



BRUNO LEGION AUXILLARY: Pillow cases sewn, donated. **P8**

Little changes for Pine, Carlton residents as MN legislative districts redrawn

BY KIRSTEN FAURIE
EDITOR@MORAMINN.COM

Compared to other parts of the state, Pine and Carlton County's legislative districts have changed very little after a statewide redistricting map was approved. Those that can expect the most change are residents of Pine County's northeast corner and Sturgeon Lake.

REDISTRICTING

Every 10 years following the census, Minnesota undergoes a redistricting process which redraws the boundaries of election districts.

In Minnesota, the state legislature is responsible for redistricting Minnesota's Senate and House districts. Since Minnesota's Senate and House were unable to agree on district maps, the new maps were drawn and by a five-person panel of judges and released in February. Representatives will

continue to represent their current districts until these new districts take effect in January 2023.

NEW BOUNDARIES

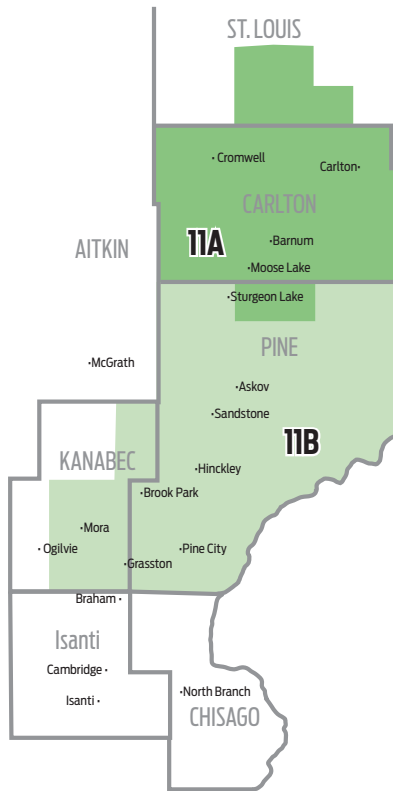
Pine and Carlton County are in Senate District 11; the area is divided into two House districts: 11A and 11B.

- Senate District 11 is represented by Jason Rarick (R)
- House District 11A is represented by Mike Sundin (DFL)
- House District 11B is represented by Nathan Nelson (R)

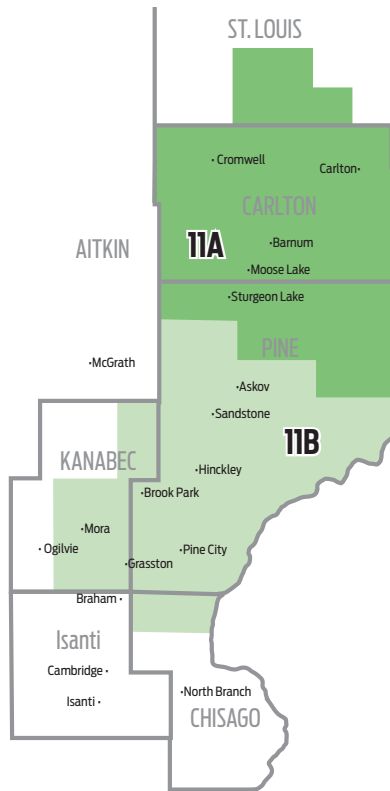
Residents of Pine County's northeast corner and Sturgeon Lake were previously in District 11B. Under the new maps, this area is now in District 11A. District 11B gained the northern portion of Chisago County.

Both Pine and Carlton County remain in U.S. House of Representatives District 8, represented by Congressman Pete Stauber (R).

PREVIOUS Districts



NEW Districts



11B 11A Colored areas represent house districts
Combination of color shades represent senate districts

Learn how to research your family history

JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS
EDITOR@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

Our mission is to help you further your knowledge of your ancestors and to bring their existence once more to life. The REAL people who lived, loved and toiled. Their journey is what has made you, you.

- Mission statement of the Pine County Genealogical Society.

Have you ever wondered about your family history? Wondered where your ancestors came from, or what they did, who they were? The answers to these questions can be found with the help of PCGS. The group does not do the research for you, but they are happy to help you get started.

PCGS is celebrating 25 years this year. They currently have

SEE **FAMILY**, PAGE 2

A little project with big impact: Pine County Vision Program opens new building

PRESS RELEASE

PINE COUNTY VISION PROGRAM

On February 28, 2022, a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house was held to celebrate the grand opening of the Pine County Vision Program's new home, located at 1035 Main Street South in Pine City. The Vision Program is one of five St. Croix River Education District (SCRED) student programs serving students from Pine City Public Schools, East Central Public Schools and Hinckley-Finlayson Public Schools. All students attending this program have an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) designed to support intense social, emotional, or behavioral needs.

"We are excited to finally be able to provide our Vision students a space where they can thrive. I just want to take a minute to highlight how special this is....we took an idea that seemed like a logical, but a daunting task, and found a way to collaborate. Three school boards, three facilities committees,

five superintendents over the course of the project, SCRED, and ICS have all come together to make this happen," stated Andrew Almos, Superintendent of East Central Public Schools and SCRED Superintendents' Operating Committee Chair. "The only reason this project came to fruition is because everyone involved made the commitment to collaborate, compromise, and move forward together for the benefit of our students!" The Pine City School Board Chair and SCRED Governing Board Vice Chair, Lisa Nos Tollefson, echoed these sentiments in her closing remarks, "As I stand here today, I am reminded that reaching a major milestone like this can only be achieved through incredible teamwork and collaboration."

In 2016, the St. Croix River Education District (SCRED) and three of its six member districts, East Central, Hinckley-Finlayson and Pine City Public Schools, be-

gan exploring the possibility of opening a Pine County Education Center. The original version of this project included relocating three existing shared programs spread across Pine County under the one roof. In 2017, ICS, a project management company, was brought in to further explore this concept by determining space needs, potential building sites, and funding options. After a comprehensive review and accessing several confounding factors unique to each district, the leadership team decided to put the project on hold.

Fast forward to the winter of 2020, the project was renewed after SCRED received word that the current Vision Program lease was not going to be renewed. Around the same time, the Chris' Food Center facility in Pine City, owned by Craig and Kristee Thorvig, became vacant. ICS was brought back to the table and over the next year, several new



PHOTO PROVIDED

East Central Superintendent, Andy Almos, speaks at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Pine County Vision program building.

SEE **VISION**, PAGE 2



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OBITUARIES

Sharon R. Mosbek

May 5, 1955 - February 28, 2022

Sharon Rae Mosbek, age 66, of Finlayson, Minn. passed away peacefully on February 28, 2022, after a two year long battle fighting pancreatic cancer, at her home with her family by her side.



