ASKOV
AMERICAN

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SPORTS: High School basketball teams busy. **P12**

Santa back in school this year

BY JAMIE LUND
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The head elf will put his toy making duties aside for a day and head to Banning next week. The jolly elf said he checked his list of names and is looking forward to his visit with the good students at East Central on Wednesday, Dec. 22.

The event started about 15 years ago as a fun way to hand out books from the Parent Teacher Organization and has continued, even through the pandemic. Last year was a drive through event as Santa stood outside in the school parking lot to hand out the books to students.

"A lot of people showed up," said Santa. "We did a little

SEE **SCHOOL,** PAGE **2**



FILE PHOTO

Santa visits East Central School at a drive through event during the pandemic of 2020. This year he is back inside the school, visiting, reading books to students and enjoying their company for the day.

County truth in taxation public hearing held

BY T.A. LEBRUN
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

An annual truth in taxation hearing was held for the Pine County budget and levy on the evening of Thursday, Dec. 9. A number of budget and levy items were presented by County Administrator David Minke before the board of commissioners.

The levy is expected to increase by 3.6% from 2021 and equal about $20,652,675. Last year's levy was $19,935,014. This would equal $602 on a $100,000 home for the County's portion of the levy. The city, township and school property tax amounts are calculated separately and are in addition to this amount.

Minke explained that the budget is balanced and the fund balance is adequate. The big ticket budget items are salaries/benefits (Approximately $25.7 million for 2022 which is an increase of about $1 million from 2021), road and bridge construction (approximately $9.2 million), debt (approximately $2.3 million), out-of-home

SEE **COUNTY,** PAGE **2**

COVID-19 treatment option available to general public

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

With the COVID-19 numbers rising, reports of hospitals being overwhelmed and people becoming very ill or dying from the virus, the CDC and local hospitals recommend getting vaccinated.

However, for those who are unvaccinated and contract COVID-19, there may be some resources available.

Gov. Walz announced in early December that the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and M Health Fairview are expanding access to monoclonal antibody COVID-19 treatments in the Twin Cities and Greater Minnesota.

"From the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we've worked hard to protect the health and safety of Minnesotans at every turn," said Gov. Walz. "That's why we're working to expand access to monoclonal antibody COVID-19 treatments for Minnesotans, strengthening our efforts to get Minnesotans across the state the resources they need to fight this virus."

"We are working to ensure each and every Minnesotan, in every community, has fair and equitable access to monoclonal antibody COVID-19 treatments. This treatment is so important and made all the difference to alleviate my symptoms when I contracted COVID-19," said Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan. "While this therapy has saved lives, it is not a replacement for the COVID-19 vaccine. We continue to urge Minnesotans to roll up their sleeves and get their shot to protect themselves and their loved ones."

Patients and their providers seeking monoclonal antibody treatments can make an appointment at these clinics and other locations by using the state's online tool, the Minnesota Resource Allocation Platform (MNRAP). These sites are not open to walk-in appointments.

COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatment can help qualifying patients get better faster. It is an outpatient treatment for patients with mild to moderate symptoms that started within the past 10 days, and who are at high risk of their illness leading to hospitalization or death. Learn more at the webpage COVID-19 Medication Options.

Gov. Walz also requested the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to bolster the administration's strategy of providing more COVID-19 tools to Minnesotans by vaccinating everyone who is eligible and providing life-saving treatments to those who are sick.

"We have powerful tools at our disposal to fight COVID-19: getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and others from the virus, and treatments like monoclonal antibodies can help sick Minnesotans get better," said Gov. Walz in a November press release.

LOCAL ANTIBODY OPTIONS

Welia Health's Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Dr. Brian Niskanen stated that since December of 2020, Welia Health has been providing monoclonal antibody therapies to patients with COVID-19 illness. This option is available to patients who test positive for COVID-19, are not hospitalized, and who are within 10 days of the onset of symptoms.

He said that patients who are 12 years and older, who weigh at least 88 pounds, and who are at a high risk of severe COVID-19 should receive monoclonal antibody treatment.

"That being said, due to the high volume

SEE **TREATMENT,** PAGE **2**



A very Merry Christmas

JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS

Santa is back in person at the Pine County Historical Museum this year. Last year many events were drive through only due to the pandemic. Excited children posed for photos and whispered their wishes in Santa's ear. They also enjoyed a free hot dog lunch and goody bags.

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SCHOOL: Santa to continue tradition

FROM PAGE 1

wave and a Merry Christmas. It wasn't the same, but we did what we could and it was still good for them."

This year will be back to the traditional in person event.

"The kids love to see Santa at the bus stop in the morning as they come in," said Kristen Chryst, elementary principal. "We also do a sing along in the entry way as they come into the school. Staff and students participate and it's loved by all."

Santa visits the elementary classes in the morning and the high school classes in the afternoon before heading back out to the bus stop and waving goodbye to the kids as they head home after school.

Chryst said the elementary student council are filling in as Santa's helpers this year. The kids will be helping with the classes as well as handing out cookies and milk.

"I will read a little Christmas story for the elementary classes," Santa said. "They really enjoy it. There is a table full of books so each student can take one, then Santa will sign it."

He said the event means a lot to everyone, from Santa, students and school staff.

"I just show up and do what I do," said Santa. "It's a great day."

COUNTY: TNT results with unexpected discovery

FROM PAGE 1

placements (approximately $1.4 million for 2022 which is a decrease of about $178,500 from 2021), vehicle and equipment purchases ($770,000), medical services to prisoners ($415,000) and library appropriation ($352,603).

An interesting sidebar was that marriage licences decreased during the pandemic from 128 issued in 2018 to 83 issued in 2020. Administrator Minke also noted that the decrease in prisoners due to COVID-19 constraints impacted boarding revenue and the jail budget.

One resident, Mark Olson, voiced his concerns about his property valuation and said that it went up 47% from $87,200 to approximately $133,000. County Auditor Kelly Schroeder was on hand to address specific valuation concerns, which traditionally can be addressed at the board of equalization meeting in the spring.

The final budget and levy will be voted on at the December 21 regular county board meeting.



Santa day big success at PCHS

The volunteers for Santa Day on Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Pine County History Museum gathered together for a group photo after the event.
Santa listened to children as they asked for Christmas presents and then had their photo taken with Santa Claus.
Volunteers kept busy as they manned the shopping mall and fed free hot dog lunch for all of the children as well as handed out gift bags.

TREATMENT: antibody treatment available soon

FROM PAGE 1

of severely ill COVID-19 patients currently hospitalized and significant staffing limitations, the demand for the monoclonal antibody (mAb) therapies severely outnumbers the supply of the treatment," said Niskanen. "Therefore, Welia Health is required to work with the Department of Health to identify and prioritize those who are most at risk of serious COVID-19 complications." He added that the staffing issues are compounding the availability as staff is currently treating patients in need.

More information about COVID-19 medication options can be found at https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/meds.html.

UPCOMING PUBLIC HEALTH VACCINATION CLINICS

Pine County Public Health is holding walk-in COVID-19 vaccination and booster clinics. No appointments are needed. Below are the following dates, locations and times. Please call 320-591-1690 for more information.

- Mon., Dec. 20, 2021, from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. at North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy 23 North, Sandstone, MN 55072
- Tues., Dec. 21, 2021 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Pine County Courthouse, 635 Northridge Dr. NW, Pine City, MN 55063
- Weds., Jan. 5, 2022, from 9 a.m. -3 p.m. at Pine County Courthouse, 635 Northridge Dr. NW, Pine City, MN 55063
- Thurs., Jan. 13, 2022, from 11 a.m. -5 p.m. at the Pine County Courthouse, 635 Northridge Dr. NW, Pine City, MN 55063
- Thurs., Jan. 20, 2022 from 9 a.m. -12:30 p.m. at North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy 23 North. Sandstone, MN 55072.

Tree farms close early to protect future harvests

JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS
EDITOR@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

Have you purchased your Christmas tree this year? If not, it could prove to be difficult. Many tree farms/growers in the area are running out of trees for the 2021 season.

In a Facebook post, Happy Land Tree Farm in Sandstone announced they were closing for the season this past weekend. This seems to be the theme for most tree growers in the area.

"We are closing almost a week earlier than normal," Myra Olson of Happy Land Tree Farms said in an email. "It was a very hard decision to make. We wanted to be sure everyone who wanted a tree received one, so we did our best to get the word out in time."

One reason for this may be the pandemic, more people are wanting real trees and the family experience. Another issue, according to Olson, is the 2009 recession caused many growers to be unable to plant the amount of trees they had in other years.

