

SPORTS: Eagles win over Braham Bombers P8



JAMIE LUND | PINE COUNTY COURIER



MIKE DRAHOSH | PINE COUNTY COURIER



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Reaching new heights

BY JAMIE LUND
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Ice! Shouts a person clinging about 50 feet up on a slippery slag of white and opaque aqua colored ice. The shout is followed by the sound of ice shattering as it makes contact with the frozen ground. The quiet chatter stops for a few seconds as people look towards the sound.

The Sandstone Ice Climbing Festival buzzed with activity as groups of people walked excitedly carrying crampons, ice axes, harnesses and more.

People of all ages were dressed in various stages of ice climbing gear as they prepared for their turn to scale the 100 foot high cliff. Friends stood in groups and talked amongst them-

selves, comparing gear or the latest new item.

Attendance was down from the 2020 fest, said Kendra Stritch, Minnesota Climbers Association president.

“With COVID-19 still making a significant impact in Minnesota, we didn’t host large indoor evening events and some people are still choosing to not attend festivals,” Stritch said. “We still had about 200 climbers in the quarry this weekend and a couple dozen that camped.”

She said ages ranged from an eight-year-old to a man in his 70s.

Brent Monfort attended with his twin boys. One sipped on his warm drink next to a fire pit. The other checked his climbing gear with the help of his dad, then started up the ice.

“It’s pretty exciting,” said Logan Monfort, 10. “It was a little scary at first.” He said his family stays busy by rock climbing in the summer and mountain biking. Brent explained that the family drove two hours from Boyceville, Wisc. for the youth ice climbing clinic. He said the class was a great deal for the price as it included free use of the gear for the boys.

Noah also said he enjoys ice climbing as well.

“I like when I get to the top,” Noah said. He said he likes the views at the top of Winona Ice Park better and there are easier routes for climbing than at Sandstone. The brothers agreed that it is easier to climb when the weather is warmer as the ice is

SEE ICE, PAGE 2

City, township reach temporary agreement

JENNIFER YOCUM-STANS
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Residents of Sandstone Township will have fire coverage through March of 2022 from the City of Sandstone.

After the recent discussions with the City of Sandstone yielded no compromise to the increased costs of providing Sandstone Township with fire coverage, the township chose to move on from the city and begin to look elsewhere for this service.

Having no contracted fire service was of utmost concern to many township residents. During the public comment portion of the Sandstone Township regular meeting, three residents spoke up requesting the township pay the bill and provide fire service to its residents and one spoke up agreeing with the town board’s stance.

At a special meeting the City of Sandstone had extended the contract to

SEE FIRE, PAGE 2

What happens at a precinct caucus

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Political caucuses are coming up February 1, 2022. What is a caucus you might ask? A caucus, or precinct caucus is a meeting for those interested in participating in and influencing the election of candidates. Caucuses kick off the next two years of political activity.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE/ATTEND?

According to Minnesota State Statute (202A.16) a person can participate and vote at a precinct caucus if they: Are or will be eligible to vote in the next general election, reside in the precinct on the day the caucus is held, agree with the political party and its principles and have not or will not participate in another political party’s caucus in the same year.

If a person does not want to participate, they can still attend. The only requirement to attend is that the observer must sign a registration form.

SEE CAUCUS, PAGE 2

FIRE: Township residents protected through March

FROM PAGE 1

January 20 to allow the township time to figure out their next steps. The township responded to the city with a proposal with two options:

Option A states the township will pay the city a base amount of \$10,000 and give them \$2,000 per fire with a cap of \$24,000. Option B would be to give them the \$20,044 for 2022 and 2023 and then in 2024 the township would agree to an increase following the cost-of-living increase provided by Consumer Pricing Index.

After further discussion, the township agreed to pay \$5,011.11 for fire service for the first quarter of 2022. This will allow the township and city to consider the fire formula for 2023 and determine if they can come to an agreement for the rest of 2022 and into 2023.

SANDSTONE TOWNSHIP CLERK GIVES MORE BACKGROUND

At the annual township meetings, all 1,790 townships in the state of Minnesota are told by their electors how much they can levy (tax) for the next year. Their residents determine how much their taxes will be. It's up to the township board to be good stewards of that money and spend it accordingly, with every attempt to see into the next year's needs. Only the township's residents can raise the levy.

Sandstone township's electors only increased the levy in 2021 by \$10,000 and had increased expenses of \$26,000 which included the new grader payment and the \$13,000 increase in fire service costs. They had an additional

unforeseen cost of \$14,200 to extend the grader warranty in case of a serious breakdown.

The townships get some extra dollars from the county from timber sales and tax forfeited properties that sell to build a reserve for unseen emergencies like the floods in 2016.

According to Sandstone Township Clerk Ailene Croup, Sandstone Township Board has been trying to get a handle on the ever-growing increases in the City of Sandstone's yearly fire service bill. The township was charged approximately \$14,000 in 2019 and \$31,000 in 2021 for fire service from the city.

The township has averaged three fires per year over the past eight years. They have offered the City of Sandstone \$20,000 a year for three years with a consumer price index increase on the third year. They also gave the city a choice of \$10,000 per year plus \$2,000 per fire with the total not to exceed \$24,000.

The township board is trying to extend the contract over a 3-year period so they can build reserves after the 40 percent increase in the fire formula depleted existing reserves.

For those who want to be involved in their township's government, March 8, 2022 is the day of the annual meeting and your chance to be heard and give input on what your township taxes will be in 2023.

The Sandstone City Council meets next on January 19 at 6 p.m. at the Sandstone City Hall. Sandstone Town Board meets the first Thursday of each month at the North Pine Government Center in Sandstone.

CAUCUS: Getting involved in local elections

FROM PAGE 1

WHAT HAPPENS AT A CAUCUS?

The caucus meeting starts promptly at 7 p.m. Attendees are asked to register when they arrive. According to the Secretary of State website there are three main activities at a precinct caucus.

Choosing volunteers who will organize political activities in the precinct. This could include maintaining contact lists, holding political meetings and helping with campaign efforts.

Discussing issues and ideas for the party to support. A person can present an issue or idea for the party to support, called a resolution. If they convince other attendees to support their resolution, it will be taken to the next political convention. Eventually, the resolution could become part of the official party platform.

Choosing delegates and alternates who will endorse candidates at future conventions. At future conventions, party delegates will endorse state and federal candidates, including for Governor. Political parties have different ways of choosing delegates at the precinct level caucus—contact the party for more information.