Sharon was born in Indianapolis, Ind. on May 5, 1955, to Ray and Pauline (Weiler) Lynch. Throughout her life Sharon enjoyed living in many different towns between North Dakota and Minnesota. She spent time in Fargo, N.D. attending school while she lived there. Sharon then moved to Minnesota and attended school in Sandstone, Minn. after that she moved to Young America, Minn., Elk River, Minn. and settled in Finlayson, Minn. for the later years with her husband, Eugene (Gene) Mosbek. Gene and Sharon were married on May 24, 1975. Together they raised two energetic sons and loved teaching their children how to enjoy life. Sharon worked at a few different jobs which included being a receptionist and bookkeeper at Gene's Auto Repair. Sharon wasn't a person to sit still and liked to do yard work, which included gardening and planting new things each year. She also loved to do it yourself home improvements, seeing how much better she could make it look than the people on the shows. If there was a free moment Sharon would suggest to Gene lets take a trip whether it was spending a weekend at the cabin, going fishing, riding four-wheeler, attending county fairs, heading out on the road to a new place, or playing bingo. The thing that brought the most joy to Sharon's life though was seeing her husband, children and grandchildren happy. She loved to see her family enjoying life as she did. Holidays were absolutely Sharon's best times of the year; she would decorate for each holiday bringing smiles to the faces to everyone that came to the house.

Sharon is preceded in death by her parents, Ray Lynch and Pauline Gullingrud; brother, Roger Lynch; and sister, Linda Miller. Sharon is survived by her loving husband of 46 years, Eugene Mosbek; her sons, Timothy (Brooke) Mosbek, their children Brennon and Nolan, of Andover, Minn., Thomas (Michelle) Mosbek, their children Jaden and Emmett of Elk River, Minn. A memorial service is being planned for a later date in April or May at Peace Lutheran Church in Finlayson, Minn. Arrangements by Methven Funeral and Cremation Services. www.methvenfuneralhome.com

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Pine County Public Health involved as schools open

VISION: Three county schools work together for new Vision program building

FROM PAGE 1

options were evaluated. In the winter of 2021, a scaled back version of the original project emerged as the best option to move forward and a consensus was reached by all three districts to purchase the Chris' Food Center building in Pine City to renovate to meet the needs of the Vision Program. The Vision Program Director, Jocelyn Rydberg, stated "I have been dreaming and planning for this day for years. The excitement and anticipation of our students and staff over the last nine months is second to none. We are so excited to move to our new space." She then introduced Ryan Tracy, one of Vision's for-

mer students and Pine City graduate. Ryan shared his journey through the education system, including his experience in the Vision Program. Ryan stated, "I didn't want to graduate from a mainstream school but being in Vision I got the necessary push I needed to graduate like many other kids in high school. I have a lot to be thankful for, especially the staff at Vision. They work really hard and sadly that's not always recognized in the education system, so I am truly grateful for their efforts and what they do for their students." Ryan also expressed excitement for the new Vision facility, "It's good to see that they're expanding for students' needs. It's also nice to see that the school is able

to teach students everyday living skills with the new life skills lab." Currently, Ryan is working two jobs, attending college for generals in Biology, has a wonderful group of friends and an amazing girlfriend. Jamie Nord, Executive Director of SCRED, stated, "It has been such a pleasure to be part of a project that will grant us the opportunity to bring one of our student programs to the next level. We knew this wasn't going to be an easy task, but that the outcome would be worth it!" she said. "This little project has, and will continue to have, such a BIG IMPACT on our students, staff, families, and communities!"

FAMILY: PCGS invites you to join the group

FROM PAGE 1

about 12 active members, and are always happy to welcome more. They have members that participate remotely, even from as far away as Florida. Al and Lyn Johnson have been members of the group for around 13 years now. They have both done extensive research into their own family trees, as well as being part of larger projects such as the USS Arizona Project, researching Hinckley's Poor Farm and more. "Different members have different research skills," said Lyn. For example, Al has done

extensive research on DNA and how using sites such as Ancestry or My Heritage can aid in the discovery of who you are through your family history. A PCGS member recently was able to discover the mother of her Orphan Train Rider grandmother using DNA. The group encouraged her along the way while she did her research on this amazing discovery. Members of the group are working with Al and Lyn to keep their website up to date with Pine County cemetery information. At their next meeting on Wednesday March 16, PCGS will be talking

about the free "find a grave" website. They will be explaining how the website works and if you come early they will be willing to give you some extra help. The group meets the third Wednesday of the month in different locations. Meeting dates and locations are listed on their website and in the "Out and About" section of this newspaper. Visit the Pine County Genealogical Society's website at www.pinecogen.org to learn more about the organization and to sign up to become a member.

MINNESOTA WOODS AND WILDLIFE – MN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DNR webinars cover pollinators, how to choose rifle cartridges

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources invites Minnesotans interested in wildlife and outdoor skills to tune into two upcoming webinars. The first webinar, on pollinators, will be at noon on Wednesday, March 9. Hosts James Burnham, DNR Region 3 coordinator; Jess Petersen, DNR invertebrate ecologist; Megan Benage, DNR regional ecologist; and Nicole Gerjets, DNR bee survey specialist, will talk about Minnesota's native plants, pollinators, their award-winning podcast, and how people can support pollinators. The second webinar, on how to choose hunting rifle cartridges, will be at noon on Wednesday, March 16. Kraig Kiger, DNR shooting sports education specialist, and guest Phillip Massaro, a writer, shooter and worldwide big game hunter, will talk about what caliber hunters should choose for the game animal they are hunting.

The webinars are part of the DNR's Minnesota Outdoor Skills and Stewardship Series, which aims to give participants quick, relevant information on upcoming seasons and events, as well as skills to enjoy these opportu-



METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

A MN DNR webinar on March 16 will discuss what caliber hunters should choose for the game animal they are hunting.

nities. The webinars are free but registration is required. More information, including registration information for webinars each Wednesday through May 25, is available on the outdoor skills and stewardship page of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/Discover).

Time to buy new licenses

It's the time of year when anglers and hunters need to buy new fishing and hunting licenses.

Minnesota fishing, hunting and trapping licenses for 2021 expire Monday, Feb. 28. Licenses for 2022 are now available wherever fishing and hunting licenses are sold, online, by telephone at 888-665-4236. Mobile buyers receive a text or email that serves as proof of a valid fish or game license to state conservation officers. All 2022 fishing licenses become effective Tuesday, March 1. New licenses are required for 2022 hunting and fishing seasons that continue past Feb. 28.

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COMMUNITY

How did parents handle not hearing from kids before cell phones?