Growers have to plan at least 10 years out when they are planting. Fairfield Tree Farm, located in Rock Creek, also closed their season early. Their small farm sold out of trees the first weekend.

"We sold double the amount of trees from what we did in previous years. Because of the large sales last season and slower than normal growth this year due to drought conditions, we had a limited supply of trees ready for this season. We let our customers know that via social media, and we sold over 300 trees in 3 days," said the owners in a statement.

Both Happy Land and Fairfield also said they needed to end the season so they could preserve their stock for upcoming years as well.

Frye Tree Farms in Hinckley, as well as Snake River Farms located north of Pokegema Lake in Pine City, are still open and have trees available. Snake River Farms is open weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Frye's will be open until next Monday, December 20.



FILE PHOTO

Many Christmas tree farms are running out of available stock and closing early this year. The farm owners plan about 15 years in advace for the number of trees they want to sell in the future. During the pandemic it was one of the few normal activities families could participate in and they showed up in record numbers to local tree farms.
Many farmers sold out Thanksgiving weekend. If they continue to sell trees after they run out of the alloted number, they take away from the following years stock of trees.

Thankful for dodging bad weather, improved health, pets



Finlayson News

Maxine Meyer

We, as a community, dodged several weather bullets that happened last Friday night. Kentucky had a tornado that plowed through their state for 200 miles. I heard that "may" be a record. The death toll climbs as I write. The snow dumped in the Twin Cities, surpassed 15 inches in several surrounding areas, I even heard 20 inches at one southern suburb. Here, in quiet Finlayson, we saw a dusting and a calm day before and after. I am thankful we were spared, our five inches of snow from last weekend are enough.

Our horse's hoof trimmer called last week to tell us he could no longer trim our boys. His health is failing, and he is the caregiver for his wife who suffers from muscular dystrophy, which gets progressively worse every couple months. I understand, but the boys will be sad their friend of 15 years is no longer going to be visiting. You know, they don't answer questions for just anyone, and he was one of only a few. We wish Scott McConahey and his wife a better year in 2022.

Last week we headed over to pick up pork from our meat processor. You would think that after the last seven years we had that Gary wouldn't have picked up a full box of frozen meat, but that's exactly what he did. After he pulled the box off the loading dock, he barely made it (just a couple feet) to the vehicle. There he held the box on the back bumper-where he struggled to push it up that couple inches into the vehicle. He turned slightly as I approached with my loaded box and he mumbled how he may have misjudged his lifting capabilities. We both laughed. It truly was funny that he now feels good enough to carry a box at all. I told him my box was only half full, I never did have his strength.

This getting old seems to have dulled my senses somewhat, too. For instance, after a day of shopping, when we got home I heard our little Minnie Mouser giving us loud objections to her predicament. It honestly sounds like she is yelling, "Maaa! Maaa!" I followed the pleas to a closet she never goes into. I couldn't believe it, but there she was inside. Then I remembered, I made a quick dash to that closet for warmer gear just before we left. She had to be on my heels, and I didn't even notice. Poor girl was in there 6 hours and she didn't destroy anything, we were lucky. My lesson learned, do head counts on all kitties every time we leave the house.

A few folks have asked about Brewster's paw recovery. Isn't it crazy that since the first week of October after a small biopsy on his paw, it is still an issue. That small opening grew to a 50-cent size open wound. It's all Brester's own doing that it hasn't healed. Trips to the vetrinarian since October resulted in two prescriptions of antibiotics, but no sure-fire cure to keep him from his destructive behavior.

In short, Brew is currently on his fourth cone with an added blow-up Elizabethan collar and a calming patch attached to his cone. The combination of the collar behind the cone prevents his reaching the paw with his nose or mouth. Nor can he use the cone as a weapon to scratch the wound surface. The calming patch gives off a lavender scent, and believe it or not-it seems to help. He stopped the uncontrollable urge to scratch, rub, roll and scooping snow with the cone. When he needs an ear scratch he comes over and gives me a small whimper, and its easy to see what he is asking. Anyway, I think we are making progress on the healing, at least-I sure hope so.

Well folks, don't forget to encourage your unvaccinated family and friends to get their shots, and boosters. The hospitals in Minnesota are filled with the unvaccinated. The virus has not even slowed down after almost two years.

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

Mix together some Christmas extras



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!!

QUICKEST, EASIEST PARTY DIP

- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese
- 3 Tbsp. sour cream
- 1 jar (8 oz.) mild salsa
- 2 tsp. sugar
- 1 can (4-1/2 oz.) shrimp
- Snack crackers

Soften cream chicken and stir in sour cream. Mix until smooth. Spoon the mixture onto a plate and smooth into circular shape. Top with salsa, to which 2 teaspoons of sugar have been added. Drain can of shrimp and rinse shrimp in cold water. Drain well; put on top of salsa. Serve with favorite crackers for dipping.

CRANBERRY-ORANGE BREAD

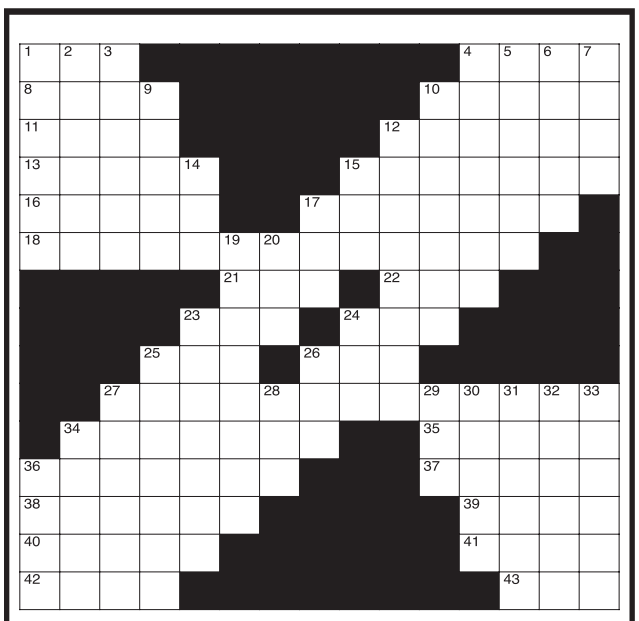
- 2 c. flour
- 1-1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 c. sugar
- 2 Tbsp. butter, melted
- 3/4 c. orange juice
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 c. (1/2 of 16 oz. can) whole cranberry sauce

Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and sugar. Mix in egg, butter, and orange juice. Fold in cranberries. Pour into a greased and floured 5x9x3-inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

HOMESTYLE CHRISTMAS MORNING CASSEROLE

- 4 bread slices, trim crust off
- 6 eggs
- 1-1/2 c. milk
- 4 slices cooked bacon, crumbled
- 1/4 c. shredded Swiss cheese, divided
- 1/4 c. shredded Cheddar cheese, divided
- 1/3 c. sliced mushrooms
- 1/4 t. seasoned salt
- 1/2 c. frozen O'Brien-style hash browns, potatoes

Place bread slices, slightly overlapping. In bottom of a lightly-greased 9x9-inch baking dish. In a large bowl, thoroughly combine eggs, milk, bacon, 2 tablespoons of Cheddar cheese, mushrooms and salt. Pour mixture over bread slices. Sprinkle potatoes over egg mixture, top with remaining Swiss and Cheddar cheese. Cover and refrigerate. Bake at 350 degrees, uncovered, until lightly browned and knife inserted near center comes out clean, about 40 to 45 minutes. Yield: 6 servings.



CLUES ACROSS

1. You fry food in it
4. Pesky insect
8. Gets older
10. __ Dern, actress
11. Uncouth man
12. One who sulks
13. Napoleon's king of Naples
15. One who swims underwater
16. Make amends
17. Expressions
18. Document format
21. What a beaver makes
22. Limb
23. Photograph
24. Golf score
25. Moroccan mountain range
26. Wrinkled dog breed: Shar __
27. 20th century sex symbol
34. Remedy for all diseases
35. Bluish greens
36. Moved swiftly
37. Type of units
38. Madames
39. Indian religious god
40. Potentially hazardous asteroids
41. Leak slowly through
42. An association of criminals
43. A way to push content (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

1. Town in central Brazil
2. Large burrowing rodent
3. Nerve cell
4. Estimating
5. Bakers use it
6. Regions
7. Small lake
9. Environmentalist nun
10. More kookie
12. Announce officially
14. Israeli city __ Aviv
15. Title given to friar
17. Inches per minute (abbr.)
19. Buildings
20. Pouch
23. They steal on the high seas
24. It's mightier than the sword
25. Going off on a tangent
26. Monetary unit
27. Young woman
28. Type of bulb
29. Type of drug (abbr.)
30. City opposite Dusseldorf
31. Animal disease
32. Martini necessities
33. Elude
34. La __: Buenos Aires capital
36. An oft-enduring symbol

OUT & ABOUT

DECEMBER 21, 2021

Everyone's Table

Come to Everyone's Table for a FREE community meal and a chance to get together with friends and neighbors every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at the John Wright Building, 130 Oriole Street East. Drive all the way around to the back of the building. Osprey Wilds is preparing a meal of stuffed pork loin, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, bread and cookies for December 21, serving from 4:30 – 6 p.m.