WHAT DOES A PRECINCT DELEGATE DO?

The elected delegates will meet with other delegates from around the county/district at the county/district party conventions and represent their precincts for a two-year term. Different tasks are performed depending on if it is an even or odd year. When meeting in the even year, they: 1) elect delegates and alternates to represent the county/district party at district conventions and the state convention; 2) consider resolutions from the precinct caucuses to amend the state party's platform; and 3) endorse a State House candidate and a State Senate candidate. When meeting in the odd year, they: 1) elect the executive committee of the county/district party; 2) amend the county/district party's constitution as needed; 3) elect delegates and alternates to represent the county/district party at the State Central Committee which is the committee that elects the state party officers.

Whether you are a Republican, Democrat or anything in between and wish to be more involved in the choosing of elected officials, attend this year's caucus. To find out where your local caucus is being held, use the precinct finder on the Minnesota Secretary of State website at <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/precinct-caucuses/>.

It Pays to advertise in the Pine County Courier!

ICE: Over 200 climbers converged on Sandstone for Ice Fest 2022

FROM PAGE 1

softer. It's more difficult to get the ice ax in when the ice is hard. It was about 20 degrees at the festival and the ice was solid.

"The festival is hosted by the MCA and all of the money raised from the clinics, gear rental and raffle goes to stewardship and infrastructure projects at climbing recreation areas," said Stritch. "The MCA also runs the Sandstone Ice Park, so a lot of the money goes back into making sure we can make great ice for the ice climbing community. There's also rock climbing in Robinson Park and we hope to do some trail improvement and sustainability projects this summer."

The ice park is free and open to the public from late December to early March, as long as the weather cooperates.

Next year's festival dates are already set for January 6, 7 and 8, 2023.

BACK IN THE DAY

1996: Sandstone receives more than a foot of snow

75 YEARS AGO JANUARY 9, 1947

- Svend Andersen and Richard Davis have unloaded a truckload of baled hay on their new lot next to the post office and announce that they expect to start building operations at once. The hay will be used to cover the concrete foundation if the weather is cold. The new building will be 50x75-feet and a big improvement on Main Street.
- Bernard Hedlund was presented with the Edison Electric Award for saving the life of Arthur Nelson of Sandstone. While working on power lines between Sandstone and Askov, Nelson received a charge of current that nearly took his life. Mr. Hedlund applied artificial respiration to the unconscious man until medical help arrived.
- The U.S. Veterans' Administration will be located here to serve all territory between the Twin Cities and the Twin Ports.
- The hard-fighting basketball team from McGrath went down to defeat at the hands of Sandstone. The Panthers emerged with a 67-23 win.
- The Wahlbergs were just too strong for the Lundorff "town boys" and won the family basketball game 37-23.
- Panthers defeated Finlayson 71-9 and Willow River defeated Askov 56-18.

50 YEARS AGO JANUARY 13, 1972

- Mayor Jokela makes council committee appointments. Two new members, Mayor William Jokela and Chris Thorvig, Trustee, took office. Fire and Civil Defense committee includes Joe Seitz, Chris Thorvig and Larry Welsh. Environmental Improvement committee members are Warren Larson, William Jokela and Chris Thorvig.
- The Clerk of Court Case Nieboer and his staff, Eileen Baum and Mrs. Jim D'Aoust demonstrate their new equipment. State law now requires an eye check and a colored picture for all driver's license.
- Mrs. Donald (Louise) Ryan received awards for her entries into the East Central Minnesota Art Exhibition at Stillwater.
- The Sandstone Panthers dropped two games this week losing to Willow River 44-37 and to Moose Lake 84-43. Tom Laursen was high point man with 11. Tom Brabec had 10 for Willow River.
- Finlayson awarded trophies to the ten highest scorers in Finlayson history at the Finlayson Alumni basketball game.
- David Phaller is the office manager of the new Delta Lines Terminal in San Bernardino, Calif.

25 YEARS AGO JANUARY 9, 1997

- Sandstone received more than a foot of snow on the weekend.
- Clarence Wattnem was re-elected chairman of the North Pine Area Hospital District Board of Directors.
- East Central Board of Education held a special meeting to discuss the recently defeated bond referendum.
- An auction is being planned as a fundraiser for Sandstone Junction Trail Extension. Contact Norman Lundorff if you wish to donate anything.
- Winners at the Moose Lake Federal Credit Union Youth and Teen Savers Club were Katie Pigman, Kortine Brown, and Rissa Davis.
- Gunny Lovgren is proud of her Swedish heritage.
- Athletes of the Week are Brandon Beise and Dana Fogt.
- Reader of the Week is Laurann Johnson in Mrs. Loken's first-grade.
- Lady Eagles capture the holiday tournament with winning scores of East Central/Cook 55-47, East Central/Ely 55-47, East Central/Indus 79-34, and East Central/Carlton 61-45.
- Sign on the door of Maggie's Colonial Café we are closed because of the snow and my workers can't make it into work.

10 YEARS AGO JANUARY 12, 2012

- East Central will be looking for a new superintendent. The board unanimously approved not to renew Tamara Schulz's contract.
- Lane Roberts won the East Central Geography Bee.
- The One-Act Festival is January 21. This year the play selected is Judah's Daughter.
- The City of Sandstone has provided the North Pine Area Hospital District with a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to provide transition funds for the district. In December the hospital district voted to officially terminate its lease with Duluth-based Essentia.
- Bart Johnson and Kirsten Shank are Athletes of the Week.
- Gillian Fogt, Delaney Beckman, Simon Ecklund, Carly Watrin, Raina Zaudtke, Gabe Koland, Gunnar Fogt, Jacey Wickstrom, Brenna Miller and Tayah Schleret were Students of the Month for December at East Central Elementary (Soaring Eagles).
- Jeannette Kester was elected school board president.
- East Central Sports Boosters will have the annual Sloppy Dog Fundraiser Dinner before the Hinckley-Finlayson game.

Stories of the historic 1918 fire handed down through generations

ots to discuss here at the Meyer household. And, yes, it's cold enough for us. Uffdaa. If you read last week, you know we were waiting on labs and biopsy results for Gary's day at the University of Minnesota hospital. It took four days before we heard those "overnight" results. (ha!) But, Gary is ok, to sum it up. There are results that changed back to "no problem," and others that were off a bit. The changing values are making the doctors think his body is fighting a couple antibody issues that came with his donor's heart. Their conclusion: we will continue watching.



