - Criminal Sex Conduct-1st Degree-Penetration/Contact- Victim Under 16-Significant Relationship-Injury

MERRY, MICHAEL LEE
Pine County Warrant
Confined But Not Convicted - Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent - Arrest of Adult - Traffic Regulation - Driver Must Carry Proof of Insurance when Operating Vehicle - Arrest of Adult - 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 - Penalty for not Complying with Peace Officer - Arrest of Adult

SMITH, JORDAN DAVID

Parole/Probation Violation
- Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle

SMALL, CASSIDY SASHA
Probable Cause - Assault-5th Degree-Gross Misdemeanor - Domestic Assault-Misdemeanor-Intentionally Inflicts/Attempts to Inflict Bodily Harm on Another

TIPP, ERIC SCOTT
Hold For Other Agency: Failure to Appear warrant issued - Drivers’ Licenses - Use Fictitious Name/DOB; False Statements; Concealed Material Fact; Fraud

January 12
ANDRESS, JEREMY JAMES
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted- Burglary-4th Deg-to Commit Misdemeanor - Arrest of Adult

BULU, JOSHUA PAUL
Pine County Warrant
Convicted - Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle - Arrest of Adult

CARLSEN, SAMUEL KLEIN
Pine County Warrant: Arrest - Felony warrant issued - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana

ENDSLEY, KIMBERLY JEAN
Probable Cause - Disorderly Conduct

EMERY, ZOE LA RAIN
Pine County Warrant: Arrest - Felony warrant issued - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Receiving Stolen Property

PURULL, JESSE CHAD

Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Obstruct Legal Process-Interfere w/Peace Officer - Theft-Take/Drive Motor Vehicle-No Owner Consent - Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent

RICHARDSON, RYAN DEAN
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Terroristic Threats-Reckless Disregard Risk - Arrest of Adult

TRAMPE, CORY ALAN
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult - Traffic-DL-Driving after cancellation-inimical to public safety - Arrest of Adult - Traffic Regulation - Driver Fails to Stop for STOP Sign. - Arrest of Adult - Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Drugs - 2nd Degree - Possess 25 grams or more cocaine or methamphetamine - Arrest of Adult - Hold For Other Agency Confined But Not Convicted - Traffic-Drivers License-Driving After Cancellation - Arrest of Adult

January 13
RING, DANIEL ALAN
Pine County Warrant: Arrest - Felony warrant - Aiding an Offender to Avoid Arrest-Harbor/Conceal

January 14
ANDRESS, JEREMY JAMES
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent - Arrest of Adult - Burglary-3rd Deg-Steal/Commit Felony or Gross Misd - Arrest of Adult

HART, KIRSTEN ELAINE

Probable Cause Confined ButNot Convicted - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult - Give Peace Officer False Name/Birthdate/ID Card - 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

JABE, JACOB JOHN
Boarder Confined But Not Convicted - Disorderly Conduct

WILHELM, DANIEL JOHN
Probable Cause - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Possession of Burglary or Theft Tools

January 15
BENSON, RANDE MARC
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Giving Peace Officer False Name-of Another Person - Arrest of Adult - Receiving Stolen Property - Arrest of Adult

BROZ, LOUIS MICHAEL
Hold For Other Agency: Arrest - Felony warrant issued by Mille Lacs

COPPAGE, TERRI LYNN
Hold For Other Agency: Unspecified warrant issued
DENNIS, LYNN MARIE
Pine County Warrant - Failure to Appear warrant - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana

VANCE, JEFF DUANE

Under Sentence Convicted - Criminal Sex Conduct-3rd Degree-Victim Mental Impair/Helpless

WEFEL, WILLIAM JOHN
Pine County Warrant Confined But Not Convicted - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult

January 16
GRUNDMANN, BRANDON
Confined But Not Convicted - Domestic Abuse No Contact Order - Violate No Contact Order - Misdemeanor - Arrest of Adult

SUTHERLAND, ABRAHAM
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon - Arrest of Adult - Domestic

January 17
DEANE, TYLER JAMES
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Assault-3rd Degree-Substantial Bodily Harm - Arrest of Adult

DOWNWIND, AMBER MARIE
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Assault-3rd Degree-Substantial Bodily Harm - Arrest of Adult - Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount Marijuana - Arrest of Adult

January 18
MARTIN, CURTIS LEE
Probable Cause Confined But Not Convicted - Traffic-DL-Driving after cancellation-inimical to public safety - Arrest of Adult