Gary dropped me off at the front door after we ran errands on Saturday. I was in the house for about 10 minutes when I realized he wasn't back from parking the car. My internal panic button went off when I remembered the packed snow was quite slippery with an ice polish over the top. I flew to the front door to put my coat back on. That's when I spotted he



Finlayson News
Maxine Meyer

was carefully coming up the steps. I kept my mouth shut, no sense telling him I worry about everything. Shortly after I remembered to spread the pet friendly salt over the deck and steps. In years past I have fallen a number of times, it's never fun. Like anyone else's family, I worry about family members when they announce they are going on a road trip. Last Saturday was the planned departure of our daughter's "spring

break" with a longtime friend since high school. (And at this time of year, who doesn't want a get-away vacation to a warmer climate.) So, as I watched the weather reports nearing the weekend I couldn't help express my concerns about Saturday's forecast. Accordingly, they adjusted the departure date and moved it up to Friday. Our spring break travelers only ran into a little rain and managed to get as far as Missouri that first night. Leaving earlier like that, they managed to avoid Iowa's freezing rain, snow on roads, and one tornado. A text message we received late Saturday told us they had a "great weather day" of driving on day two. I don't know how my parents handled not hearing from Gary and I when there were no cell phones. We didn't contact family until we returned from our one, or two, week spring break vacations. I guess the old phrase, "No news, is good news" was what we lived with. On Sunday afternoon our daughter, Tiffany Farr, sent me a text that they had neared their destination and on that last leg, she spotted a sign

advertising a small town's bakery specialty: kolaches. I do have a weakness for those sweet desserts. So I asked her to stop and pick up some, or make room for one more to join them on the return trip. She quickly volunteered to stop on the way home. Oh boy, my week is really getting better. I was pretty busy this past week, spending a lot of time on the phone arranging follow up appointments and getting new and updated dosages of medications for Gary now that he is home. It took a couple emails, and four days of phone calls to the Veteran Administration (VA) Pharmacy to hear them say they acknowledge the revised script was received. No promise of filling it, the fax marked "urgent" was noted to be sitting on a VA doctor's inbox, waiting for their approval. Of course, the nice person on the other end couldn't venture a guess when they would fill it, (it could be 4-6 weeks.) After that call all I could think of was how excited I will be to see their next "how are we doing?" survey. Before I was done with all my phone calls, I managed

to get scheduled Gary's 13th Covid test for next week. (Yes, he keeps count.) I got a couple sets of labs scheduled, but when I tried to get one follow up Dr. appointment with a local doctor I ran into another problem. Far be it for me to deny that doctor's need a break too, but this is the second time in two years that we have been asked to wait another week for their appointment. Looks like we might be looking for an office that can find a partner to cover for their vacations as that seem to be the times Gary needs an appointment. It was Friday when I finished my first list of calls, and polished off my secondary list of to do items from the hospital discharge list. After posting to my calendar all the notes, I put the pen down and I wondered to myself how do other people deal with these tasks when they are the patient, or trying to keep a job. Heaven help you if you need to arrange transportation. Speaking of transportation, now gas is going up, up and away (ok, I couldn't help myself from fitting in the 5th Dimension song there.) More cards and phone calls, were received last week-and a

notice from the Morris Animal Foundation where a donation was made in Prince's memory. I am so honored to receive all the condolences, King and I sure do miss that big guy. Some folks have expressed concern that King will be lonely now. Well, a small doe must have noticed Prince was missing and she began spending more time around our place a couple weeks ago. She can be seen sleeping overnight in the snow of the pasture in front of the barn, and spending much of her daylight hours picking away at the driveway, or nipping at trees in our yard. I see King watching her, but not making it obvious. It seems King may have a friend that he can now watch over. Many states have dropped the masking mandates. Keep in mind, the pandemic is still around, protect yourself and your family.

MAXINE MEYER Is a columnist for the Askov American and Pine County Courier. She can be reached at 612-590-6907, or email mnmax-gram@yahoo.com.

Recipes for St. Patrick's Day Celebrations



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!!

SLOW COOKER APPLE JUICE CORNED BEEF

- 2-1/2 to 3 lb. corned beef brisket
- 8 small red potatoes
- 3 medium carrots, peeled and sliced
- 1 large onion, cut into 6-8 pieces
- 1 small head cabbage, cut into chunks
- 1-quart apple juice
- 1 c. brown sugar
- 1 Tbsp. prepared mustard

Place meat, potatoes, carrots, onion, and cabbage in 6-qt. slow cooker or divide between two 4-quart cookers. Combine apple juice, brown sugar, and mustard. Pour into slow cooker. Cover. Cook on HIGH 6-1 1/2 hours or low 10-12 hours. Remove meat and vegetables from slow cooker. Thinly slice meat across the grain. Serve topped with vegetables. Serve with cornbread.

IRISH SODA BREAD MUFFINS

- 2-1/4 c. all-purpose flour
- 1/2 c. plus 1 Tbsp. sugar, divided
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. caraway seeds
- 1 large egg, room temperature
- 1 c. buttermilk
- 1/4 c. butter, melted
- 1/4 c. canola oil
- 3/4 c. dried currants or raisins

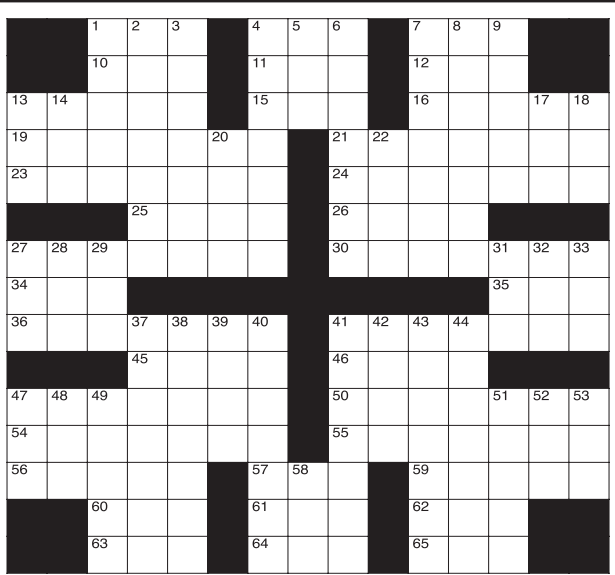
In a large bowl, combine the flour, 1/2 cup sugar, baking powder, salt, baking soda and caraway seeds. In another bowl, beat the egg, buttermilk, butter and oil. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened. Fold in raisins. Fill greased muffin cups three-fourths full. Sprinkle with remaining sugar. Bake at 400 degrees for 15 minutes or until toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool for 5 minutes before removing from pan to wire rack. Serve warm.