Finlayson News
Maxine Meyer

You may remember the October vehicle accident about our truck. Well, this was the week Gary's truck was completed. Parts all located, installed and the truck looks and works great. But for three days he looked over the back of that truck and finally figured out what bothered him. The corner built-in bumper step. On that 2016 model Chevy there was a black rugged material that prevented a foot from slipping when used, but now one side of his truck has a no grip pattern on the step. A minor difference, but he is going back to ask them about it. (Nope, not my issue. It's transportation, not a loved one, but I know another guy who has issues with just a scratch.)

And, good news on our dog Brewster, he finally let his paw heal. Of course, that was after our daughter put an Elizabethan collar on him, and paired it with a cone. Poor boy would

bang that cone into the back of my legs just to make a point he was mad, I think. But, the idea worked and five days ago we took it all off and he is one happy senior pup, and so are we.

As I mentioned last week here is the first installment of my family's story of the farm and the log cabin store west of Willow River:

As I've mentioned before, I grew up living in the back of that country store and I was there until 1963. In my first 13 years I was close to my great-grandmother Theresa Mecl, she and other family would occasionally repeat their story of surviving the 1918 Moose Lake fire. To confirm my memories, I called my cousins to double check the following details as we know them to be true.

So, I'll start with that beautiful windy, sunny October day in 1918. The men at the Mecl family home were off working,

logging we expect, apparently somewhere to the south. The three women left at the family farm were doing their kitchen work. There wasn't a clue that the day would be any different from days before. That summer weather was much like our latest summer of 2021, very dry and no rain. Logging was the big money maker, and much of the state was being logged. In fact, so much that small fires broke out often and people became used to seeing smoke.

The 12th day in October, the winds came out of the north and a large fire was beginning to take shape. With the help of the wind it began making it's way south and west from as far north as Cloquet. Some folks thought the origin was as far north as just below Duluth, but so many small fires were already going. Due to the gusting wind the fires merged. A monster disaster formed, rolling

right towards our "neck of the woods."

It grew bigger and bigger, faster and faster as it blew through Moose Lake. It leveled most of the town, and other smaller towns in it's path were completely eliminated. In it's path, although nearing the end of it's run, was the James Arthur Mecl family farm, 8.5 miles west of Willow River, just ¼ mile east of a town called Ellson. It was indeed devastating. (More next week.)

Please remember to be considerate of your family, friends and community and get vaccinated, wear masks and keep sanitizing. It helps us all.

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.

January is National Soup Month



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!!

WILD RICE HAM SOUP

- 3/4 c. wild rice, washed
- 1-1/2 c. water
- 1/2 c. cooked ham or bacon diced
- 1/4 c. diced onion
- 2 c. diced potatoes
- 2 c. diced carrots
- 2 c. peas
- 2 c. water
- 1 can cream of potato soup
- 1-pint milk
- 1/4 c. butter
- 2 c. shredded American cheese

Boil rice in 1-1/2 cups water until rice is tender and water is gone. Set aside. In 4 to 6-quart pan put ham, onion, potatoes, carrots, peas and 2 cups water. Cover and simmer, stirring often, until vegetables are tender. Add soup, milk, butter and cheese. Stir in cooked rice. Serve when cheese is melted.

CREAMY TOMATO BASIL SOUP

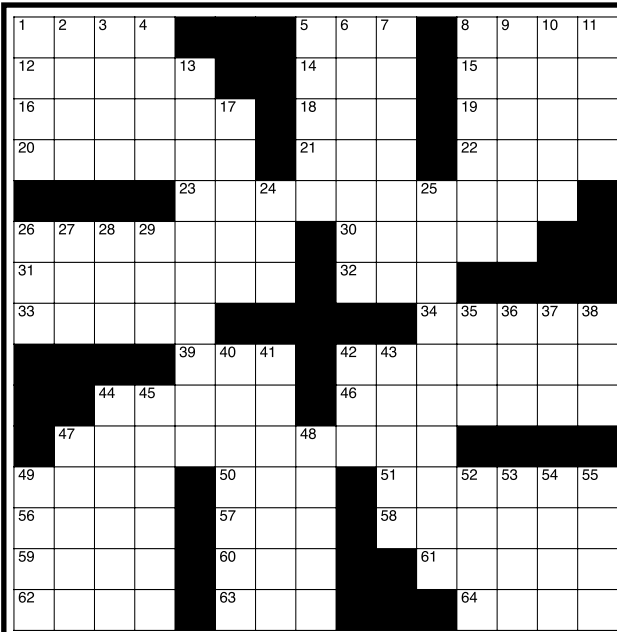
- 1/4 c. butter
- 1/4 c. flour
- 1/4 c. yellow onion, diced
- 1/4 c. carrots, diced
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1 Tbsp. basil
- 1-1/2 milk
- 3 c. heavy cream
- 2 Tbsp. chicken bouillon
- 2 c. water
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 c. tomato juice
- 2 cans (14 oz.) diced tomatoes with juice

In a medium stock pot, sauté onions and carrots in the butter. Add paprika and basil sauté until tender. Add flour to make a roux. Add water, milk, cream and chicken bouillon and bring to a simmer. When soup starts to simmer add tomatoes and juice. Bring soup back to simmer and taste, add salt and pepper to taste. Serves approximately 12 servings. Can substitute 2 cups of chicken stock for the chicken bouillon and water.

BEEF DUMPLING SOUP

- 1 lb. beef stewing meat, cubed
- 1 envelope dry onion soup mix
- 6 c. hot water
- 2 carrots, peeled and shredded
- 1 tomato, peeled and chopped
- 1 celery rib, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1/2 tsp. dried basil
- 1/4 tsp. dill
- 1 c. buttermilk biscuit mix
- 1 Tbsp. finely chopped parsley
- 6 Tbsp. milk

Place meat in slow cooker. Sprinkle with onion soup mix. Pour water over meat. Add carrots, celery, tomato, basil, garlic and dill. Cover. Cook on low 4-6 hours, or until meat is tender. Combine biscuit mix and parsley. Stir in milk with fork until moistened. Drop dumplings by teaspoonfuls into pot. Cover. Cook on high 30 minutes. Makes 6 servings.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Requests