BACK IN THE DAY

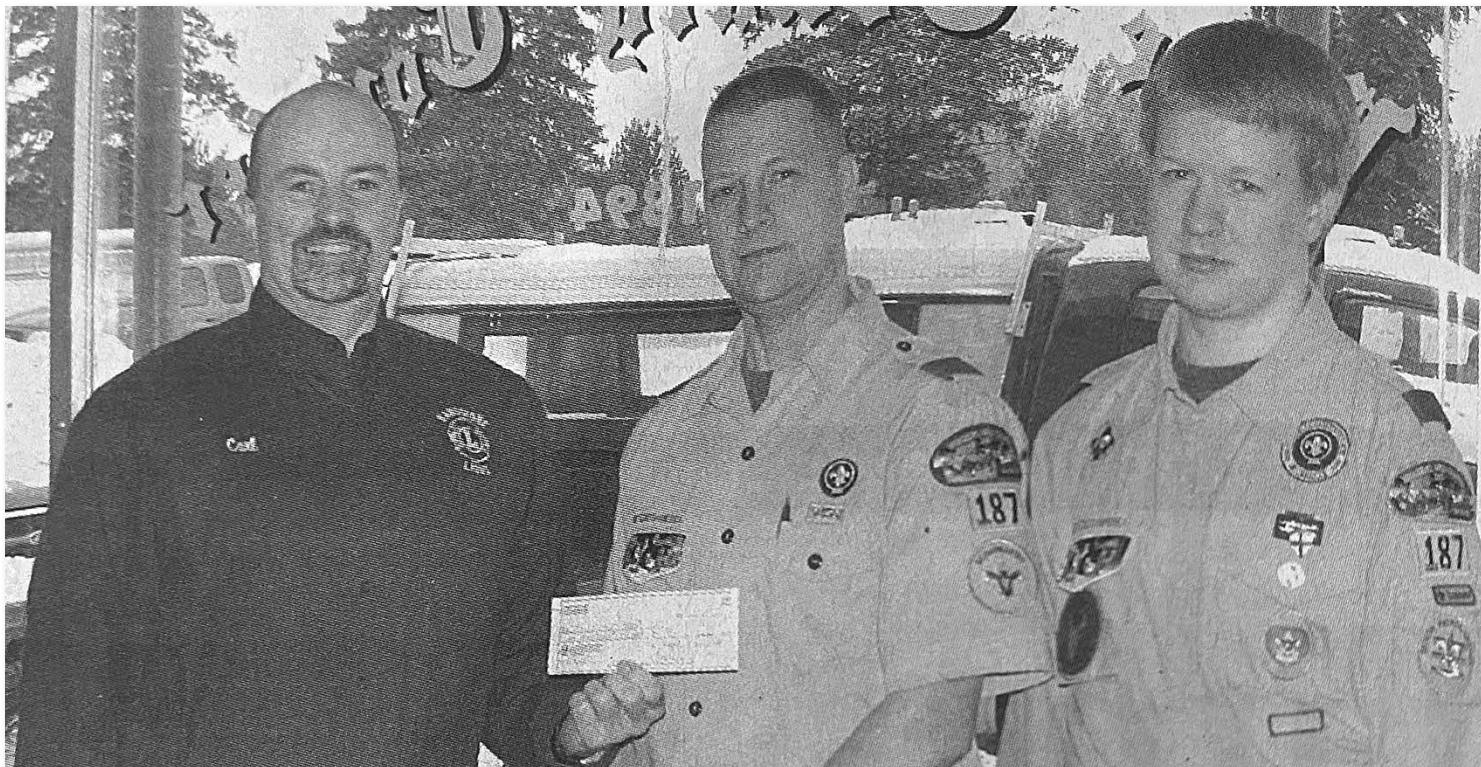
Lions donate \$500 to Boy Scout troop 187

75 YEARS AGO
JANUARY 17, 1946

- Undefeated Sandstone Panthers claim two more victims and meet Bruno on Friday.
- Thieves rob the Denham post office and loot the safe of money and stamps.
- Don Dobmeyer took part in the New York victory parade.
- The Hartley M. Robey Post of the American Legion will conduct its Winter Scrap Paper Drive. Please tie it up.

50 YEARS AGO
JANUARY 21, 1971

- Superintendent A.C. Stoffel is re-hired for one more year
- Groningen was a thriving pioneer town but now the population there has slipped to two. Groningen is a ghost town. Miller as it used to be called before the turn of the century, grew from the camp of a construction crew on the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad.
- Sandstone High School One-Act Play will compete at Moose Lake High School in the district contest.
- Avis Monson received the DAR "Good Citizen" award.
- Theis Clothing is having a sale now. A 10% discount will be given. Free coffee and cookies will be served.
- The elementary cagers played first league game. Scoring for the Panthers: Holler 4, Larson 11, Seitz 4, Watrin 2. For the Tigers D. Fox 6.

25 YEARS AGO
JANUARY 17, 1996

- Richard Foley of Finlayson, Minn. Was rescued in Montana after he got his car stuck and then fell over an embankment onto the frozen river, where he was immobilized through the night.
- Paul Dewey of Sandstone is currently interning in Crosby at Central Lakes Medical Center until July. He is participating in RPAP, a Rural Physicians Program.
- Trevor Gaede, Emily Ludwig, Shane Koski, Eric Prater, Randy Delcourt, Bobby Faulkner, Steffany Dempich, and Susan Wolfe received awards for being selected as December students of the month.

- Corey Ludwig is this week's Reader of the Week.
- Tina Noordhoek and Marc Wickstrom are this week's Athletes of the Week.
- Eagles stomp Braham and Aitkin and Todd Johnson scored 25 points.