SHAMROCK PIE

- 1 c. sugar
 - 1/4 c. cornstarch
 - 1-1/2 c. water
 - 3 egg yolks, lightly beaten
 - 1/4 c. lemon juice
 - 1 Tbsp. butter
 - 1-1/2 tsp. grated lemon peel
 - 5 to 6 drops green food coloring
 - 1 pastry shell 9-inches, baked
- Meringue:**
- 3 egg whites
 - 1/3 c. sugar

Combine the sugar, cornstarch and water in a saucepan; stir until smooth. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Boil for 2 minutes or until thickened. Stir a small amount into egg yolks; return all to the pan. Cook and stir for 1 minute. Remove from heat; stir in lemon juice, butter, lemon peel, and food coloring until smooth. Pour into crust. For meringue: beat egg whites until foamy. Gradually add sugar and beat until stiff peaks form. Spread hot filing, sealing to the edges. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-15 minutes or until brown. Cool. Serves 6-8.

May the lilt of Irish laughter
Lighten every load,
May the mist of Irish magic
Shorten every road.
May you taste the sweetest pleasures
That fortune ere bestowed,
And may all your friends remember
All the favors you are owed.
~ Irish Blessing



CLUES ACROSS

1. Central mail bureau

4. Member of the family

7. Partner to flow

10. __ Angeles

11. Military mailbox

12. Patriotic women

13. Shallow lake

15. Tear apart

16. Middle Easterner

19. Eat to excess

21. Stained

23. Certain peoples of equatorial Africa

24. 1st day of month

25. Skin disease

26. Skating figure

27. Annelids

30. Gracefully slender

34. Kids need it
35. Swiss river

36. Indents

41. A sheer fabric of silk or nylon

45. Belgian River

46. __ Spumante (Italian wine)

47. Originate from

50. Rugged mountain ranges

54. Made less clean

55. Professions

56. 3s

57. Scarf

59. Yellow light

60. Bird noise

61. Opposite of start

62. Bar bill

63. Northeastern Mass. cape

64. American rocker Snider

65. Midway between northeast and east

CLUES DOWN

1. Scandinavian drink

2. Washington river

3. Fast-running flightless bird

4. Nerve conditions

5. Indicates near

6. Immediate relevance

7. Things you can eat

8. Receptacles

9. Retired Brewers great

13. Month

14. Happy New Year!

17. Exclamation to convey truth

18. Passports and licenses are two

20. Ebert's partner Siskel

22. Long skirt

27. Part of company name

28. Drugmaker __ Lilly

29. Electronic countermeasures

31. Klutz
32. Chinese statesman

33. Stir with emotion

37. Flat-bottomed boat

38. Go-between

39. This (Spanish)

40. A plot of ground where seedlings are grown before transplanting

41. Small waterfall

42. Modern tech necessity (abbr.)

43. Utter repeatedly

44. One of the bravest

47. Sun up in New York

48. Space station

49. Chilean seaport

51. Hasidic spiritual leader

52. They __

53. Soviet Socialist Republic

58. Single unit

OPINION

Open government is good government

lection season is under way, and this year promises to be especially busy with redistricting producing many new faces seeking office. Candidates are hitting the campaign trail outlining their priorities. With every press release and speech is certain to be a pledge to be transparent with constituents.

The timing is perfect to send the message that “open government is good government” – the theme of Sunshine Week, March 13-19. At its foundation, Sunshine Week underscores the importance of the free flow of information for an open, effective and accountable government.

Editors and reporters routinely are in the trenches seeking everyday information that appointed and elected officials want to keep confidential – or, at minimum, want to release on their terms. We’ve become

all too accustomed to the stonewalling of information on state and national levels. The practice unfortunately is increasingly common in local government, too.

Witness these two examples from the past year of officials trying to set their own rules.

The St. Louis County School Board continued to meet in person despite cautionary measures taken by many bodies during the pandemic. At the same time, it restricted the public to remote monitoring. The Ely Timberjay cried foul an sought an advisory opinion from a state agency, which ruled the board in violation of the Open Meeting Law.

A citizen questioned several actions of the West Lakeland Township Board with respect to the Open Meeting Law. The issues included the board’s failure to keep a separate journal of its votes and its failure to give three days’ notice of a change in meeting location. The state agency ruled the actions out of bounds.

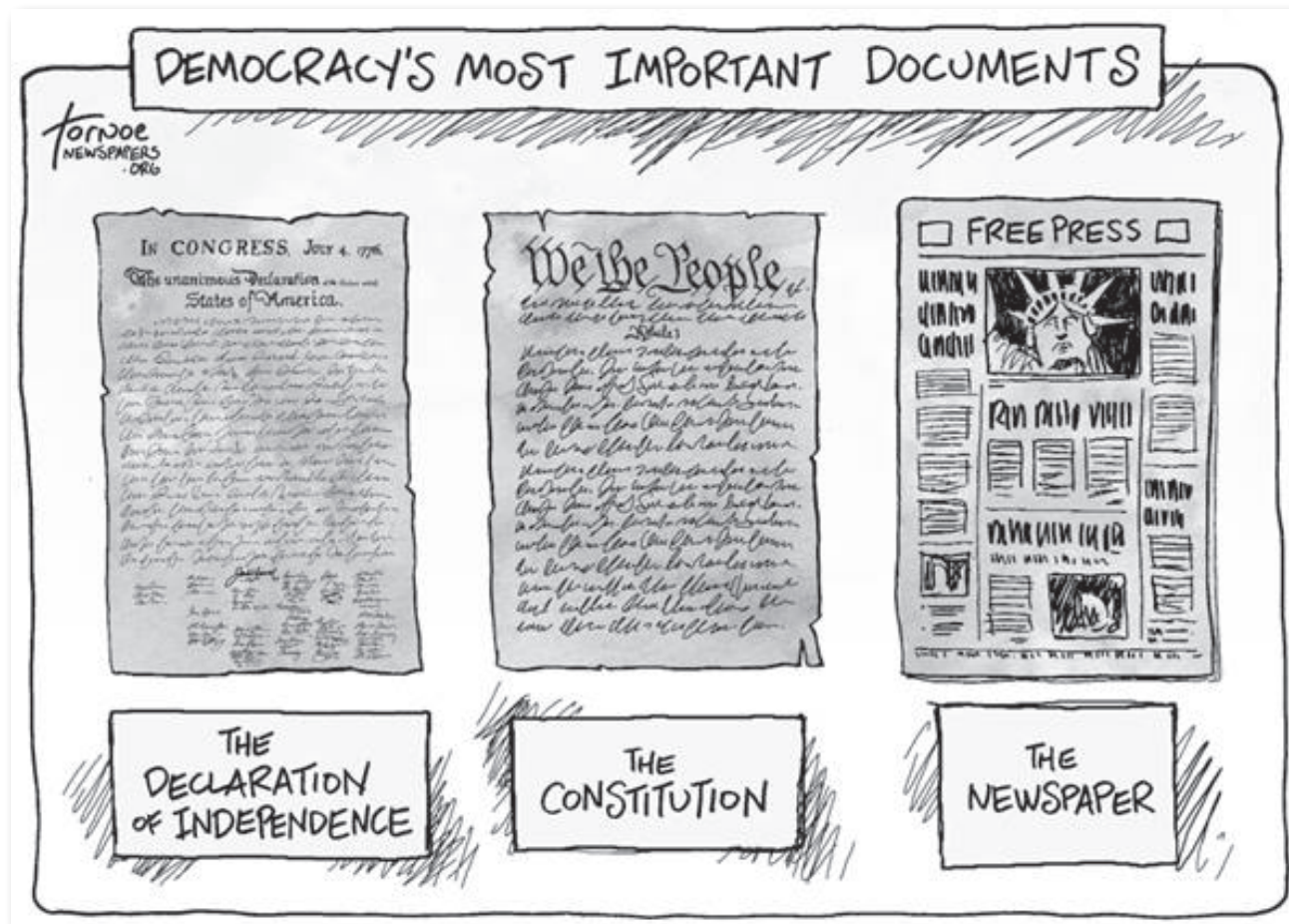
The advisory opinions were handed down through the Data Practices Office of the Minnesota Department of Administration. News organizations are usually the first to object when access to proceedings and information is denied or made more difficult. Citizens need to understand that state laws governing access to open meetings and government records preserve the rights of all Minnesotans. Citizens have equal opportunity to challenge actions.

