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CENTERVILLE FILLS CITY COUNCIL SLOT: swearing in details **PAGE 5**

Fire Chief resigns amid criminal sexual conduct charge

BY LOGAN GION
STAFF WRITER

Maddison Michael Zikmund is resigning as fire chief of Maple Grove amid an Anoka County criminal investigation.

“The allegations are serious and deeply concerning,” the city of Maple Grove said in an official statement. “When the city became aware of the criminal investigation on July 1, the Fire Chief was immediately placed on administrative leave.”

According to Anoka County charging documents, Zikmund is charged with third-degree criminal sexual conduct of a minor. Subsequent documents show the prosecuting attorney intends to prove Zikmund engaged in grooming behavior. The incidents allegedly occurred while the victim was a Fire Explorer with SBM Fire Department in the summer of 2016.

The court documents state that Zikmund and Victim began communicating by texts, which later moved to Snapchat and Instagram.

In the documents, a detective with the Criminal Investigative Division of the Anoka County Sheriff’s Office (ASCO) reported, “Victim described the messages becoming more sexually explicit, with Defendant requesting nude photographs of Victim.”

The Victim described that, in spring 2017, Zikmund allegedly invited her over to his residence and sexually assaulted her.

Only July 1, Zikmund met with an investigator at ASCO, during which time Zikmund admitted to exchanging nude photographs and contact with the girl, though he denied having sex with her.

In this interview, Zikmund later stated, “Again, I know this was wrong.”

Zikmund’s resignation as Maple Grove Fire Chief became effective July 16. Anoka County has scheduled a court hearing for Zikmund on Sept. 4.



CONTRIBUTED
Maddison Michael Zikmund

PGA Tour tees up 3M Open in Blaine

BY LOGAN GION
STAFF WRITER

Scottie Scheffler, PGA Tour’s top-ranked golf player in the world, is in town this week. He, along with many other high-profile golfers, are competing in the 3M Open, held at TPC Twin Cities Golf Course, 11444 Tournament Players Parkway, Blaine. Though the official tournament is July 23-26, events begin July 21.

Tuesday is Golf 4 All Day, said 3M Open Assistant Tournament Director Jennifer Hines. “About 500 kids come out. A lot (of them) have never been on a golf course before,” she noted. Tuesday’s activities will include appearances from the event’s ambassador, former Vikings wide receiver Adam Thielen, other former Minnesota pro athletes like Wally Szczerbiak



3M OPEN | CONTRIBUTED
French professional golfer and PGA Tour player Matthieu Pavon signs an autograph for a fan at the 3M Open. The event runs now through July 26 at TPC Twins Cities.

and Randall McDaniel, and University of Minnesota golfer and Golf Channel personality Emma Carpenter. “Wednesday is actually a really

fun day for fans to come out and see because (professionals) are playing in the Pro-Am,” Hines added. The professional/amateur

SEE 3M OPEN, PAGE 5



CENTENNIAL LAKES FASTPITCH | CONTRIBUTED

Centennial Lakes Fastpitch 18U Wins Colorado championship

The members of Centennial Lakes Fastpitch’s Extreme Team each touch their tournament championship hardware. Learn more about the team’s journey to victory as well as where they are headed next on Page 12.



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LINO LAKES CITY COUNCIL SNIPPETS

• Lino Lakes Resident Chris Stowe raised concerns to the council about how the city treats its residents. He said since he was moved to Lino Lakes, his property taxes as well as his neighbors have been increased by “roughly double digits year after year.” Stowe also mentioned the proposed 4% increase to utility rates and stated there is not a tax problem in Lino Lakes, but a spending problem.

• Custom Remodelers Inc. will be issued a solicitor’s license following council authorization. All salespeople are required to complete a successful background check as a condition of the approval.

• Pommier Window Washing will also be issued a solicitor’s license following council authorization. All salespeople will have undergone background check as a condition of the approval, staff said.