DECEMBER 21, 2021

Candle lighting event

A community candle lighting event will be held on Sunday, Dec 19 beginning at 4:45 p.m. All are welcome to honor and name their loved ones they have lost. The event will take place at the gazebo in the Sandstone Train Park.

This candle lighting ceremony offers a quiet time, set apart, to honor our loved ones. We will gather together to listen, to care for one another. We will acknowledge and honor each person by name as you light a candle in memory and honor of them. Each participant will be asked to bring a candle. Additional candles will be available as well. Information and resources will be available before and after the ceremony.

Please join us in sharing this precious time. Again, all are welcome. This event is a complimentary outreach of Under Blue Skies LLC, Methven Funeral Home, and Allen's Hope.

It Pays to advertise in the Askov American!

The Beatles -- 'It was all so worth it'

For baby boomers in Minnesota, Met Stadium was the place to be Aug. 21, 1965.

We all have moments scattered throughout our lifetime that are meaningful in a personal way. This story is one of Ginger Haroldson's moments.

As a teenager, it is not easy to stand up to your father. If he did not give them a ride, Ginger told her dad, she and her friends would all hitchhike to Metropolitan Stadium in Bloomington, Minn.



Boomer Grandpa
Loren Else

Ginger and her friends did not have tickets to a Twins game, they had tickets to The Beatles concert on Aug. 21, 1965.

Her dad agreed to the mission, although not thrilled. The Haroldson family lived in Sandstone, Minn., about a 1 1/2 hours north of the Twin Cities. Bob and Gladyce Haroldson had three girls: Teri, Ginger, Deb, and a son, Rob.

A high percentage of the teenage boys in Sandstone had crushes on the Haroldson girls. Mom Gladyce would often shoo the boys home who were gathering at their front steps.

I had the pleasure to talk to Ginger recently, and I could hardly get her to take a breath. As a teenager, Ginger was athletic, compassionate, and adventurous. She was chatting about that day, that concert, and that moment in her life 56 years ago, like it was yesterday. For Ginger, that day was pure joy.

The recent "Beatles: Get Back" documentary, now streaming on Disney+, has created a new uptick of Beatles stories. I remembered that a contingent from my hometown, spearheaded by Ginger, had been at that 1965 concert. It was a rock and roll historical event for Minnesota's baby boomers.

Ginger told me she was an Elvis fan, but when the Beatles rolled into America, Elvis became ancient history. She bought Beatle albums, knew their songs and lyrics by heart, and had Beatles posters up in her room. She fell in love with Paul.

On occasions, Ginger's mom had to march into the girl's rooms at night, turn off WDGY, the Twin Cities' primary rock and roll station at the time, and tell them to get to sleep.

The big day arrived, and Ginger's dad, along with a car full of not-so-quiet teenagers, headed to Bloomington. On their arrival, Ginger said it was crazy and chaotic as they found their way into the stadium and to their seats.

Ginger does not recall seeing any boys in the crowd, although I did verify two Sandstone guys, Bill Sandwick, and his friend Gene, also attended.

Bill told me that the first time he saw the Beatles on "The Ed Sullivan Show," it changed his life. Bill became a musician and that evening in 1965 he sat transfixed watching The Beatles perform.

Reviews said the concert acoustics were terrible. Screaming ruled the evening. The girls struggled to hear words, but it did not matter. They were there.

Ginger remembers she could see Ringo the best. His drums were up on a stand, higher than Paul, John, or George, who were also on a slightly elevated stage in the infield. Ginger clearly saw Ringo's hair flopping from side to side as he played the drums.

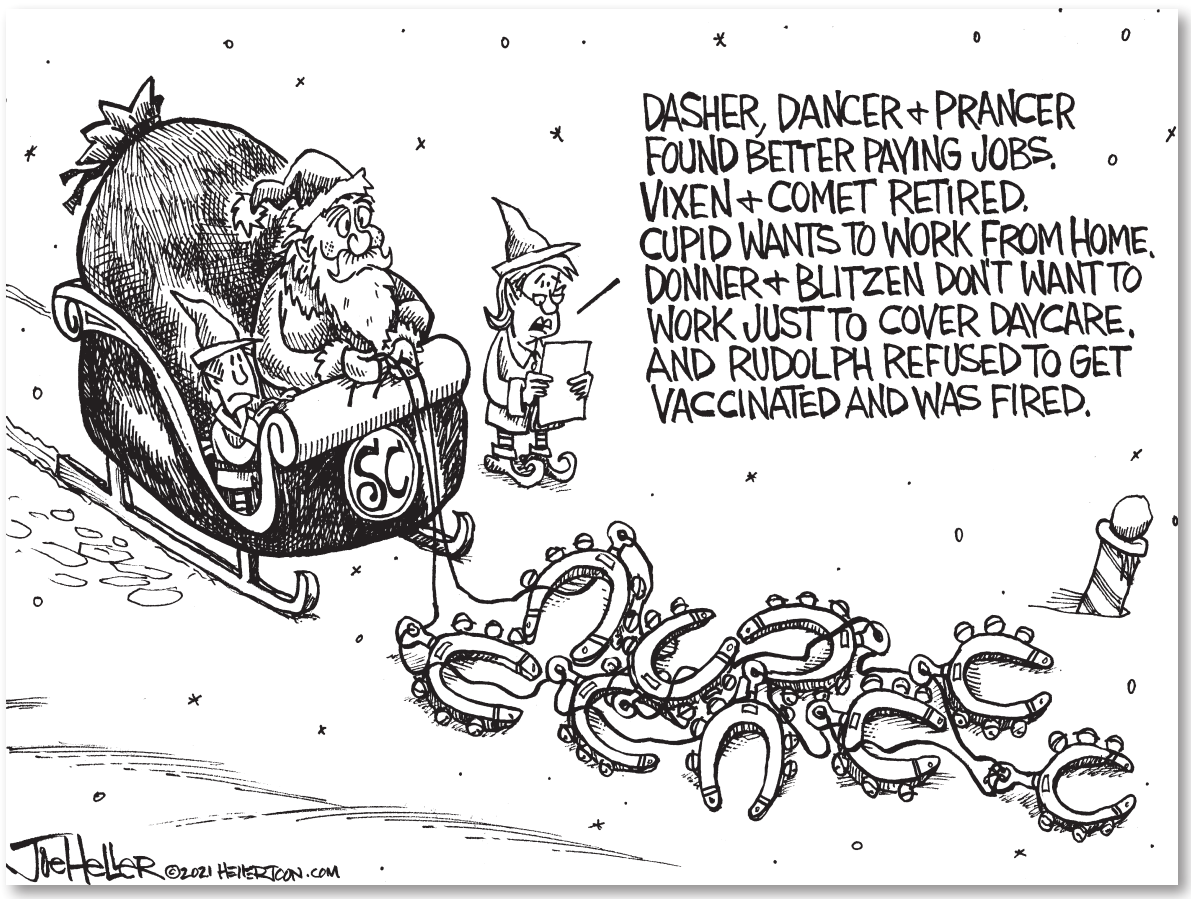
The concert started at 7:30 p.m. with a couple of opening acts. Ginger does recall it ended far too quickly. The Beatles played 11 songs for 35 minutes before an estimated 28,000 fans.

Ginger and her friends were a little worried they would not find her dad after the concert, but they did, and all headed home. A long memorable day.

Ginger has stayed connected to the Beatles music her entire life. She had "Let It Be" played at her wedding.

It was fun to talk to Ginger and Bill about that moment a long time ago. For Ginger, no hitchhiking was necessary, and she stated in a voice that almost sounded like a teenager's: "It was all so worth it!"