5. Calendar month

8. Invests in little enterprises

12. Bird sound

14. S. American plant cultivated for tubers

15. Car

16. Bullfighter

18. Hill (Celtic)

19. Strong criticism

20. Detector

21. When you hope to get there

22. Having the skill to do something

23. Legendary MLB broadcaster

26. Vulcanite

30. C. Asian mountain range

31. In a way, healed

32. Midway between east and southeast
33. Small appendages of insects

34. __ Greene, "Bonanza" actor

39. A place to bathe

42. Postal worker accessory

44. Classical music

46. A way of wrecking

47. Terminator

49. You eat three a day

50. Pointed end of a pen

51. NATO official (abbr.)

56. Genus of clams

57. Boxing's "G.O.A.T."

58. A colorless, odorless gas used as fuel

59. Covered thinly with gold paint

60. Bachelor of Laws

61. Red fluorescent dye

62. Engineering group

63. Female sibling

64. Adjacent

CLUES DOWN

1. What a thespian does

2. Footwear

3. Adjust spacing between

4. Witnesses

5. Who shows excessive fondness

6. Distinct form of a plant

7. National capital

8. Hunting expedition

9. Related to medulla oblongata

10. European country

11. Cola

13. Excluded from use or mention

17. Speak

24. Bloodshot

25. Make better

26. Keyboard key

27. Type of degree

28. Paddle
29. Peacock network

35. Not young

36. Baseball stat

37. One's grandmother

38. Breakfast food

40. Bathroom features

41. Disease-causing bacterium

42. NY ballplayer

43. Got up

44. Prophet

45. Part of the mouth

47. Unnatural

48. Acronym for brain science study

49. Three are famous

52. Languages spoken in Patagonia

53. Freedom from difficulty

54. Widely used OS

55. Many people pay it

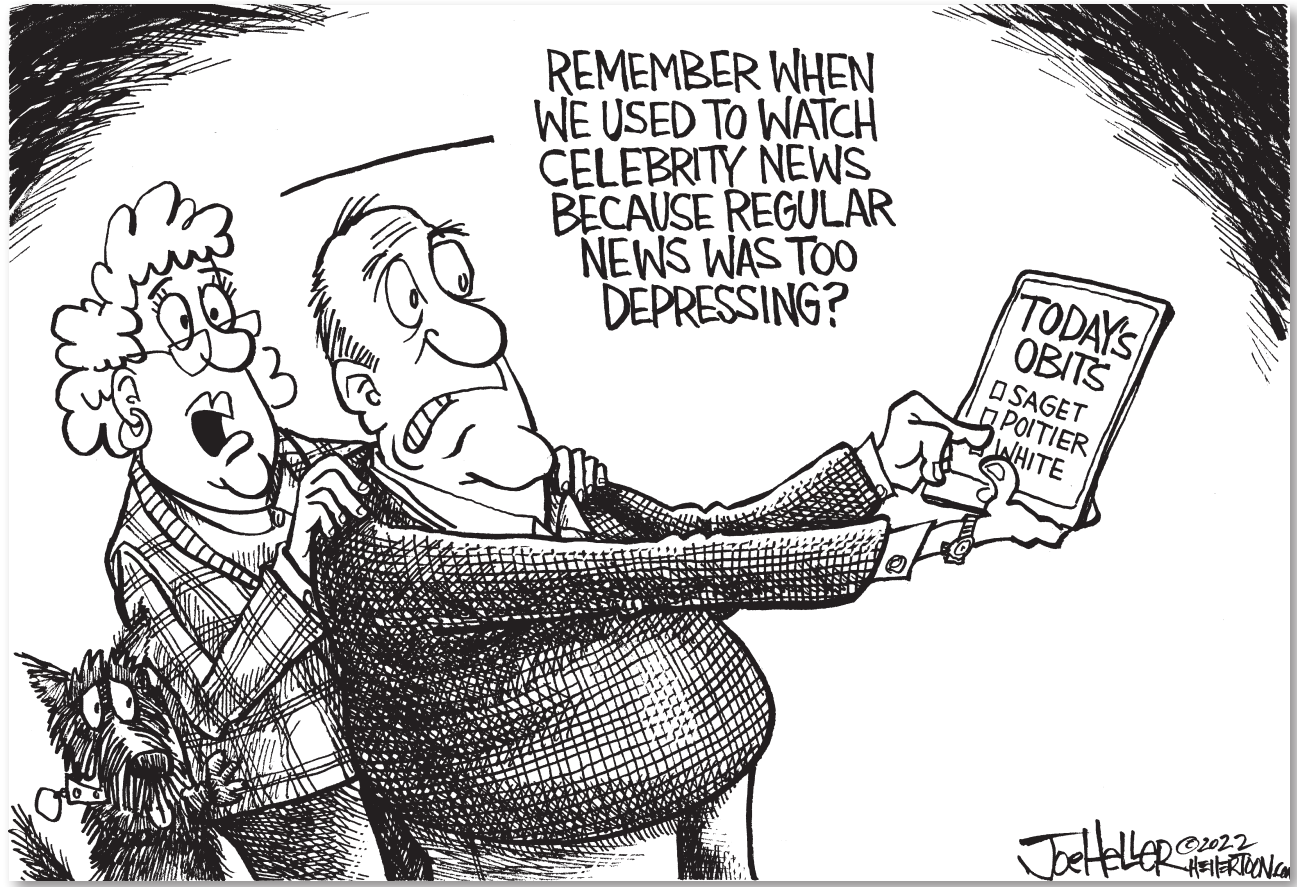


LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gas Prices

To the Editor:
If anyone can explain to me why the gas prices in Hinckley are so high, I will be glad to listen. The prices in Pine City and Sandstone are generally 8 to 10 cents a gallon cheaper than in Hinckley. I was in Mora on Friday the 7th of January. The price of gas in town on highway 65 was between \$2.519 to \$2.539 at every station. Why is gas in Mora, 20 miles away, 66 cents a gallon cheaper? I understand that Hinckley is on the freeway and raising the price a little gets a little “extra” money from people passing through but 66 cents a gallon sounds excessive to me. Again, Why are gas prices in Hinckley so much higher than the surrounding town????

Ed Hattenberger
Hinckley, Minn.



New Laws Taking Effect in 2022

There are several new laws taking effect as of January 1, 2022. Below is a listing of a few of them by subject area:



Legislative Update
Senator Jason Rarick

FAMILY - PREGNANCY ACCOMMODATIONS
An employer with 15 or more employees will be required to provide “reasonable accommodations” to an employee for health conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth upon request, with the advice of a licensed health care provider or certified doula, unless the employer demonstrates that the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the operation of the employer’s business.
Examples may include a temporary transfer to a less strenuous or hazardous position, seating, frequent restroom breaks, and limits to heavy lifting.