10 YEARS AGO
JANUARY 20, 2011

- Carl Steffan of the Sandstone Lions hands over a check of \$500 to Scoutmaster Chuck Moon of Troop 187 and Senior Patrol Leader Chase Moon to purchase

- camping equipment. (Pictured above.)
- Tim Franklin's editorial headline states, "Losing your cell phone can cause mental illness." He was at a hockey game and found it out by his car covered with four inches of snow and it still worked.
- Adam Jensen and Charity Carlson are this week's Athletes of the Week.
- Eagles boys' basketball team is 9-2 after knocking out Rush City and Pine City.
- Tatum Tengwall scored 16 points against Ogilvie. Charity Carlson put up 15 points in their game against Aitkin.

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COURIER



EMPLOYMENT

Full-Time Sheriff Secretary

Location: Primary Hinckley

Union: Union • OT Status: Full-time, Non-Exempt

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: This is a moderately skilled clerical position that works directly with the public. Work involves the performance of varied clerical duties and the operation of office machines to maintain accurate records. Emphasis is placed upon the careful and accurate processing of documents and data entry to computer systems and proficiency in general clerical skills including the use of transcription equipment, personal computer and other various office equipment. Employees work with considerable independence, with supervisors available for resolution of more difficult work or unusual circumstances. Work is of a confidential nature. Other duties vary as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High school diploma and one year post-secondary education in business, business practices, or data processing, or one-year experience in a clerical or related field. Legal education/experience preferred. Must have a high level of proficiency in typing and type 45 words per minute. Ability to lift a minimum of 25 pounds.

APPLICANT INFORMATION: All applicants must complete a county application. Resumes alone will not be accepted. Contact Pine County Administrator's Office for applications or download the application on the web site www.pine.mn.us and mail to the Administrator's Office.

PAY GRADE: Grade 4 (\$17.66)

RATING METHOD: Final candidate names will be submitted to the Sheriff's Office for final selection.

CLOSING DATE: January 28, 2021

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7	6	3	9	8	2	1	4	5
6	3	2	1	6	8	5	7	4
8	9	4	7	3	5	2	1	6
5	7	1	2	6	4	3	9	8
9	4	8	3	2	1	6	5	7
2	5	7	6	4	9	8	3	1
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East Central students awarded for 'Peace Posters'

PRESS RELEASE
COURIER@PINENET.COM

Payton Volk, a 6th-grade student at East Central Schools has taken the first step to become an internationally recognized artist by winning a local competition sponsored by the Sandstone Quarry Lions Club.

Volk's poster was among more than 450,000 entries submitted worldwide in the annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Lions Clubs International is sponsoring the program to emphasize the importance of world peace to young people everywhere.

"Peace begins with a smile," the 11-year-old from Finlayson said. The poster was selected by a panel of judges list for its originality, artistic merit, and portrayal of the contest theme, "Peace through Service." The judging was held on during the monthly Quarry Lions meeting on Monday, October 26.

Karen Carlson Lions Club President said she was impressed by the expression and creativity of the students at both East Central and Harvest Christian School. "It is obvious that these young people have strong ideas about what peace means to them. I'm so proud that we were able to provide them with the opportunity to share their visions."

"Our club is cheering for Volk as her poster advances in the competition and we hope that her vision will ultimately be shared with others around the world," Carlson said.

Locally, Volk along with the second-place poster Hayden Loew and third-place poster Kaitlyn Tyson were honored for their participation at the November Quarry Lions meeting.



Recently local Peace Poster contest winners received their prizes. First prize winner Payton Volk received a \$50 cash prize. Second place Hayden Loew received a \$25 cash prize. Third place winner Kaitlyn Tyson received a \$10 cash prize. The Peace Poster contest was sponsored by the Quarry Lions.

East Central One Act goes virtual

East Central High School cast members have been polishing their performance for the One Act Competition. For the first time in Minnesota, the MN high School League One Act competition will be a virtual format. The EC thespians are performing a play entitled Softy by John O'Brien.

The play, which must be a play in one act, focuses on terrorism. A young woman named 'Softy' is played by Emma Jansen, in an attempt to seek vengeance she plans an act of terrorism.


The play practices have adhered to health precautions according to MN Public Health parameters. The virtual format will necessitate the filming and recording of the play. The judges will watch the recordings and two schools will advance to the next level. The results of the subsections will be available on January 30th.

Softly is directed by Michael Hertenstein and Assistant Director Alexander Finch.

Cast List includes:
Adele, a young woman....Lexi Shaffer
David, her husband.... Austin Clennon
Waitress..... Arianna Keranen
..... Elizabeth Moyer
Softy..... Emma Jansen
Woman, Interrogator..... Cece Shervheim
Bodyguard...Noah Kosbab
Crew:
Lights/Sound..... Faith Shervheim,
Ava Gutnecht
Prompter..... Eric Quigley




SUBMITTED | JULIE DOMAGALLA
Rehearsals are underway for East Central's One Act Play "Softy." The competitions are set to be held virtually with results to be announced on January 30.



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