LOREN ELSE lives in Rochester and also writes the Post Bulletin's "Day in History" column. Send comments and column ideas to Loren at news@postbulletin.com.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Single most important issue

To the Editor:

What do you think? Is our Earth suffering from natural environmental causes over which we have no control, or are people mostly to blame. Whatever the cause, it is obvious that something is going on. The ice caps and glaciers are melting at an extraordinary rate. The oceans, lakes and rivers are warming causing many fish, plants and reefs to die. Garbage is pouring into our waterways and pollutants are gushing into the air. Needless to say, people are not helping the situation. I suppose we could just sit back and do nothing and hope for the best. Future generations might ask, why didn't our parents and grandparents get their head out of the sand and do something. There are billions of planets out there, but there is only one Earth. Next time you go to vote, there should be one question to ask of your candidate. Do you believe that our home is worth saving? If the answer is, "I don't believe we have a problem", or "I don't care because I'll be gone anyway", or "it is too expensive to try and fix the problems", it might be time to consider voting for someone else. Lots of other issues may seem important, but they won't make much difference if there is no place for future generations to live. The truth is, Earth will go on just fine without us. But is that what we want?

Steven Palmer,
Sandstone, Minn.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

The *Askov American* 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 *Askov American* 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 askovamerican@scicable.com or via mail to P.O. Box 275, Askov, MN 55704

- Letters to the editor must be 400 words or less.
- Each letter writer may have one letter published every 30 days, or four print cycles (exceptions made for rebuttals).
- Anonymous letters will not be published. Letter signatures must include the writer's first and last name, community of residence and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published.
- Only letters originating from writers who live, work or have some other relevance to the *Askov American* 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.

QUOTABLEES

'Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time.'

Laura Ingalls Wilder

ASKOV AMERICAN

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

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Finlayson Elementary and Harvest Christian School students share their letters to Santa

Letters to Santa



Ho, ho, ho, Santa wants to know what kids want for Christmas this year. That's why we're publishing their Letters to Santa, so he can read them all right here in this paper!



Dear Santa,

My Name Is Tosiah

I am 6 Years Old.

I have been very good this year.

Some of the nice Things I did were Setting the table and helped mom

My Christmas Wish List is

1. Rowboat (Real Jet)
2. Truck
3. Big Foot
4. Bout (Boat)

Love, Tosiah



Dear Santa,

My Name Is Henry

I am 5 Years Old.

I have been very good this year.

Some of the nice Things I did were helping mom and clean.

My Christmas Wish List is

1. Blocks
2. Legotadle
3. Legos
4. candy

Henry

Love,

TOWN & COUNTRY INSURANCE
Call 320.233.6684
Text 320.314.4739
@tcinsurance
townandcountry-ins.com

NORTHERN PAWN
HO! HO! HO!
60662 State Hwy. 23
Finlayson
(320) 245-0595

methven FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES
Merry Christmas AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!
114 5th Street
Sandstone, MN
(320) 245-2376

CHRIS' FOOD CENTER
320-245-2229
EAT BETTER. BUY MORE. SPEND LESS.
320 Hwy 123, Sandstone, MN
Merry Christmas

MERRY Christmas!

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Addy.
I am 7 Years Old.
I have been very good
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were Helped my mom
and I helped Evelyn
My Christmas Wish List is
1. art kit
2. Phone
3. Elf on the shelf
4. glog

Love, Addy

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Josiah.
I am 7 Years Old.
I have been very good
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were Help my mom
and Help my Dad
My Christmas Wish List is
1. Phon
2. g a ms
3. Kitin
4.

Love, Josiah

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Cora.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very good
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were help my dog Stay Wood
and help my mom.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. a tow bares
2. a set hockey PUCK
3. a Rose
4. a dog

Love, Cora

Dear Santa,

My Name Is carter.
I am 7 Years Old.
I have been very good
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were helpful
and sWeet
My Christmas Wish List is
1. lol x to x Box
2. wot d hatoig (I want a halo figure toy)
3. iwot d pupit (I want a puppet)
4. heth and Shick (Heath & Snickers)

Love, carter cox

Dear Santa,

My Name Is [illegible].
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very [illegible]
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were smiled at a friend
and used my manners.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. r rubix cube
2. [illegible]
3. book
4.

Love, [illegible]

Dear Santa,

My Name Is samanth.
I am 7 Years Old.
I have been very kind
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were Inplfebmil ("I fed my Grandma's dogs")
and hap mak cqes edn o bogs ("Help make cookies.")
My Christmas Wish List is
1. LOL
2. Unkonreif (unicorn-real life)
3. ko link it (coloring kit)
4. kytos (cat toys)

Love, samanth

Dear Santa,

My Name Is sawyer.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very gud (good)
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were do chors (chores)
and help clen (clean) up
My Christmas Wish List is
1. remot cuntri bot (Remote control boat)
2. remot cuntri car (Remote control car)
3. remot cuntri truck (Remote control truck)
4. nrf gun (Nerf gun)

Love, sawyer

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Jobie.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very gud (good)
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were helpt (helped) my
and miy frnds (my friends)
My Christmas Wish List is
1. remot kuntrol bot (Remote control boat)
2. remot kuntrol kr (Remote control car)
3. Knex
4. ban bag (bean bag)

Love, Jobie

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Haddie.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very sweet
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were help EUNA
and ARden (help Euna & Arden)
My Christmas Wish List is
1. MrAL mermaid- a real one.
2. Cat pel (a real cat)
3. Chep rel (a real cheetah)
4. leBT-rel (a real leopard)

Love, Haddie

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Jayda.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very gud (good)
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were Helpt (helped) my
Friends on the play
and [illegible]. ground.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. bala sho (ballet shoes)
2. dimond cit (Diamond Kit)
3. glags slipps (slippers)
4. a ben bag (bean bag)

Love, Jayda

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Mason.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very good
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were my chors (chores)
and I helpt (helped) my sistr (sister)
My Christmas Wish List is
1. remot kuntrol train (remote control train)
2. remot kuntrol cr (Remote control car)
3.
4.

Love, Mason

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Mordecai.
I am 5 Years Old.
I have been very Good
this year.
Some of the nice Things
I did were sitcorrectly
and helpded.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. Jets
2. Foam Airplan
3. 3 Roaring Dinosaurs
4. 4 Ask boards

Love, Mordecai

Dear Santa,

My Name Is [illegible].
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very good this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were help somebody up and helped a friend.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. IPad
2. [illegible] a dog
3. [illegible] a phone
4. [illegible] a bear

Love, [illegible]

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Joe.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very nice this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were help help my mom and help my dad.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. xbox
2. Ipn (phone)
3.
4.

Love, Joe

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Sophie.
I am 7 Years Old.
I have been very good this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were say i love you to my self and being good at school.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. new bolen baby' dolls
2. super dog and cacering case.
3. baby bath
4. afigit toy and big pop it

Love, Sophie

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Maddi.
I am 7 Years Old.
I have been very good this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were I help my Grammy and rapdapresin (wrapped a present)
My Christmas Wish List is
1. Makeup
2. big unicorn stufanmin
3. bigtrampolen
4. bayb barn Sprise

Love, Maddi

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Laura.
I am 8 Years Old.
I have been very kind this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were playing and caring
My Christmas Wish List is
1. I wish for a cairirn cit. (coloring kit)
2. I wish for a pur ones worm (pair of warm mud bos. boots.)
3. I wish for a toy pohee.
4. I wish for a hors named Saphie.

Love, Laura

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Kerik.
I am 7 Years Old.
I have been very kind this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were helpins and happy.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. wolf puppy
2. a toy led and backtruck
3. a rego truck
4. 7.000 $

Love, Kerik

Dear Santa,

My Name Is James.
I am 7 Years Old.
I have been very Good this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were [illegible] and help my dad.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. nintendo swit
2. BC B[illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]

Love, James

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Brick.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very Nice this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were helpin and helpMom
My Christmas Wish List is
1. Monster truc (monster truck)
2. Crt (car)
3.
4.

Love, Brick

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Haddie.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very sweet this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were help EUNA (help Euna & Arden) and ARden.
My Christmas Wish List is
1. MrAL mermaid- a real one.
2. Cat pet (a real cat)
3. Chep pet (a real cheetah)
4. leBI-pet (a real leopard)

Love, Haddie

Dear Santa,

My Name Is JadeKeller.
I am 6 Years Old.
I have been very good this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were helped mom (helped Mommy) and washed dishes (Wash Dishes)
My Christmas Wish List is
1. airplane
2. toycar
3. Robot
4. bumblebee

Love, JadeKeller

Dear Santa,

My Name Is Joe.
I am 5 Years Old.
I have been very good this year.
Some of the nice Things I did were [illegible] (Shared) and [illegible] (Chores)
My Christmas Wish List is
1. RC Car (RC Car)
2. RC Dinosaur (RC Dinosaur)
3. RC Fish (RC Fish)
4. RC Robot (RC Robot)

Love, Joe D. (Joe D.)