COMMERCE - OPIOID SCREENING LIMITS REPEALED

Medical Assistance must cover screenings and urinalysis tests for opioids without lifetime or annual limits.
The provision is part of the omnibus commerce and energy finance and policy law, which also contains several Commerce Department requirements effective January 1, 2022, that apply to reinsurance contracts renewed or entered into on or after that date.

TRANSPORTATION - DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION
Beginning January 1, 2022, a person’s driver’s license cannot be suspended following a conviction for driving after suspension, driving after revocation, or based solely on a person’s failure to pay a traffic ticket, parking fine, or surcharge following a conviction for a vehicle operation or parking citation.

PUBLIC SAFETY - PROPERTY FORFEITURE REVISIONS
The omnibus public safety and judiciary policy and finance law revises Minnesota’s forfeiture system for property seized in relation to criminal activity.

- A vehicle is not subject to forfeiture if the driver fails to appear for a scheduled court appearance and fails to voluntarily surrender

- within 48 hours of that required appearance;
- Forfeiture notices must contain a warning to a person — other than the driver — who may have an ownership interest in a vehicle that has been seized how to assert an innocent owner claim;
- A forfeiture proceeding in relation to a DWI offense is stayed in certain circumstances if the driver becomes a program participant in the ignition interlock program;
- Identifying specific ways a law enforcement agency or prosecuting authority can use forfeiture obtained money;
- Personal property and real property, other than homestead property exempt from seizure, is subject to forfeiture if it is an instrument or represents the proceeds of a controlled substance offense;
- Money totaling \$1,500 and any precious metals or stones are subject to forfeiture if there is probable cause to believe they represent the proceeds of a controlled substance offense;

- A vehicle is subject to forfeiture if used in transportation or exchange of controlled substances intended for distribution or sale and the controlled substances had a value of at least \$100.

In addition, the legislative auditor’s office is to conduct an audit on the efficacy of forfeiture and ignition interlock in DWI cases and report to the Legislature by January 15, 2025.

STAY IN TOUCH
I am always available to answer your questions or concerns. Please email me anytime at sen.jason.rarick@senate.mn or call my office in St. Paul at 651-296-1508.
Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving you in the Minnesota Senate!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

The Pine County Courier encourages readers to share their viewpoints of community issues by writing Letters to the Editor. Publishing decisions are made on questions of free speech, good taste, public interest and public sensitivity.
The Courier reserves the right to edit for accuracy, clarity, libel, and civility and reserves the right not to publish a letter. Personal complaints or attacks, plagiarized material, religious treatises or submissions from organized letter-writing campaigns will not be published.

GUIDELINES FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS

- Letters must be submitted by 3

p.m. Mondays to courier@pinenet.com or via mail to 414 Main P.O. Box 230, Sandstone, MN 55072

- Letters to the editor must be 400 words or less.
- Each letter writer may have one letter published every 30 days, or four print cycles (exceptions made for rebuttals).

- Anonymous letters will not be published. Letter signatures must include the writer’s first and last name, 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 Courier circulation area will be published.

- An identification line may be added to the writer’s letter identifying his or her occupation or title as it applies to the topic of the letter.
- Special rules apply during election season.

Daniel M. Peterson

March 21, 1933 - January 2, 2022

Daniel Mark Peterson, 88, of Giese, passed away on Jan 2, 2022.

Dan graduated from McGrath High School, served in the Army Band and attended the University of Minnesota, earning a degree in Agricultural Business. He married Evelyn Burzlauff on his birthday in Dodge Center on March 21, 1959 (62 years).

Although Dan has held many occupations, he lived over half his life in Giese, Minn. Dan and his family have also lived in Rochester, Minn., Dodge County, Minn. (Farm) and Olivia Minn. Dan was loved for his strong faith, work ethic, wit, stories and sense of humor.

Dan is survived by his wife Evelyn, Children: Pam (Tim) Eng, Mark Peterson, Jonna (Terry) Marholz, Susan Battles, Linda (Jim) Hannasch, Steve (Dani) Peterson; many grandchildren, and his sister Dorothy Norback.

A memorial service was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Giese Minn. on Thursday, January 6, 2022.

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

Martha M. Peltó

Martha Marion Peltó, age 89, of Finlayson, Minn. passed away Sunday, January 9, 2022 at her home with her family by her side.

A funeral service is planned for Martha at St. John's Lutheran Church on Friday, January 14, 2022 at 1 p.m. in Finlayson, Minn., with Pastor Gary Zikan officiating. Visitation will take place one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will take place later in the spring.

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

Kenneth Ladd

April 18, 1947 - December 13, 2021

Kenny (Kenneth) Ladd went to be with his LORD and Savior Jesus Christ on December 13, 2021, in his home surrounded by his family and in the care of hospice. He was born on April 18, 1947, in Benson, Minn., to Alvin and Louise Ladd. In 1953, he moved with his parents and younger brother, Merlin, to the farm south of Cloverdale. He graduated from Hinckley High School in 1965. He studied electronics at St. Paul Vocational School and worked his entire forty-five year career for Control Data/General Dynamics as a computer parts inspector in the Metro area. Ken is survived by his wife, Corrine, daughter Zoe and son Nelson, all of Minneapolis; brother Merlin (Patti) of Hinckley, sister Nancy (Mark) of Carrington, N.D.; several nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Allen.

A memorial service will be held January 15, 2022, at 11:00 at Park Avenue Methodist Church in Minneapolis. Anyone wishing to send a card, please send to: Cori Ladd 3201 E. 53rd Minneapolis, MN 55417.

Richard F. Anderson

Richard "Richy" Fritz Anderson, age 56, of Sandstone, Minn. passed away Sunday, January 9, 2022 at Essentia Health Care Center-Sandstone.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for Richy at the Hinckley Community Center for a later date.

A full obituary will follow shortly.

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

Margaret "Peggy" Harris

November 16, 1948 - January 5, 2022

Margaret "Peggy" Harris, age 73, of Sandstone, passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by family on Wednesday, January 5, 2022.