Most troubling are the regular attempts to block access to government information or to conduct public business behind closed doors. I witnessed it all too often when I sat behind the editor’s desk.

Landfill siting may be controversial, but constituents will be more accepting of the process if a county board identifies potential locations from the start. The departure of a controversial department head may not be official until formally accepted, but a city council will do itself a favor by announcing the resignation as soon as it is submitted. The closing of an elementary school may not be on a school board’s agenda for a few weeks, but the administration will win higher marks if it informs residents of its intentions when first put on the table.

The above examples, plus many more,

SEE PUMARLO, PAGE 6



The “Evil Empire”

IT WAS PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan in 1983 who called the Soviet Union the “Evil Empire.”



About the Town

Gene Johnson

What’s happening in Ukraine today is deplorable. It appears that Russian President Vladimir Putin wants to recover the satellite countries that were once part of the Soviet Union. The world watches as thousands of lives are lost and families are escaping to Poland and Romania.

As a result, Ukraine is losing its freedom, independence and sovereignty. This is a struggle of good against evil.

The Ukrainian people are brave and they are fighting hard to preserve their independence, but the Russian Army is large and their government is powerful. What happens in Ukraine could encourage Putin to continue his takeover of the former satellite countries. We need people of faith and a moral fiber to help lead world governments. Prayers are in order for our leaders. God is still in control.

THE MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT is reporting more than nine billion in surplus. The legislature is debating how to best utilize these monies. It seems simple to me that if we are overtaxing, then those rates should be adjusted and slowly reduced and refunds made to those who paid the taxes.

First of all, the unemployment trust fund should be restored after falling to a deficit after businesses closed or laid off workers during the pandemic and more than a million Minnesotans filed for unemployment benefits. We also have a rainy day fund in Minnesota. Maybe that needs some funds, but the balance should be returned to the taxpayers proportionately and taxes reduced or in some cases eliminated.

The positive side of all of this is our economy is healthy, but inflation is going to be taking bigger bites out of it as it continues.

WITH THE INFLATION running so high, I won-

der what dollar stores are going to do in changing their name. Will they be called \$1.25 stores? At one time we had Ben Franklin stores. They were often referred to as dime stores. I still remember when White Castle hamburgers were five for \$1.

LAW ENFORCEMENT PEOPLE are essential to keeping law and order in a democracy. This includes a wide range of trained people, including police, sheriff’s departments, state patrol to the National Guard.

Law enforcement deserves our financial support, recognition, and the best training for the best results. They deal with many types of issues, many too dangerous to understand, all for our protection and safety. Volunteers can be helpful, too. Maybe it’s time all American youth be required to volunteer for six months or a year.

Politics must be put aside and government policies must be followed to ensure regulations and laws are carried out.

SCAMS OF ALL types are growing and taking advantage of vulnerable people of all ages without regard to education or income.

An AARP study in January 2022 found people’s emotional state at the time of encounter often times was the difference between victims and non-victims in fraud cases.

Scamming incidents include Internet scams, door knockers and telephone calls. Be aware of scammers.

Insurance scams grow after natural disasters and scammers have been known to troll dating websites for vulnerable people.

My take is to refuse all calls, letters and messages from people you don’t know. If it sounds too good, it probably is and could be false or misleading.

Some cell phones can be set so all calls without a previous contact are declined. But remember, if you are lost or have tried to make emergency contacts by dialing 911, you should answer the phone.

REMEMBER THAT NOT getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck. *Dalai Lama*

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ASKOV AMERICAN



“The most important thing a community newspaper does is recognize the value of the lives of ordinary people.”



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BRUNO/KERRICK NEWS

Saturday morning Jean Jensen, Jean Marquardt and two of Jean’s sisters from Superior enjoyed breakfast at Amy’s in Sandstone.



Bruno/
Kerrick
News
Sylvia
Schweiger

After breakfast they all went shopping at the Quarry Quilt shop.

Paul, Collette and Corbin Stadin were breakfast guests at Wayne and Deb Stadin’s Sunday

morning. In spite of the messy weather, the Diamond Dance Studio dancers were competing down in the

Twin Cities area over the weekend and once again came home with many awards....Congratulations to you all!!!

Monday, Doug and Sue Blechinger traveled to Duluth to watch granddaughter, Maddie Borchardt, play hockey with her TenU team at the Duluth Heritage Sports Center in the west end. After they enjoyed dinner with family at the Clyde Iron Works Restaurant.

It’s Daylight Savings Time this weekend so remember to change your clocks...Spring Forward!!

If you have any news that you would like to share, please either email me at storebo1@frontier.com or call me at (320) 838-3554 and I will be glad to submit it.

Enjoy your week!!

WILLOW RIVER NEWS

St. Patrick’s Day was originally celebrated in Ireland with religious services and feasts in honor of St.