MERRY Christmas!

Man sentenced to 7 years in prison for supplying drugs in an overdose

BY T.A. LEBRUN
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

The sentencing for a Saginaw man, Jacob Avald Howard, 28, took place at the Pine County Courthouse today in what was a trial for third degree murder.

The honorable Judge Patrick Flanagan presided over the case and sentenced Howard to seven years in prison.

The case involved the selling of illegal opiate drugs to 24-year-old, Austin Michael Winter, causing his death on or about Aug. 5, 2019. On the morning of Aug. 5, 2019, a Pine County Sheriff deputy responded to a Finlayson residence where Winter had been found dead of a fentanyl overdose in a fish house. Fentanyl is a synthetic morphine substitute that is 80 to 200 times as potent as morphine. Investigators were able to trace the source of the drugs to Howard via text conversations. The Pine County Sheriff's Office and the East Central Drug Task Force investigated the case.

Pine County Attorney Reese Frederickson said that Howard pled guilty, but asked for probation for the third degree murder charge, which comes with a maximum prison sentence of 25 years.

Frederickson argued against the request for probation, noting the loss of life and stated that Howard was a drug dealer and knew that he was selling drugs that caused other overdoses.

Judge Flanagan denied Howard's request, noting the need for accountability and deterrence, and read some of the text messages between Howard and Winter that demonstrated Howard's role as a dealer and knowledge of what he was doing. Frederickson noted that the 84 months (7 years) is a guideline sentence under Minnesota law.

Fredersickson said, "I was happy that we were able to obtain a conviction to the charged count and get the guideline sentence. These types of cases are typically very difficult to prove and often do not have a lot of evidence." He added that the Pine County Sheriff's Office and the East Central Drug Task Force did an outstanding job tracking down the evidence (much of it digital), which gave the prosecution a strong case.

"Mr. Howard put himself into the drug trade and knew the impact that this dangerous combination of drugs were having on people," noted Frederickson. "This sentence is an important message that drug dealers, especially those whose illegal drugs have led to the death of others, will be prosecuted and held accountable for their decisions."

The victim's mother read the attached victim impact statement in court, stating:

"I have dreaded this moment for the last two years, three months and twelve days. Every time I thought about this statement, or tried to begin, I found myself crying uncontrollably.

Writing down my thoughts only to crumble or tear up for the trash.

"My name is Tina, and I am Austin Winters mom. Austin was born on October 15, 1995 at 8:59 a.m. and was his father and my only child. Austin was our greatest gift and the joy of my life. He blessed us, our family, friends and this world with many talents & attributes.

He was intelligent, athletic, compassionate and had an infectious smile. A smile that would light up a room.

"That smile was taken from us on August 4 of 2019. He was only 23 years old. That day and every day since is ingrained in my mind like a horrible nightmare from that I can't awake. From the time it was that day when I got the call. The almost unrecognizable voice of my fiancé sounding so sad and scared saying 'baby you need to come home, please come home.' The storm, the rain, the song playing on the radio on my drive back home. Pounding on the steering wheel and screaming NO repeatedly barely able to see the road beneath the rain and my falling tears. The EMT's, the police, the coroner. Me holding my beautiful boy begging him to come back to me.

"It wasn't supposed to be this way. All my hopes and dreams for the future. Watching Austin graduate from college, fall in love, get married and raise a family. Having a daughter in-law and especially that grandchild who hopefully had their daddy's smile. All of this ripped away from me, leaving me to question my own purpose, even existence … Mr. Howard, regardless of today's outcome you have the opportunity of a second chance. You can go to school, find a career that makes you proud, fall in love, have a family, to make beautiful memories and grow old, to hopefully look back and realize you didn't let a series of bad choices define you. Your life is a gift.

Please do not disregard it or anyone else's. I ask you, beg of you, going forward to make good choices so that you may rest easy knowing my son Austin's death was not in vain."

SHERIFF'S REPORT AND JAIL ROSTER

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021

6:43 a.m. Informational, State Hwy 23 N, Sandstone

5:58 p.m. Vehicle In Ditch, Long Lake Rd, Rutledge

Monday, Dec. 6, 2021

5:22 a.m. Vehicle Theft, Power Ave N, Hinckley

3:13 p.m. Hit And Run Property, 7th St SE, Hinckley

3:33 p.m. Juvenile Trouble, Main St E, Hinckley

4:01 p.m. Damage To Property, Blair Ave S, Hinckley

4:40 p.m. Vehicle Prowl, Main St E, Hinckley

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021

1:36 a.m. Vehicle In Ditch, Red Pine Rd, Hinckley

3:27 a.m. Crank 911 Calls, Makwa Ct, Hinckley

10:21 a.m. MVA Property Damage, Minnesota St ,Sandstone

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2021

5:01 a.m. MVA Property Damage, State Hwy 18, Finlayson

7:36 p.m. Overdose, Lady Luck Dr, Hinckley

Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021

6:32 p.m. Disturbance, Oak Ave, Hinckley

Friday Dec. 10, 2021

11:16 a.m. Suspicious Activity, State Hwy 23 S, Sandstone

2:16 p.m. Threats, Hwy 23, Finlayson

Saturday Dec. 11, 2021

5:46 a.m. Unknown Trouble, Grouse Trl, Hinckley

10:47 p.m. Customer Trouble, Lady Luck Dr, Hinckley

JAIL ROSTER

December 6

TICHY, MALLORI CHRISTINE
Hold For Other Agency: Bench-Misdemeanor Warrant-Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent

WELLE-LOEHRER, TAYLOR
Pine County Warrant-Confined But Not Convicted-Drugs-5th Degree-Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4-Not Small Amount Marijuana-Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Drugs-5th Degree-Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4-Not Small Amount Marijuana-Arrest of Adult

December 7

BELGARDE, ARNOLD JON
Hold For Other Agency: Bench-Misdemeanor Warrant Issued By Mille Lacs

GARRETT, ARTHUR EUGENE
Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Domestic Abuse-Violate Order for Protection-Arrest of Adult

JOHNSON, CARMEN DEANA
Probable Cause: Traffic-DL-Driving After Cancellation-Inimical to Public Safety

RING, DANIEL ALAN
Pine County Warrant-Confined But Not Convicted-Aiding an Offender to Avoid Arrest-Harbor/Conceal

SCHOENROCK, SANDI MARIE
Probable Cause: Traffic-DWI-Third-Degree Driving While Impaired; Refuse to Submit to Chemical Test-Traffic-DWI-Second-Degree Driving While Impaired; Refuse to Submit to Chemical Test

SKINAWAY, CANDICE JEAN
Parole/Probation Violation: Drugs-5th Degree-Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4-Not Small Amount Marijuana

December 8

DUNLAP, JIMMIE JUNIOR
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Drivers' Licenses-Use False Name/DOB to Identify Self to Police-Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle-Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Burglary-1st Degree-Arrest of Adult

EMMONS, TROY DONALD
Pine County Warrant: Bench-Gross Misdemeanor Warrant-Traffic-DWI-Refuse to Submit to Chemical Test; Blood or Urine as Required by Search Warrant

HANSON, MICHAEL ALAN
Hold For Other Agency: Arrest-Felony Warrant

JOHNSON, ERIC JEFFERY
Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Fugitive From Other State

WOOLDRIDGE, EDWARD ARTHUR
Hold For Other Agency: Probation Violation-GM Warrant-Traffic DL-Driving After Cancellation-Inimical To Public Safety

ZIEGLER, MICHAEL GENE
Pine County Warrant-Confined But Not Convicted-Traffic-DWI-Operate Motor Vehicle-Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours

December 9

ANDERSON, COREY SCOTT
Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Pine County Warrant-Confined But Not Convicted-Domestic Abuse-Violate Order for Protection-Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Fugitive From Other State-Domestic-Arrest of Adult

FULTZ, JESSE KEITH
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Introduce Contraband-Drug/Liquor Into Jail/Lockup/Prison-Arrest of Adult

JOHNSON, JACOB SCOTT
Hold For Other Agency: Bench Felony Warrant-Drugs-5th Drugs-Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4-Not Small Amount Marijuana

LAFAVE, EDWARD JAMES
Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Give Peace Officer False Name/Birthday/ID Card-Pine County Warrant-Confined But Not Convicted-Check Forgery-Offer/Possess With Intent to Defraud

LENE, CARY PATRICK
Probable Cause: Receiving Stolen Property-Traffic-Drivers License-Driving After Suspension