Margaret Frances Harris was born on November 16, 1948, in Moose Lake, Minn. to Paul and Josepha (Urman) Koenings. She grew up in Finlayson and graduated from Finlayson High School in 1965. Peggy moved to the cities living in Minneapolis right after graduation, working for IDS as a film copier. She met Bob in 1967 and they married in 1968 before

Bob deployed to Vietnam for 1.5 years. They started their family when Kyle was born in 1972 then came Nick, Adam and Luke. Peggy and Robert moved to Sandstone to raise their family and to build a farm. Peggy believed that family was a priority and took being a farmer's wife, mother and grandma seriously. She also was part of the team that kept the farm going; working beside her husband and family to make the farm successful. Peggy was a member of the Women's DAV and ADA (American Dairy Association) for many years. It seemed Peggy always was a bright spot in people's lives whether she was in town or home on the farm. She enjoyed many hobbies throughout her life but one of the things that always brought a big smile to her face were her grandchildren. If Peggy wasn't playing with her grandchildren, you could find her milking the cows or feeding the calves in the spring. Peggy enjoyed taking care of her calves, many, many cats; especially the manx cats, raising the largest pigs in Pine County and watching any kind of sporting event, especially football. Peggy enjoyed a good crossword puzzle or catching up on the stars gossip when she was reading her favorite magazine, People. She also liked to get away from the farm occasionally and would hit the local casino with her good friends or for bigger adventures head to Las Vegas for a few days. But Peggy's ultimate joy came from raising her four boys and the many nieces and nephews that came to stay every summer.

Peggy is preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Josepha; her brother, Dave Koenings; and her niece, Kristie Wilkens "Wyandt".

Peggy is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, Robert; her sons, Kyle (Leesa) Harris, Nick (Sara) Harris, Adam (Mindy) Harris, Luke (Bettina) Harris; her sister, Mary (John) Jenkins; and her brother, Larry (Pam) Koenings.

A memorial service is planned for Peggy at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Kroschel, Minn., with visitation one hour prior to the service at the church. Visitation will also take place from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at the Cross Church in Sandstone, Minn.

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

Pam Lewis

May 20, 1965 - January 2, 2022

Pam Lewis, 56, of Finlayson, passed away peacefully on January 2, 2022 surrounded by her loved ones.

Pam was born on May 20, 1965 to John and Maggie Lawrence. She worked alongside her mother at the Colonial Café, before purchasing the restaurant herself, which then became Pam's Place. She loved the fast pace of her day and working with her children. After that, she sold the restaurant and became the Deli and Subway Manager at Chris' Food Center. Her next career venture was a Sales Representative at Sysco. She missed running her own business and interacting with people daily. Her dream was to become a real estate agent as people were her passion. She went back to school to obtain her real estate license in Minnesota and Wisconsin and purchased a building in Sandstone which has flourished ever since.

In 1982, she married the love of her life, David Lewis. They have four children, Amber, Andrea, Amanda and Dave. Pam truly cherished every moment with her family whether that was hosting gatherings, taking a motorcycle trip with David, going on vacation, spending time at the lake or dancing the night away. Because of her smile, contagious laugh and zest for life, she made a lasting impact on every single person she met and will be missed by many.

Pam was preceded in death by her parents, John and Maggie Lawrence; her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Kenny and Marian Lewis. She is survived by her husband, David Lewis; daughter, Amber Lewis; daughter, Andrea (Mitch) Cabak; daughter, Amanda Lewis; son, Dave Lewis. She also leaves behind eight grandchildren, five siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins and a host of friends and colleagues who played very important roles in her life.

A visitation was held at the Sandstone Evangelical Free Church on Thursday, January 6, 2022.

Arrangements by Methven Funeral Home of Sandstone, MN. www.methvenfuneralhome.com

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NOTICES

DELL GROVE TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES
The Dell Grove Town Board will hold their regular monthly meetings at the Dell Grove Emmanuel Lutheran Church, County 27, 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month unless noted below.
If any meetings are changed, it will be posted an the Town Bulletin Board by the west door of the Dell Grove Lutheran Church. This notice can also be found on the Dell Grove website at dellgrovetownship.com, February 1, including Board of Audit at 8 p.m.
March 8th: Annual Meeting at 7 p.m., with regular meeting following at 8 p.m.
April 1st-Board will be attending Township training in Duluth
April 5
April 11-Board of Appeals, 1p.m.
April 30-Road inspection, starting from Nick Harris residence at 11 a.m.
May 3
June 7
July 5
August 2
September 6
October 4
November 15 -including Board of Canvas at 8 p.m.
December 6
January 8, 2023-including Organizational meeting
Janet Foss, Clerk
Dell Grove Township
Published in the Pine County Courier January 13, 2022

PINE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC FARMER LABOR (DFL) PRECINCT CAUCUSES
What: Join us to choose delegates for the DFL conventions and party officers, build the party platform, and hear from DFL candidates for local offices.
For more information about the DFL caucuses, go to https://dffl.org/caucuses-conventions/precinct-caucus/
When:
Tuesday, February 1, 2022
Registration Begins at 6:30 PM
Call to Order at 7:00 PM
Where:
North Pine Government Center
1602 Hwy 23 North
Sandstone, MN 55072
OR
Pine Technical & Community College
900 Fourth St. SE
Pine City, MN 55063
To find your specific location, use https://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us/ If you have other specific questions about our location or organization, email us at dflpine11b@gmail.com
Published in the Pine County Courier January 13, 2022

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: July 19, 2018
MORTGAGOR: Victoria F. Orand and Cory D. Orand, husband and wife, as joint tenants.
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC its successors and assigns.
DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded August 1, 2018 Pine County Recorder, Document No. A-541388.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: BankUnited, N.A. Dated December 1, 2021 Recorded December 7, 2021, as Document No. A566438.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT’S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: 1006037-9000508834-4

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: Carrington Mortgage Services LLC
MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 606 1st Ave N, Brook Park, MN 55007
TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 35.5019.000
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots One (1), Two (2), and Three (3), Block Five (5), Kelsey’s First Addition to the Townsite of Brook Park, together with that part of the vacated alley that accrued there to by reason of vacation thereof, Pine County, Minnesota.
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Pine
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$110,704.00
AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$97,584.40
That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/ Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; That no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: February 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Detention Center, 635 Northridge Drive NW, Pine City MN 55063
to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys’ fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on August 10, 2022, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:None
“THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR’S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.”
Dated: December 8, 2021
BankUnited, N.A.
Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee
LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.
Attorneys for Mortgagee/ Assignee of Mortgagee
4500 Park Glen Road #300 Minneapolis, MN 55416 (952) 925-6888
85- 21-004678 FC
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
Published in the Pine County Courier December 16, 23, 30, 2021, January 6, 13, 20, 2022