Willow
River News
Kathi
Bennett

Patrick. Irish immigrants brought their traditions to the U.S. and the day evolved into a celebration of Irish culture. The St. Patrick’s Day tradition was popularized by Irish immigrants in the U.S. who believed that wearing green made them invisible to leprechauns. Watch out or they will pinch you. Ha. One of the ways I like to celebrate St. Patty’s Day is to make Colcannon. If you want you can make it with kale, but I like the traditional cabbage better. Here’s the recipe: 3 cups finely shredded green cabbage, 1 finely chopped onion, 1/4 cup water. Place cabbage, onion, and water in a saucepan or Dutch oven and quickly bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer about 8 minutes until tender. Do not overcook. Cook and mash 6 potatoes, or 4 cups prepared instant mashed potatoes. Add mashed potatoes, 1/4 cup milk, 1/4 cup butter or margarine, salt and pepper to taste. Mix well, stirring often until heated through. Serve warm as a side. “Laughter is brightest where food is best.” – Irish Proverb.

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Please remember to shovel a path to your outside meter reader for the city water and sewer operator if you are on the city water system. If not, your usage may be estimated.

Firearm Safety Class for adults and youth is coming

soon. The sign-up night will be Monday, April 18 from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Finlayson-Giese Sportsman’s Club. A parent or guardian must be present at time of registration. There will be NO on-line registration. For questions contact George Slama at 320-233-6381.

Also, any student of Willow River School or home schooled children who live in our school district that are interested in joining the Willow River School Youth Trap League please have a parent or guardian contact Kathi Bennett at 218-372-3562. Registration will need to happen before March 21 and it takes a few days to process, so please let us know asap.

At St. Mary’s/ St. Isidore’s Church: The Rosary for Life sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on Tuesdays during Lent, also for women in crisis pregnancies. This will take place after the 8:30 a.m. Mass starting March 8, 2022 to pray the Rosary. The dates for this are as follows: March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5. The regular Knights of Columbus meeting is to be held on March 27, 2022 at St. Isidore’s Church with Rosary at 6:30 p.m. with meeting to follow at 7 p.m. The 2022 March Campaign will run February 28 through April 10. MN Food Share will match donations made to the Food Shelf during this time period. Donate shelf stable food, household cleaning items and personal care items as well as monetary donations to buy these items. All donations are greatly appreciated. Boxes will be placed in Holy Angels and St. Mary’s. Checks should be made out to the “Moose Lake Area Food Shelf” and placed in an envelope marked for that purpose.

Being able to skip make-up routine a benefit of masks

Dear Tante Ingeborg,

On Monday Ivo Psyzbszykii was on his way to Fleet Farm for some shopping when his cell phone rang. He put it on



Ask
Tante

speaker and answered it. It was his titka Olena calling from Ukraine to tell him that his nunky Volodymir had joined his cousins on the front to protect their homeland from the

Russians. His cousins are in their sixties and his uncle Volody is eighty-seven. Before Ivo disconnected he asked Olena if she needed anything from Fleet

Farm. I didn’t know this, but everything you need to organize a revolution you can get at Fleet Farm. By the time Ivo was leaving he had put a big dent in his available credit.

When he packaged everything up he called UPS to arrange a two day delivery. Then he told his wife Svetlana he was joining his relatives in Ukraine to defeat Putin.

I know Ivo is very proud of his heritage but don’t you think eighty-seven is too old to be fighting in an army?

Signed, Ivo’s neighbor Ole

Dear Ivo’s neighbor,

I’ve always been able to find whatever I needed at Fleet Farm. And while it’s possible to equip a boots-on-the-ground

militia with stuff from that establishment, it’s highly unlikely that they can repel the entire Russian army with Fleet Farm supplies and weaponry. I’m also not sure Ivo will be able to enter the Ukraine.

What’s going to be effective in repelling Russian aggression is the economic sanctions the rest of the world is implementing against them.

If Ivo wants to deter Russian aggression have him pour his vodka on the ground and send a contribution to a legitimate source of aid for the Ukraine. United we stand. And I, for one, would not look askance if Putin suddenly disappeared due to a rumored black ops mission.

Pray for the Ukraine and remember, Tante Ingeborg cares.

DO YOU REMEMBER

1947: “It’s a Wonderful Life now playing at local theaters

100 YEARS AGO
MARCH 7, 1922

- Miss Maud Rodenberger and Leon Beavens both of Bruno were married by Rev. Simpson.

- A crowd that filled the opera house in Sandstone to overflowing was present to take in the dedication exercise of the new depot.

- Miss Eva Viola Andersen and Mr. Conrad Christensen were united in marriage at the Askov Church. The groom is the popular proprietor of the local hotel and bakery in Askov.

75 YEARS AGO
MARCH 6, 1947

- In the Full Gospel Chapel south of Bruno, a candlelight wedding took place Friday when Miss Norma Plaisted of Bruno and Mr. Merle Wood of Willow River exchanged vows.

- “It A Wonderful Life” starring James Stewart and Donna Reed is playing at both the Vogue Theater in Sandstone and Lake Theater in Moose Lake.

- Mr. and Conrad Christensen celebrated their silver wedding anniversary with family and friends at the D.B.S. hall in Askov.

50 YEARS AGO
MARCH 9, 1972

- Burglars paid a visit to Askov Monday night at the Askov Co-op Feed and Fredericksen Machine Works...tools were taken at Fredericksen’s and at the Co-op a large 1400 pound safe was tipped over and hammered open and cash was taken.

- Services were held for Guy Dewitt age 68, of Askov on Saturday.

- A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dave Dahlberg of Askov on March 1.

- Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Jensen of North Carolina arrived in Bruno to make their home with her mother Mrs. Esther Schann. Mr. Jensen will be stationed at the Duluth airport.

- Mr. and Mrs Jack Johnsen and their family went to the Bob Johnsen home in Askov for a 45th wedding anniversary celebration for Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnsen.

25 YEARS AGO
MARCH 6, 1997

- A luncheon and baby shower honoring Mrs. Bev (Doug) Koland was held at the Danforth Community Chapel with about 30 ladies attending.

- Pine County Sheriff Steve Haavisto announces the new

Minnesota Sherriff’s Association Scholarship Program for 1997.

- East Central girls basketball ends the season at 17-7. JV girls finish 16-3.

- Jim Carlson from Nickerson has graduated from officers candidate school in Ft. Benning, Georgia. He is now 2 LT (second Lieutenant) in the U.S. Army.

10 YEARS AGO
MARCH 1, 2012

- Pine County Board of Commissioners have approved hiring Charles Daher as assistant Pine County Engineer .

- East Central concert band and Willow River high school band travel to Atkin for the sections band contests. They both received superior ratings and will advance to the state contest.

- Ron and Laurie Jorgensen of Askov are grandparents to little Emily Jo Carlin born February 19 to Jennie and Dale Carlin.

- Adam Johnsen and Alyssa Oquist and big brother Kaeden of Askov welcome baby boy Kooper Lee to the family. Grandparents are Lee and Sharen Johnsen, Kara and Brian Wange and Tony Oquist.