MEYER, MOLLY LYNNE
Probable Cause: DWI-Fourth Degree Driving While Impaired; Described-Traffic-DWI-Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Intoxicating Substance-Impaired

ROSELAND, DALLAS JOE
Probable Cause: Drugs-5th Degree-Possess Schedule-1,2,3,4-Not Small Amount Marijuana-Hunting-Transportation of Firearms-Loaded Firearm-Traffic-Drivers License-Driving After Revocation-Possess Ammo/Any Firearm-User of Controlled Substance-Escape from Custody-Held Pursuant to Lawful Arrest, While on Charge or Conviction or Adjudication-Drugs-Possess Over 1.4 Grams Marijuana in Motor Vehicle

December 10

BENJAMINSON, DAVID
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Drugs-5th Degree-Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4-Not Small Amount Marijuana-Receiving Stolen Property-Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Receiving Stolen Property-Arrest of Adult

DEVALL, DAVID LEE
Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Fugitive From Justice From Other State-Arrest of Adult

JENSEN, BRADY MICHAEL
Hold For Other Agency: Bench Felony Warrant

JOHNSON, ANTHONY
Pine County Warrant-Confined But Not Convicted-Domestic Abuse-Violate Order for Protection-Arrest of Adult

MARTIN, CURTIS LEE
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence-Firearm or Ammunition Violation-Traffic-DL-Driving After Cancellation-Inimical to Public Safety-Drugs-2nd Degree-Possess 25 Grams or More Cocaine or Methamphetamine- Arrest of Adult

ROBERTS, GARY RONALD
Pine County Warrant-Confined But Not Convicted-Domestic Assault-GM-Subsequent Violation

SHABAIASH, JOHN
Confined But Not Convicted-Domestic Abuse No Contact Order-Violate No Contact Order-Within 10 Years of Previous Conviction-Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Traffic-DWI-Third-Degree Driving While Impaired; 1 Aggravating Factor-Arrest of Adult

December 11

AGNEW, CAMERON JAMES
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Traffic-DWI-Second-Degree Driving While Impaired; 2 Aggravating Factors-Damage to Propoerty-1st Degree-Value Reduced Over $1000

BENJAMIN, JOYCE MARIE
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Fourth-Degree Driving While Impaired-Traffic-DL-Driving After Cancellation-Inimical to Public Safety-Arrest of Adult

COMPTON, STEVEN
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence-Firearm or Ammunition Violation-Felon-Convicted Crime of Violence-Firearm Violence-Arrest of Adult

HENSLEY, MICHAEL ALLEN
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Trespass -Premises of Another-Refuse to Depart-Arrest of Adult

MATTINAS, ANGIE
Pine County Warrant-Confined But Not Convicted-Drugs-5th Degree-Sale-Marijuana Mixture Except Small Amount or Marijuana With No Remuneration-Arrest of Adult

MCQUADE, MICHAEL ROY
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle-Drugs-5th Degree-Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4-Not Small Amount Marijuana-Fugitive From Others State-Hold For Other Agency-Confined But Not Convicted-Drugs-Possession of Drug Paraphernalia-Use or Possession Prohibited-Arrest of Adult

SWANSON, TRAVIS ELY
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Assault-4th Degree-Peace Officer-Demonstrable Bodily Harm-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence-Firearm Violation-Confined But Not Convicted-Possess Ammo/Any Firearm-Previous Felony Conviction-Arrest of Adult

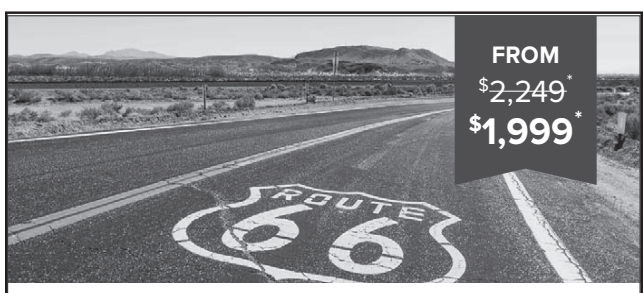
December 12

SPEARS, JEREMY WILLIAM
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-Traffic-DWI-Third-Degree Driving While Impaired; 1 Aggravating Factor-Arrest of Adult

SWANSON, TIFFANY MARIE
Probable Cause-Confined But Not Convicted-DWI-Fourth-Degree Driving While Impaired; Described-Traffic-DWI-Operate Motor Vehicle-Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours-Carrying Pistol While Under Influence of Alcohol-Concentration 0.10 or More-Arrest of Adult



The Delightful Gift
4 Butcher's Cut Top Sirloins (5 oz.)
4 Filet Mignon Burgers (5.3 oz.)
4 Boneless Chicken Breasts (1 lb. pkg.)
4 Gourmet Jumbo Franks (3 oz.)
4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)
4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
1 jar Signature Seasoning (3.1 oz. jar)
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BRUNO/KERRICK NEWS



Bruno/ Kerrick News
Sylvia Schweiger

Recently, Doreen Peterson, daughter of Carole Mercer, showed her yearling gelding in several classes in the Red River Valley International Select Fire Futurity at Valley City, N. D.

Last week, Doreen Peterson and Carole Mercer spent Wednesday shopping and also eating at Subway in Chris' Food Center.

Thursday, Doug and Sue Blechinger went to watch their granddaughter Maddie Borchardt play hockey at the Moose Lake Area Hockey Arena.

Saturday, quite a few people took in the Santa Day at the Bruno Fire Hall. Besides Santa, they also enjoyed a delicious pancake breakfast along with hay rides around the town. Thanks to all who helped to put this event together.

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Robert Sadler of Kerrick. Robert, age 81, passed away October 26, at Essentia in Duluth. He graduated from Hinckley High School in 1958 and after his time in the service he married his wife, Marion, in June 1966 at the Oak Lake Church. A memorial service will be held in the spring of 2022..

Condolences are extended to the family and friends of Colin "Colie" Hanes. Colin, age 73, passed away on December 7 after a battle with lung cancer.

He was born to Thaddeus and Joy Hanes and spent most of his youth in Bruno and was a 1966 graduate of Willow River High School. His visitation and memorial service will be held on Monday, Dec. 20 at the Bradshaw Funeral Home in White Bear Lake. Arrangements are by Bradshaw Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

WILLOW RIVER NEWS



Willow River News
Kathi Bennett

It really seems weird to me that we are having a hard time finding someone to plow city streets. I few months ago we were extremely blessed to have a few people apply for the city clerk position and they both had great qualifications, we were lucky indeed. The other city I work for had their ad in the paper for eight weeks to find someone wanting to work the position. These positions used to be ones that people waited to get and would fight over. Six years ago at Willow River we had five people apply for the clerk position with the ad only in the paper once. In Sturgeon Lake they had four people lined up to interview for the clerk position in 2017 with an ad that only ran once. I hear people who are in high up positions in the government stress that we need "job creation". I want to say, "Are you crazy?" We need people to work the job positions that are already created. We need people in the service industry, medical positions, clerical positions, the trades, etc. Have anyone of them tried to find an electrician or plumber lately? Or do they realize that the nursing homes and assisted living facilities are running on a lower capacity because they can't find staff? So, the waiting lines at those places are going to get longer while we wait for people to fill those jobs. And the people doing those jobs already, get burnt out because they are working so much harder.

The city council is looking for people to put bids in for plowing the city streets. They have an ad in the paper. Please drop off a bid if you are interested. Also, there is a new city clerk at Willow River. Her name is Tiffany Parr and she is really nice. She does not have a car parked out front when she is working, so feel free to come to city hall even when there is no car parked out front. The business hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the clerk. The Utility Billing Clerk is there on Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Another thing that was talked about at the city council meeting was if people in town were interested in paying their water/sewer bill with online payments. There will be a survey on the back of your water bill next month. Please check the appropriate box and send back with your payment.

Northern Pine Riders Snowmobile Club will be holding Snowmobile Safety classes for youth on Saturday, Dec. 18 at the clubhouse in Willow River. There will be two sessions. One at 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Please check their website for signup information and contact information.

At St. Mary's/ St. Isidore's Church: The main door at St. Mary's Church needs to be replaced, plus the repair of the ramp. They hope the doors will be replaced and the ramp will be revamped by summer. If you are interested in helping please contact Fr. Francis. It is advent time again, so the Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass is switched to St. Mary's church in Willow River. Hackers have recently started targeting the public with emails, posing as priests, asking for money or personal information. Please be aware of these phishing (fake) emails. If you receive one, please contact your local parish to confirm it was sent from your priest, even if it says it is a secret.