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: November 20, 2015
MORTGAGOR: David Peterson and Gloria Peterson, married to each other.
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Pacific Union Financial, LLC its successors and assigns.
DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded December 3, 2015 Pine County Recorder, Document No. A-524076.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Freedom Mortgage Corporation. Dated August 24, 2018 Recorded August 24, 2018, as Document No. A541809.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT’S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: 100521300000726820
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: Pacific Union Financial, LLC
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: Freedom Mortgage Corporation
MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 18004 Mission Creek Run, Brook Park, MN 55007
TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 185128000
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 5, Block 2, Mission Creek Woods, Pine County, Minnesota
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Pine
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$130,591.00
AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$157,818.33
That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/ Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; That no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: February 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Detention Center, 635 Northridge Drive NW, Pine City MN 55063
to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys’ fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on August 10, 2022, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:None
“THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR’S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.”
Dated: November 29, 2021
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee
LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.
Attorneys for Mortgagee/ Assignee of Mortgagee
4500 Park Glen Road #300 Minneapolis, MN 55416 (952) 925-6888
46 - 21-004695 FC
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
Published in the Pine County Courier December 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021, January 6, 13, 2022

follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: February 3, 2022 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Detention Center, 635 Northridge Drive NW, Pine City MN 55063
to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys’ fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on August 3, 2022, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:None
“THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR’S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.”
Dated: November 29, 2021
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee
LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.
Attorneys for Mortgagee/ Assignee of Mortgagee
4500 Park Glen Road #300 Minneapolis, MN 55416 (952) 925-6888
46 - 21-004695 FC
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
Published in the Pine County Courier December 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021, January 6, 13, 2022

MINUTES

EAST CENTRAL ISD #2580 UNAPPROVED SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
January 3, 2022
The East Central School Board held a regular meeting on Monday, January 3, 2022 in the Community Board Room.
Members Present: Rich Thomsen, Julie Domogalla, Judy Loken, Pete Brown, Angie Presley, Genny Swenson, Andy Almos. Absent: Doug Ecklund.
Others Present: Stef Youngberg, Kris Chryst, Jenny Nelson, Kristi Zemke, Jamie Nord, Cindy Stolp, Lori Grundmeier
I. Chair Thomsen called the meeting to order at 6pm.
II. Open Forum - no comments from the public.
III. OATH OF OFFICE FOR BOARD MEMBERS - Chair Thomsen read the responsibilities of taking the Oath of Office;
Genny Swenson, new board member publicly affirmed her Oath of Office. Other board members signed the Acceptance of Office (Rich Thomsen, Judy Loken, Julie Domogalla, Angela Presley).
IV. Motion by Loken, second by Brown to approve the agenda. Motion unanimously approved.
V. OFFICER ELECTION:
A. Chair - Thomsen calls for nominations; Brown makes a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for the same offers as 2021; Recommendation to individually approve each position per MSBA; Discussion; Motion by Brown to nominate Thomsen as Chair; Motion by Presley to nominate Domogalla as Chair; Discussion; Roll call vote for Thomsen - In Favor: Brown, Thomsen; Not in Favor: Presley, Loken, Domogalla; Abstain: Swenson. Roll call vote for Domogalla - In Favor: Presley, Loken, Domogalla; Not in Favor: Brown, Thomsen; Abstain: Swenson. Motion carried to approve Domogalla as Chair.
B. Vice Chair - Domogalla called for nominations; Loken nominates Thomsen; Thomsen declines; Presley nominates Ecklund and he is voted in by acclamation.
C. Clerk -Domogalla called for nominations; Domogalla nominated Presley and she was voted in by acclamation.
D. Treasurer - Domogalla called for nominations; Presley nominated Loken and she was voted in by acclamation.
VI. Motion by Loken, second by Presley to approve the following consent agenda items. Motion unanimously approved.
A. January Bills
B. Minutes for the December meeting
C. Employment
i. Connie Ecklund, Paraprofessional, 6.25 hours daily, AFSCME Class III, Step 1, effective January 3, 2022.
D. Contracts (annual approval)
i. Mental Health Provider – Therapeutic Service Agency (TSA)
ii. Mental Health Provider – Monarch Counseling Services
E. Increase Minimum Wage from \$8.21 to \$8.42/hour for student workers effective January 1, 2022.
F. Increase Minimum Wage from \$10.08 to \$10.33/hour for adult community education workers effective January 1, 2022.
G. Official Newspaper
i. Askov American
ii. Pine County Courier
H. Official School Financial Depositories
i. Northview Bank
ii. MN Trust/PMA
iii. MN Liquid Asset Fund
I. Superintendent Authorization
i. Invest and transfer funds
ii. Pay district bills prior to board meeting time to avoid late charges/ fees
iii. Approval of contracts under \$10,000
J. Facsimile Signatures: for 2022
K. Legal Counsel – Superintendent, Board Chair, and Vice Chair authorized to contact legal counsel:
i. Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger
ii. Knutson, Flynn & Deans
VII. REPORTS
A. St. Croix River Education District (SCRED) – Jamie Nord, Executive Director reported on Organizational Updates, Support Highlights, Future Systems-Level Work and Legislative Advocacy.
B. Community Education – Cindy Stolp, Director reported on 550 participants this school year, popular classes, upcoming classes, swimming pool updates and rentals.
C. Superintendent Almos reported on COVID-19 Update, OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS), Roof Project and EPIC Professional Development.
D. High School Principal reported on completed cycle of grade level meetings, initial evaluations of non-tenured staff complete, curriculum update connected to discipline, student council food drive, great band and choir programs, FAST testing, SCRED team continue to work on identifying needs and planning support for staff and recommendation of The Lion Heart documentary 20/21 on youtube.
E. Elementary Principal reported on winter data testing, EPIC conference, PBIS planning sledding for 2nd quarter celebration, Science Rocks event in St. Cloud, two staff members attending Gifted & Talented conference and upcoming Rapid Cycles rotation.
F. Business Manager reported at the end of the calendar year W-2 and 1099 reporting, ACA 1095 forms, federal COVID grants and funding and budget revision.
G. School Board Committees (as approved below):
i. Schools for Equity in Education (SEE) – Brown, Loken (alternate Presley)
ii. St. Croix River Education District (SCRED) – Domogalla (alternate Presley)
iii. Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) – Domogalla
iv. Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) – Thomsen
v. East Central Minnesota Education Cable Cooperative (ECMECC) – Swenson
vi. Resource Training & Solutions – Almos
vii. Safety & Security Committee – Ecklund, Brown
viii. Facilities Committee – Presley, Thomsen, Brown