- There was a retirement party for Diana Dewitt on February 18 with family and friends.

EAST CENTRAL SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Thursday, March 10

Blue line: Pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, green beans, pears, and milk

Silver line: Corn dog, baked beans, green beans, pears, and milk

Friday, March 11

Blue line: Cheese pizza, breadstick, broccoli, pineapple, and milk

Silver line: Chicken nuggets (5), rice, broccoli, pineapple, and milk

Monday, March 14

Blue line: Italian dunks, dipping sauce, green beans, pears, and milk

Silver line: Pancakes (2), sausage (2), yogurt, pears, and milk

Tuesday, March 15

Blue line: Ham/cheese melt, chips, carrots, peaches, and milk

Silver line: Chicken strips (3), fries, yogurt, peaches, and milk

Wednesday, March 16

Blue line: Chicken Parmesan, breadstick, broccoli, Mandarin oranges, and milk

Silver line: Pork chop, mashed potatoes, broccoli, Mandarin oranges, and milk

It Pays to advertise in the Askov American!

EC girls’ basketball team win first tournament game

MARY ELLEN DEWEY
RECIPE@PINECOUNTYCOURIER.COM

The first round of the Section 5A East tournament was on Monday, February 28. The East Central girls’ team played St. John’s Prep at East Central, as a play-in game winning 43-35.

The Eagles were led in scoring by Aly Huntington who had 11 points. Carly Watrin had 10 points and 7 rebounds, Izzy Olson with 7 points. Kenzie Ludwig had 6 points and led the team with 10 rebounds. Elsie Laursen scored 3 points, Lori Grundmeier, Josie Ford, and Mason Belanger each had 2 points.

The game was close throughout and the Eagles were in the lead for most of the game. The girls played great defense holding St. John’s to eight-percent shooting on threes while the Eagles shot thirty-three percent on threes. East Central protected the ball, having only ten turnovers which was one of the lowest totals of the season.

The win over St. John’s Prep qualified the Eagles to play Braham on Thursday, March 3, at Braham. Braham beat the Eagles 19-56 ending their season. Leading in scoring and rebounding was Kenzie Ludwig with 9 points and 6 rebounds. Aly Huntington had 4 points, Elsie Laursen had 3 points, Lori Grundmeier had 2 points and 2 assists, and Carly Watrin had 1 point.

Braham is the top seed in the 5A East section. Coach Peter Rogotzke said, “They played a good game against us. We battled as best we could, it just wasn’t enough to stay with them.”

Kenzie Ludwig, who averaged about nine points a game led the Eagles this season. She was followed by Elsie Laursen and Aly Huntington who each averaged about six points a game. Kenzie also led the team in rebounding averaging nearly eight a game, Katelynn McAbee averaged more than six rebounds a game, and Izzy Olson averaged over five rebounds a game.



MIKE DRAHOSH | COURIER

Kenzie Ludwig led the Eagles in scoring and rebounds this season, averaging nine points and eight rebounds per game.

EC boys’ basketball team ranked fourth

COACH DARREN FOGT

The East Central Eagles only had one game last week on Tuesday, March 1, against Northland at home. They kept it close early, but Northland built a lead going into half of 19. They came out the second half and cut that lead down to 14, but then Northland hit some more threes and the Eagles just couldn’t get close. They shot the three ball incredibly well, they went 20-38 from three. It was just too much for the East Central boys, they certainly didn’t play bad, but they didn’t have the firepower to keep up. Northland won 89-55.

Eagle scorers were Jacob Dixon 17 points and 15 boards, Hunter Colton 14, Nathan Zielinski 11, Kyle McDonald 7, Nic DePaulis 2, Warren Carlson 2 and Ethan Johnsen 2.

Next up will be Section 5A East playoff game on Thursday, March 10, at home against Ogilvie. The winner of Thursday’s game will play on Saturday, March 12, at 1 p.m. in Hinckley, the winner of Barnum/Mille Lacs/St. John’s Prep.

The Eagles need all the fans they can get to come and make all the noise they can so Ogilvie feels like the visiting team. It’s been a great year and we are not ready for it to end.



Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney

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Duluth man charged with intent to sell fentanyl

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

A Duluth man, Dameion Demond Markese Groce, 47, is facing five felony charges including two second degree charges for possession of cocaine and fentanyl with the intention to sell, two counts of third degree possession and receiving stolen property. In connection, Nicole Krista Wiborg, 35, of St. Cloud is being charged with theft of a motor vehicle and stolen property.

ACCORDING TO THE COMPLAINT:
Pine County deputies were called to Grand Casino Hinckley on report of a stolen vehicle. The reporting party stated that he had rented a hotel room with Wiborg. He had met Wiborg at a bar in Superior, Wisc. She convinced the reporting party to go to the casino. She drove his vehicle, a 2008 Mazda CX-7, because he was intoxicated. He noticed a Kia Soul following them. Once at the hotel, the reporting party stated he passed out/ fell asleep. When he awoke he found that his car, phone,

wallet, prescription glasses, and more were missing.
Pine County deputies located the Mazda and initiated a traffic stop. The driver, identified as Groce, was detained. A search of his person yielded three knives and a plastic container in his jacket. The plastic container held two plastic baggies with a large white rock in each. There was also a digital scale, a prescription for gabapentin (not belonging to him), a container holding white powder and a glass pipe.
After being read his rights, Groce made a statement. He

stated that he, Wiborg and one other person went to the bar in Superior. Wiborg told them the reporting party was going to get them all a room at the casino. They followed Wiborg to the casino (in the Kia Soul) and she messaged them to meet up. Wiborg told them she needed help moving a car. Groce stated that Wiborg handed him keys and a wallet and told him to follow her. He then stated he knew it was a bad idea since he was in possession of drugs. He told deputies that one of the plastic baggies contained fentanyl

and the other was cocaine. He stated that he planned to sell it to earn money.
One baggie had a field weight of 18.99 grams and the other had 17.30 grams. They were not NIK-tested due to officer safety concerns regarding the fentanyl.
A warrant has been issued for Wiborg.
If convicted, Groce faces 25 years and/or a \$500,000 fine for both second degree drug charges and 20 years and/or \$250,000 for the third degree charges.