Parents on Santa, grandparents, naughty list



Ask Tante

Dear Tante Ingeborg,

I'm beginning to lose my holiday spirit early this year. Usually I put a lot of thought into gifts for my grandchildren. I find books they like and stuff to wear, legos and kids jewelry, etc., but this year I got a text from my son telling me not to get clothes, electronics, or unapproved reading materials. They aren't allowed to have candy because of allergies. I'm at a loss as to what to get for my grandchildren. Do you have any ideas?

Signed Grinch's Mom on Frosty Lane

Dear Grinch's Mom,

When I hear stories about prohibitive parents who want to control every aspect of their children's lives I practically have a meltdown. I'd be tempted to get the kids battery operated fart machines or chemistry sets that make lava spewing volcanos or jet propelled pogo sticks. How about a nice hand made Willy warmer from Etsy? Did they rule out pets? You could always get a pair of guppies. Your granddaughter might like to read "An Introduction To Exotic Dancing" by Gypsy Rose Lee. Of course we can't do any of these things but the temptation is strong. Ask your son to provide a list of what would be acceptable and follow the recommendations. Soon the kids will be too old for any gifts that aren't money. Life goes on. Try to regain your holly, jolly mood and wear a sprig of mistletoe behind your ear. Remember, Tante Ingeborg cares….but not so much.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Askov to receive daily mail route

100 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 13 , 1921

- Commencing Friday, December 16, the one mail route out of Askov which was started just a month ago and had a tri weekly service route will now go to a daily route.

- Mr. Jacob Jensen and Miss Camilla Christensen, both of Askov, were married at the Danish Lutheran Church.

- An evening class of bookkeeping met at the Askov School for it's first session with a class of 14 enrolling.

75 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 12, 1946

- Mr. and Mrs. Tom Stine of Willow River are the proud parents of a baby girl, she was named Pamela Jean.

- An open house was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Jensen northeast of Askov to observe their silver wedding anniversary with family and friends.

- A shoe repair shop will open in Askov, by Carroll Groettum of Pine City .

50 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 15 , 1971

- Fred Martin, age 74, of Finlayson passed away on December 11, his service was held at Peace Lutheran Church with Rev. W.J. Rittamel officiating.

- Joyce Meier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Meier of Bruno, was recently named local DAR winner at Askov High School.

- Askov Danes High School basketball team win two more during the week.

- The Swenson Family, who recently purchased the old Bill Berg home in Park Township out of Bruno are now settled in and enjoying their new home.

- Mr. and Mrs. Barney Furey (formerly of the Bruno area) daughter Kathy is now working at a hospital in Nicaragua.

25 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 12, 1996

- Presbyterian Church in Willow River has installed a new sign in the front of the church.

- Keith Herman, formerly of Sandstone, performs in a play at the Bemidji State University.

- The Pine Medical Center Emergency Room department took part in the annual craft sale at East Central School by hosting a bake sale by the employees. All the proceeds went to purchase equipment for the emergency room.

- East Central High School football team tops academically in Section 7B for the third year in a row.

10 YEARS AGO
DECEMBER 8 , 2011

- The top two administrators of Essentia Health in Sandstone were terminated and comes on the heels of the hospital boards decision to ends its contract with Essentia.

- David Dewitt officially retired from his bank position on Friday Nov. 25.

Hinckley-Finlayson teachers approved a new two year contract with the teachers union.

- State Parks reservation system is to be upgraded and will be temporarily unavailable from December 28 to February 28.

EAST CENTRAL SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Thursday, December 16
Blue line: BBQ pork sandwich, chips, apple, orange, and milk
Silver line: Corn dog, fries, apple, orange and milk

Friday, December 17
Blue line: Cheeseburger/bun, fries, peas, orange, and milk
Silver line: Chicken strips (3), chips, peas, orange, and milk

Monday, December 20
Blue line: Chicken Alfredo, bread stick, carrots, tropical fruit, and milk
Silver line: Burrito, chips and cheese, beans, tropical fruit, and milk

Tuesday, December 21
Blue line: Ham/cheese melt, chips, applesauce, green beans, and milk
Silver line: Spaghetti, breadstick, applesauce, green beans, and milk

Wednesday, December 22
Blue line: Pizza, bread stick, cooked carrots, Mandarin oranges, and milk
Silver line: Chicken nuggets (6), fries, cooked carrots, Mandarin oranges, and milk

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NOTICES

NOTICE OF FILING PARTRIDGE TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given for filing of offices to be voted on at the annual March township election in Partridge Township, Pine County, Minnesota which will be held at the Askov Community Center on March 8, 2022 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

The offices up for election will be one Supervisor for a three (3) year term and one Clerk for a two (2) year term.

The filing period for these offices begins at 8 a.m. Tuesday, December 28, 2021 and ends at 5 p.m. Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

The place of filing for candidates who reside in Partridge Township is with the Town Clerk by calling 320-630-0669 for an appointment, or by mail at 67947 Sunrise Road Bruno, MN 55712. Filing fee is $2.00.

Anne Stitt, Clerk
Partridge Township

Published in the Askov American December 9, 16, 2021

NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILING FOR TOWNSHIP ELECTION NICKERSON TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given that the affidavits for candidacy shall be filed with the township clerk beginning December 28, 2021 Filing will close January 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Filing fee is $2.00.

Offices to be filled at the March Annual Election are:

One Supervisor - 3 year term
One Clerk - 2 year term

Please call (218)496-5777 to make arrangements to file for office.

Barb Mercer
Nickerson Township Clerk

Published in the Askov American on December 9, 16, 2021

PARK TOWNSHIP FILING NOTICE

Qualified voters in the Town of Park are hereby notified that affidavits of candidacy may be filed with the clerk by appointment (218-496-5552) at his residence between 8:00 am, Tuesday, December 28th 2021, and 5:00 pm, Tuesday, January 11th 2022, for the offices of: one supervisor, three year term; and one clerk, two year term. Filing fee is $2.00. The annual election will take place on March 8th, 2022. The location of the annual election will be published and posted at a later date.

Gregory Kvasnicka, Clerk
Park Township

Published in the Askov American on December 9, 16, 2021

KETTLE RIVER TOWNSHIP PINE COUNTY, MINNESOTA FILING NOTICE OF TOWNSHIP OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Kettle River Township that candidate affidavit of candidacy filing with the Township Clerk, for Township officers, will be held for a two week period beginning Dec 28th, 2021 8:00 AM and ending Jan 11th, 2022 5:00 PM. Interested candidates may make an appointment with the Township Clerk by calling 218.380.0605 between Dec 28th to Jan 11th, or come to the Kettle River Township Hall Jan 11th between the hours of 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Positions open for election are:
One office of Supervisor, a three (3) year term
One office of Clerk, a two (2) year term
Filing Fee: $2.00

Furthermore, notice is hereby given that the Township Election will be held on March 8th, 2022 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Township Hall.

Submitted by Mindy Jerry,
Kettle River Township Clerk

Published in the Askov American on December 9, 16, 2021

BIRCH CREEK TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Please be advised that the regular board meeting of the Birch Creek Town Board will take place at 7:00 p.m. On December 16, 2021. Meeting will be held at the Birch Creek Town Hall in Denham, MN. All residents are welcome to attend.

Marissa Rayburn
Clerk, Birch Creek Township

Published in the Askov American on December 9, 16, 2021

BIRCH CREEK TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF FILING FOR TOWN OFFICES TO BE ELECTED

Notice is hereby given that a town election will be held in the Township of Birch Creek, Pine County, Minnesota on the 8th day of March, 2022. The first day for filing affidavits of candidacy will be Dec. 28th, 2021, the last day will be Jan 14th, 2022 at 5:00 pm. (filing office is closed Jan 1, 2022 for the New Years Day). Filing may be made with Clerk of the Township, Marissa Rayburn. You can make an appointment by calling 218.658.8266. You may file without an appointment by coming into the Birch Creek Town Hall on Jan. 11th, 2022 between the hours of 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm. The following terms will be expiring:

Supervisor seat for a 3 year term.
Supervisor seat for a 1 year term.
Clerk seat for a 2 year term.
Treasurer seat for a 1 year term

Marissa Rayburn
Clerk, Birch Creek Township

Published in the Askov American on December 9, 16, 2021

NOTICE OF FILING NORMAN TOWNSHIP

Qualified voters in Norman Township are hereby notified that affidavits of candidacy for the offices of Supervisor (3-year term) and Clerk (2-year term) may be filed with the clerk at her home. The filing fee is $2.00. Appointments may be made between December 28, 2021, and January 11, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. by calling (218)460-6397.