• The council has approved an agreement between the city and Anoka County for landscape median improvements along County Road 14/Frenchman Road. According to the city staff report, the portion of landscape median located within the cities limits along the median needs site improvements. This median was originally landscaped in the mid-2000s and updated during the 2014 County State Aid Highway 14/8 Improvement Project. The project scope enhances the landscape median within Lino Lakes city limits to mirror the existing visual layout completed on the Hugo/ Washington County side.

• Blakely LaCroix has been appointed to the Planning and Zoning Board following council approval of his appointment. The vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Board was created when current member and Board Chair Michael Root submitted his notice of resignation.

Root’s term end on Dec. 31, 2027. LaCroix previously served on the city’s Economic Development Advisory Committee. He will serve on the Planning and Zoning Board until Dec. 31, 2027.

• The council has approved a stormwater reuse agreement for the Wilkinson Waters development. The planned unit development (PUD) final plan/final plat for Wilkinson Waters was approved by the council on April 27. To reduce the use of municipal water for irrigation, a stormwater reuse system has been included in the project. The execution of an agreement between the developer and the city is required for the maintenance and operation of the reuse system.

• City staff will begin to prepare a utility rate study and utility rate structure review following council approval after a 5-0 majority vote. Erickson Northstar LLC will conduct the utility rate study and utility rate structure review. The proposal estimates 178 hours with a cost of \$26,700. The utility rate study was included in the 2026 water and sewer fund budget. The primary goal of the study and review, according to Finance Director Tracy Thoma, is to develop fair and equitable water, sanitary sewer and storm water rates while ensuring each utility fund remains financially stable and aligned with its operating, capital and reserve requirements. The study will include water rates, sanitary sewer rates, storm water rates, water rate structure review, sanitary sewer rate structure review and utility connection fee review. Results of the study will be available in November for the council to consider rate recommendations to take effect on Jan. 1, 2027.

• Winberg Companies LLC has been awarded the construction contract for the 2026 trail maintenance project after the council accepted the company’s quote of \$94,395 for the project. The project includes milling and overlaying approximately 0.24 miles of bituminous trail north of Country Lakes Drive. It also includes removal of one tree and tree roots that have grown into the trail. The project, according to Public Services Director Rick DeGardener, will be funded through the parks department general fund. The overall budget for the project is \$120,000.

• The final plat for Phase 1 of Peltier Ponds has been approved by the council. The first phase of construction will contain 31 single-family lots and 88 townhomes for a total of 119 housing units. In total, Peltier Ponds will include 282 lots consisting of 74 townhomes (back-to-back); 62 townhomes (row); 36 single-family homes on 80-foot lots; 38 single-family homes on 65-foot lots; and 72 single-family homes on 55-foot lots.

• City staff will order the project and authorize advertisement for bid for the 2026 public works utility extension project following council approval in a 5-0 majority vote. The project includes directional drilling a 12” PVC watermain from the public works lot west along the south side of Main Street to James Street South to Jane Avenue, and directional drilling 4” HDPE from the public works lot west along the north side of Main Street to Elbe Street. The project will loop the water system from the Pine Glen development to the future Lino Lakes Public Works building. This water system loop, according to City Engineer Diane Hankee, will extend to serve areas identified in the city’s comprehensive plan. The estimated total project cost is around \$1.29 million. Funding for the project is expected to be from the area and unit trunk fund.

• City staff will also order the project and authorize the advertisement for bids for the Production Well No. 7 project following council approval. The city has six water production wells to meet the domestic water supply needs of the community. Well No. 2, according to Hankee, has not been used since 2019 due to its poor water quality. Well No. 7 is being constructed to replace Well No. 2. Well No. 7 is planned to be constructed at the new water treatment plant. The estimated total project cost is \$1.1 million. Funding for the project is expected to be from the area and unit trunk fund.

The next City Council work session will be at 6 p.m., Monday, July 27, followed by a regular City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Madeline Dolby

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★

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POLITICAL BRIEF

3 candidates face off in Anoka County Commissioner District 3 Primary

Three candidates are on the Aug. 11 primary ballot for the Anoka County Commissioner District 3 race: Melissa Lewis, from Lino Lakes; Jeff Reinert, incumbent, from Lino Lakes; and Kevin Ryan, from Linwood Township.