ix. Finance Committee – Loken, Ecklund, Domogalla
x. Student Representative – Grundmeier HS raised 400 pounds of canned goods for the food shelf.
xi. MASA Board – Almos
xii. New Board Member Orientation - Swenson
H. Set meeting dates
i. Facilities Committee - January 25th at 3:00pm (ICS - roof options)
i. School-County Leadership Network - March 23rd at 6:00 pm at North Pine Govt Center
VIII. COMMUNICATIONS
IX. OLD BUSINESS
A. Almos presented the first draft of 2022-23 School Board Goals. Motion by Presley, second by Loken to approve the 2022-23 goals. Motion unanimously approved.
i. Immediate: Student Learning, Buildings and Grounds.
ii. Short-Term: Student Attendance, Extracurricular Activities, Marketing-Communications, Innovation.
iii. Long-Term: Student Achievement, Financial Health, Buildings & Grounds, Innovation.
X. NEW BUSINESS
A. Eagle Pride:
i. East Central music department for terrific holiday concerts. Thank you Miss Hippen and Mrs. Pauly!
B. Motion by Brown, second by Presley to approve the following School Board Committees. Motion unanimously approved.
2022 Board Committee Assignments:
Finance Committee Loken, Ecklund, Domogalla
Facilities Committee Brown, Thomsen, Presley
Negotiation and Grievance Domogalla, Ecklund, Loken (non-cert)
Brown, Thomsen, Swenson (certified)
Safety Committee Brown, Ecklund
Marketing-Communications Domogalla, Presley
2022 Board Appointments: Schools for Equity in Education (SEE) Brown, Loken (alternate Presley)
St. Croix River Education District (SCRED) Domogalla (alternate Presley)
East Central Minnesota Education Cable Cooperative (ECMECC) Swenson
Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) Domogalla
Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) Thomsen
Meet and Confer Almos
Superintendent Evaluation Board Chair
Note: The board will create ad hoc committees as it deems appropriate.
C. Motion by Presley, second by Thomsen to approve the following Regular Meeting Dates – Third Monday of the month, with exceptions listed below. Meetings to be held in the East Central Community Room/413 at 6:00pm unless otherwise noted below.
i. February 14, 2022
ii. March 21
iii. April 18
iv. May 16
v. June 13 (moved a week earlier)
vi. July 25 (moved a week later)
vii. August 15
viii. September 19
ix. October 17
x. November 21
xi. December 19
xii. January 9 (reorganizational meeting)
xiii. February 13, 2023 (third monday is President’s Day)
D. Motion by Thomsen, second by Loken to approve the following per diem rates. Motion unanimously approved.
i. Breakfast = \$15.00
ii. Lunch = \$15.00
iii. Dinner = \$20.00
E. Motion by Brown, second by Loken to approve mileage at \$.585 cents per mile in the tax year 2022 to align with the new IRS rate. Motion unanimously approved.
F. Discussion on rough draft of the 2022-23 School Calendar. A draft will be sent out to staff and students for feedback with another draft for review at the February meeting.
G. Discussion on MSBA Model Policy 491 MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATION OR TESTING AND FACE COVERINGS. Motion by Loken to approve MSBA Model Policy 491 contingent on U.S. Supreme Court findings; second by Presley. Roll call vote - In Favor: Domogalla, Loken, Brown, Presley, Swenson; Opposed: Thomsen; motion passed.
XI. Chair Domogalla adjourned the meeting at 7:31 pm
Published in the Pine County courier January 13, 2022

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Pay is based on level of experience.
Township equipment is 140M Cat.
Please submit resume and letter of interest to Wagner Township, P.O. Box 243, Finlayson, MN 55735.
Letters must be received by January 12th, 2022.

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Eagles defeat Braham Bombers by three

BY COACH DARREN FOGT

Last week the East Central Eagles only had one game. They played the Braham Bombers on Tuesday, Jan. 4. It was a close game throughout. The Eagles took a three-point lead into halftime and the game ended with EC winning by three, 55-52. This was a huge conference victory for the boys, hopefully it gives the team some confidence.

The star of the game was Nathan Zielinski, who led the Eagles with 29 points and gave the Braham defenders fits throughout the game. Zielinski also had six rebounds and four steals. It was a coming out party for Jacob Dixon. He had 11 points, 11 rebounds and six blocked shots. Showing signs of being the dominant force that we hope he can be. Hunter Colton had 10 points,

with nine rebounds. Kyle McDonald had three points with six rebounds and Charlie Higgins had two points with eight rebounds. East Central was missing Ben Carlin for this game, so with being short-handed, it was even a bigger win.

The game against Swanville had to be rescheduled to Monday, Feb. 14, due to them having COVID-19. The Monday, Jan. 10, game against Moose Lake Willow River was rescheduled due to them not being full strength because of COVID-19.

East Central will have a Thursday, Jan. 13, game at Mora (8-2) and a huge Friday game against a conference rival, the Hinckley-Finlayson Jaguars (4-6). January 18, Tuesday, the Eagles have a road trip to take on the Pine City Dragons (5-5).



Number 14, Jacob Dixon was crucial to East Central's defense in their game against the Braham Bombers.

MIKE DRAHOSH | PINE COUNTY COURIER

Laursen scores big points against Aitkin

BY MARY ELLEN DEWEY
RECIPE@PINECOUNTYCOURIER.COM

The East Central Eagles girls' basketball team had a road trip to Braham on Tuesday, Jan. 4. They faced Aitkin in their home gym on Thursday, Jan. 6. Braham defeated the Eagles 52-25. It was Aitkin (5-5) over East Central 46-33. At Braham Izzy Olson and Katelynn McAbee each had 6 points, combined with 12 rebounds, 4 steals, and 4 blocks. Lori Grundmeier, Aly Huntington, and Josie Ford each had 3 points. Carly Watrin and Elsie Laursen had 2 points each.

On the Eagles' home court against Aitkin, Elsie Laursen led the team with 17 points, 5 rebounds, and 3 steals. Kenzie Ludwig had 9 rebound to go with 4 points. Lori Grundmeier had 4 points, Aly Huntington and Izzy Olson had 3 points each and Josie Ford had 2 points.

The Eagles will go down the road to the Hinckley-Finlayson 7AA (4-8) gym on Thursday, Jan. 13. Friday, Jan. 14, the Eagles will travel to



East Central freshman, Elsie Laursen scored 17 points, with five rebounds and three steals in the Eagles game against Aitkin.

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Wrenshall 7A (1-6). On Monday, Jan. 17, Mora 6AA (4-7) will play the Eagles at East Central. The Eagles will host Pine City 6AA (8-3) on Tuesday, Jan. 18.

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