The election will be held at Norman Town Hall, 41455 Cty. Rd. 43, Willow River, MN, on March 8, 2022, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.(Bad weather alternate date for township election would be March 15, 2022.)

Information regarding annual meeting will be published later.

Judy Nelson,
Norman Township Clerk

Published in the Askov American December 9,16, 2021

Town of Arna Notice of Candidate Filing for Township Election for March 8, 2022

Notice is hereby given that affidavits of candidacy shall be filed with the Township Clerk beginning Tuesday, December 28,2021 at the residence of the Clerk, 49910 1st Ave, Markville, MN for the following offices: Supervisor - 3-year term and Clerk - 2-year term.

Filings will close at 5pm on Tues. January 11, 2022. Please note: Clerk's office will be closed January 1, 2022. Filing fee is $2.00.

Please call 242-3409 to decide to file for office.

Cheryl Wickham, Clerk

Published in the Askov American December 9, 16, 2021

Request for Bids

Sealed bids will be received by the Pine County Board of Commissioners, Administrator's Office at 635 Northridge Drive NW, Suite 200, Pine City, MN 55063 until 11:00 a.m., Monday, December 27, 2021 for the publication, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 331A.05, of the financial statement (first and second publication), the proceedings of the County Board, and such other notices as are required by to be published during 2022. Please indicate "Sealed Bids-Publishing 2022" in the lower left corner of your envelope.

/s/ David J. Minke
David J. Minke, Administrator
Pine County, Minnesota

Published in the Pine County Courier December 9, 16, 2021



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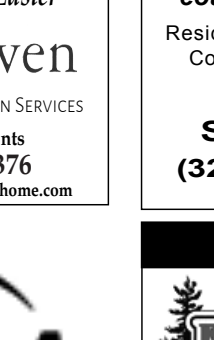
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EC girls' basketball defeated Carlton 53-19

MARY ELLEN DEWEY
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The East Central Eagles girls' basketball team won at home against Carlton on Monday, December 6, 53-19. They played Mille Lacs the next day, December 7, at home and lost in an overtime game, 45-40. On Thursday, December 9, the Eagles had a road trip to Pine City, losing 66-22.

The Eagles started their week with a win over Carlton 53-19. The game was a balanced attack with ten different players scoring, led by Kenzie Ludwig with 11 points and 12 rebounds. Katelynn McAbee had 10 points, Aly Huntington 8 points and 5 steals, Elsie Laursen 6, Josie Ford 5, Raina Zaudtke 4, Izzy Olson 4 points and 8 rebounds, Lilly Podlewski and Mason Belanger each with 2, and Lori Grundmeier had 1. Coach Peter Rogotzke said, "We played good defense and had 17 offensive rebounds to earn our first win of the season."

The Eagles were host to Mille Lacs on Tuesday, December 7. It was a close, hard fought game that went into overtime. Mille Lacs won 45-40. The game was tight the whole way and was tied at halftime 15-15. The score was always within six points. Coach Rogotzke said, "We gave it our all but came up just short, as we missed three free throws in the final 30 seconds of regulation that would have given us a lead." The Eagles and Mille Lacs both played solid defense and fought for every rebound. Ludwig had another double-double with 15 points and 16 rebounds. Huntington put in 12 points and McAbee added 6 points with 15 rebounds. Laursen chipped in 5 points and Ford added 2 more.

The Eagles finished up the week playing on Thursday, December 9, at Pine City. Pine City won 66-22. Coach Rogotzke said, "This was our fifth game in a week and the girls played very hard again, leaving it all out on the floor." Ludwig had 5 points, McAbee 4, Laursen 3. Scoring two points each were Grundmeier, Huntington, Chandra Nelson, Olson, and Belanger.

Coach Rogotzke shared that it was a tough first five games to start the season, having them packed so close together. He was very proud of how the girls responded and the effort they gave throughout.

The East Central team does not any games this week. Their next game is in Swanville on December 20.



MIKE DRAHOSH I ASKOV AMERICAN
Kenzie Ludwig aims for the basket during a recent game.

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EC boys defeat Mille Lacs, lose to Pine City

DARREN FOGT

On Tuesday, Dec. 7, the East Central Eagles boys' basketball team traveled to Isle to take on the Mille Lacs Raiders. It was a close game throughout. The Raiders took a lead in the second half by one point 33-32, but timely three-pointers by Hunter Colton and Nathan Zielinski put the Eagles ahead by eight. The Eagles also got some good play out of eighth grader, Ben Carlin, who finished with 11 points and had some very important offensive boards. The Eagles were able to hold onto that lead and ended up winning 50-45. Colton led all scorers with 20, Zielinski 15, Carlin 11, Higgins 3 and Xavier Letexier 1.



MK\IKE DRAHOSH I ASKOV AMERICAN
Kyle McDonald goes in for the layup during the Pine City game.

Friday, Dec. 10, brought the Eagles the challenge of the Pine City Dragons. The Eagles were able to keep it close through the first 10 minutes, but then Pine built a lead. The Eagles were down 40-22 at half and weren't able to come back in the second half. The final score was 72-37. It was a game that felt much closer than the final score indicated. They had plenty of opportunities but in the end, just didn't capitalize on many of them. The effort is high for this Eagle team, but too many poor passes and missed opportunities was their downfall. Zielinski had 15 points, Kyle McDonald 13, Ramsey Keranen, 3, Colton 3, Carlin 2, and Jacob Dixon 1.

Friday, Dec. 17, the team travels to Chisholm. Monday, Dec. 20, the Eagles are on the road to Carlton. On Wednesday, Dec. 29, the Eagles will play at Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted. The other teams there are Hope Academy and Plainview-Elgin-Millville. This is a young team that is learning fast, that will definitely keep getting better.

Rebels defeat Virginia, Aitkin

MARY ELLEN DEWEY
RECIPE@PINECOUNTYCOURIER.COM

The Moose Lake Willow River boys' basketball team were bused to Virginia on Tuesday, Dec. 7, to play the Blue Devils. Rebels won 98-67. Friday, Dec. 10, the Aitkin Gobblers came to Moose Lake. The Rebels were in control of the game from the opening jump ball and won 78-45.

The Virginia Blue Devils' team roster lists eight of their 12 players six feet or taller. Despite the height difference, the Rebels pulled down 38 rebounds led by Alex Watrin with 11. Sam Dewey and Duane Broughton each grabbed five.

Phillip Sheetz and Logan Orvedahl were on fire offensively, scoring 35 and 27 points. Sheetz sunk nine from beyond the arch and Orvedahl was six for ten from the three-point mark. Both players shot over 60 percent from the arch. Sam Dewey hit two threes and Neumann with one. The free throw shots improved dramatically from the Proctor game and the Rebels made 72 percent of their shots from the charity stripe. Others scoring for the Rebels were Sam Dewey with 11, Watrin and Adam Neumann each had 9, Broughton 3, Nolan Nelson and Kaden Robbins each with 2.

Sam Dewey led the team in assists with seven. Luke Dewey, Broughton, Neumann, and Orvedahl each had four.

The Rebels led at halftime by 11, 43-32 and finished the game with a victory of 98-67.

The Aitkin game was controlled by the Rebels' players from the beginning. Orvedahl led the group with 26, followed by Sheetz with 16, Sam Dewey 9, Luke Dewey 8, Watrin 6, Neumann 5 and Jayden Alleman 4. The Rebels had 12 threes in this contest. Orvedahl had 5, Sheetz 4, Sam Dewey, Luke Dewey and Neumann each had one. Aitkin made three threes.

When the teams headed to the lockers at the half, Rebels led 41-22. The final score was Rebels 78-Aitkin 45. The three referees called a tight game.

Watrin took over under the basket with 13 rebounds and Orvedahl had 7. The Rebels made over half their free throws with 57 percent. Watrin, Luke Dewey and Alleman made 100 percent of their two-point shots. Orvedahl and Broughton were assists' leaders.

The JV Rebels defeated Virginia 70-33. Nelson had 18, Luke Dewey 12, and Kaden Robbins finished with 10. They defeated Aitkin 63-43. Neumann had 16 and Nelson 15.

Moose Lake will host a double header with Cook County on Friday, Dec. 17. The girls' varsity game will start at 4:45 p.m. and the boys' varsity game is at 6:15 p.m. The JV boys will play at 4:45 and the girls at 6:15. On Monday, Dec. 20, Mesabi East will come to Moose Lake to play. This is a date change due to referees' shortage. The Rebels will play in the St. Cloud Cathedral Holiday Tournament on December 28, 29, and 30.



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