Man charged with harassmment and reckless use of a dangerous weapon

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

A Siren man, Michael Wayne Johnson, 65, has been charged with harassmment and reckless use of a dangerous weapon in connection to incidents occurring in downtown Pine City near Robinson Park and a local bank.
According to the criminal complaint, the Pine County Sheriff’s Office was dispatched on Friday, Feb. 25 on a report that a male in a blue Dodge Ram truck was holding a shotgun on his lap near Robinson Park in downtown Pine City. The bystander drove by a second time, according to the complaint, and saw that the male, later identified as Michael Wayne Johnson, was

then holding the shotgun partially out of the window of the truck. A deputy then arrived and turned on his lights to initiate a traffic stop.
Johnson drove slowly down the block, and a second deputy pulled his squad car into an intersection in front of the Dodge Ram to force Johnson to stop. When law enforcement approached the vehicle, they saw an uncased shotgun in the backseat. Johnson said that he had a loaded gun in his pocket and an ASP (expandable baton weapon), according to the complaint. A loaded semi-automatic pistol, ASP and knife were then removed from the defendant’s person.
Four large zip ties were in the visor, and when asked why they were there, Johnson said

they were for “work,” according to the complaint. Johnson told law enforcement that he was at a nearby downtown bank in Pine City to take female bank employees back to his house for the weekend to do taxes and that he was picking the women up on behalf of a witness protection group and the U.S. Marshal service.
The defendant stated, according to the complaint, that the female bank employee that he said he was bringing to his house did not know he was coming for her. Officers reported that he was hard to understand while he was speaking to them.
Johnson stated that he had initially walked toward the bank with a shotgun for his own protection and then

turned around and put the shotgun back in the truck. He said he did walk into the bank with a pistol in his pocket, however, and spoke to one of the women. He claimed that he went to the bank to get paperwork and was “disgusted” that the woman did not have the paper ready for him.
Law enforcement confirmed with one of the women at the bank that Johnson had come into the bank about the same time the bystander called 911. The woman also said that she had helped him with other business related things earlier in the month on a couple occasions.
According to the criminal complaint, on Feb. 14, the defendant had left McDonald’s food and a note signed “Happy

Valentine’s Day” at a residence he believed to be “the girl from the bank.”
Burnett County, Wisc., has an alert for him based on increasingly irrational and threatening behavior towards the Sheriff’s Office and Veterans Assistance Department.
The felony harassmment charge (aggravated violations - used dangerous weapon in commission of offense) comes with a maximum prison sentence of five years and/or a \$10,000 fine. The gross misdemeanor dangerous weapon (recklessly handle or use) charge comes with a maximum jail sentence of 90 days and/or a \$1,000 fine.

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If you would like to play a key role in keeping Pine City vibrant and informed, consider joining the Pioneer Staff.

Please send resume to Jeff Andres, Group Publisher, 930 Cleveland St S, Cambridge, MN 55008 or email jeff@northstarmedia.net.

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NOTICES

STURGEON LAKE TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES 2022-8

Whereas, the legislature of the
State Of Minnesota has been
redistricted; and
Whereas, Minnesota Statute
section 204B.14, subd.3(d) requires

that precinct boundaries must be
established within 60 days of when
the legislature has been redistricted
or at least 19 weeks before the state
primary election, whichever comes
first;
Now, Therefore Be it Resolved
that the Township Board of
Sturgeon Lake Township, County
of Pine, State of Minnesota, hereby
reestablishes the boundaries of the
voting precincts and polling places
as follow;
All of the Town of Sturgeon Lake

86290 New Town Hall Road
Sturgeon Lake, Mn 55783
**ALL OF STURGEON LAKE
TOWNSHIP WILL NOW BE IN THE
ELECTION DISTRICT OF 11A.**
Adopted by the Town Board this
28th day of February, 2022.
Bearnard Zuk
Township Board Chairperson
Nedene Kuhlman,
Clerk of the Township
Published in the Askov American on

March 10, 2022



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Bruno Legion Auxillary makes pillow cases for veteran families in need

On January 17 the Bruno American Legion Auxillary met to sew pillowcases for kids at the Eagles Healing Nest in Sauk Rapids. This facility assists Veterans and their families in crisis. Pictured above left: Sylvia Schweiger, Kathy Bade, Kathy Dracy and Sharon Ring. Pictured above right: Julie Sax, Gail Lindsey and Jean Marquardt.

Do you have a story idea or tip that you think our readers would appreciate??

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March is National Athletic Trainer Month

L.E. FURBER
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March is National Athletic Trainer Month and some of our schools are fortunate to have athletic trainers from Welia Health. Athletic training focuses on safe, optimal participation in sport and active lifestyles and getting back to the sports athletes enjoy following an injury.

EAST CENTRAL

Luke Keranen has been the athletic trainer at East Central High School for six years. Keranen received his degree from Northwestern College in St. Paul. He was influenced in becoming a trainer by this father.

"My dad actually went back to school when I was a high school student and took a course in injury prevention," said Keranen. "When my first major in college didn't seem like a good fit, I remembered thinking that sports medicine looked interesting from looking at my dad's school books."

HINCKLEY-FINLAYSON

With her undergraduate and graduate degrees from The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Tember Anselmo has been working with athletes at Hinckley-Finlayson High School for the past two years.

"I was a three-sport athlete in high school and knew I wanted to have a career in the medical field. When I separated my shoulder in basketball my senior year, I had to do physical therapy. I really liked the idea of what physical therapy was about but wanted to stay more on the athletic side of things. After some research that led me to this career of athletic training," said Anselmo. "This is my third year of being an athletic trainer and I really do love it. Probably my favorite thing is having a part in the recovery of an injured athlete and seeing them get back to playing the sport they love."

PINE CITY

Becky Zelenko also entered the field of athletic training, after a high school sports injury, and has been working with the Pine City High School athletes for the past six years.

"When I was a freshman in high school, I tore my ACL while playing in a basketball game," said Zelenko. "I had a really good experience working with my high school athletic trainer before and after surgery that I knew that this was the field that I wanted to



work in someday."

Zelenko attended The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth to obtain her bachelor's in exercise physiology and master's in athletic training. What she enjoys most about being a certified athletic trainer is helping student-athletes return-to-play after sustaining an injury.

"It is rewarding to see student-athletes regain their confidence and then test that confidence during games, matches, or meets," said Zelenko.

What should someone who is considering a career in athletic training know?

"There are becoming many more opportunities available than the traditional athletic settings and be prepared to have to sell yourself and the profession on a regular basis," said Keranen. "There is still much confusion about what our role is and can be."

"I know sometimes to people watching what we do, it might look like we spend a lot of time just sitting on the bleachers (trust me we do), but there are a lot of hours of treatments, evaluations, and consoling that happen in our offices," said Anselmo. "I spend a lot of my time at home thinking about a specific athlete's injury and what I can do the next day to help them recover faster or make them feel better."

It calls for some very long days and sometimes not getting into bed until after midnight, but it has been very rewarding for me."

Zelenko added, "A person who is considering a career in athletic training should know that you work long, crazy hours some months, but it's all worth it when your teams perform well and are injury free."