The Minnesota primary election is Aug. 11. Early voting begins July 24 at the following locations:

- All Anoka County residents—Anoka County Government Center, 2100 Third Ave., Anoka
- Centerville residents—Centerville City Hall, 1880 Main St.
- Circle Pines residents—Circle Pines City Hall, 200 Civic Heights Circle
- Lexington residents—Lexington City Hall, 9180 Lexington Ave.
- Lino Lakes residents—Lino Lakes City Hall, 600 Town Center Parkway

For more information, visit sos.mn.gov/elections-voting.



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-THURSDAY-

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-FRIDAY-

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-SATURDAY-

Prime Rib Dinner 5pm Served with all the fixings.

-SUNDAY-

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ONGOING EVENTS

CENTERVILLE MUSIC IN THE PARK
When: 6:30-8 p.m., Tuesdays
Where: Hidden Spring Park, 1601 LaMotte Drive, Centerville
Details: Local musicians perform at beautiful Hidden Spring Park from June to August each year. Bring your own lawn chairs and blanket. This week's band is B+ Brass, who plays songs you know and love in a way you've never heard before.
Contact: 651-429-3232

CIRCLE LEX LIONS CLUB FARMERS MARKET
When: 2:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesdays
Where: Lexington Municipal Liquor Store, 9271 Lake Drive
Details: A variety of vendors will be set up in the parking lot selling produce, plants, breads, syrups, crafts and more.
Contact: 612-272-3386 or kgregory244@gmail.com

BLAINE PERFORMANCE IN THE PARK
When: 6 p.m., Thursdays
Where: Tom Ryan Park, 10802 Town Square Drive NE, Blaine
Details: This is a wonderful spot to relax, enjoy some great music and dance with the kids. There's lots of space for everyone to spread out

and have fun. This week's act is Run Lucy Run, a Minneapolis based two-man cover band showcasing hits from some of the most recognized artists in the world.
Contact: 763-717-2723 or jhandt@blainemn.gov

MUSIC ON THE LAKE... IT'S GOLDEN
When: 7-8:30 p.m., Thursdays
Where: Golden Lake Park, 67 W. Golden Lake Road, Circle Pines
Details: Enjoy summer nights with concerts. This week's band is The Revolution 5, Minnesota's premier Beatles Tribute. Their extensive set list includes every chart-topping hit sprinkled with a handful of deeper tracks for the true enthusiast.
Contact: 763-792-6100 or cceonline@isd12.org

LIVE MUSIC AT THE LEGION
When: 6-9 p.m., Fridays
Where: Lino Lakes American Legion Post 566, 7731 Lake Drive, Lino Lakes
Details: Come on out for live music, drinks and Friday specials. This week's musician is Joe McPherson, who tributes classic country artists with a deep love and appreciation for the genre.
Contact: 651-783-0055 or officepost566@gmail.com



CONTRIBUTED

SUMMER BAZAAR VENDOR FAIR
When: 12-5 p.m., Saturday, July 26
Where: The Curious Crow Company, 9157 S. Highway Drive, Lexington
Details: Come out and support your local artists and small businesses as well as find some new treasures. Join us for a fun day filled with shopping from 18 local vendors and artists, food truck yummys, free beer samples and other specials and activities.
Contact: 763-600-6647 or info@curiouscrowcompany.com

group? Join us for the Centennial Book Club! Drop in for a favorite book discussion or become a regular member. Our book for July is the Geraldine Brooks novel "Horse."
Contact: 763-324-1540 or aclref@anokacountymn.gov

SAVE THE DATE

NIGHT TO UNITE
When: 6-9 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 4
Where: Multiple Locations
Details: Celebrate community, meet your neighbors and connect with local police and fire crews—all while learning simple ways to keep your neighborhood safe. Officers and firefighters will be visiting neighborhood gatherings throughout your community. Get involved and be part of a stronger, safer community.
Contact: CLPD: 763-784-2501; Lino Lakes Police Department: 651-982-2400

SUMMER SUNDAYS ON THE PATIO
When: 3-6 p.m., Sundays
Where: Boulevard Bar and Grille, 3800 Restwood Road, Circle Pines
Details: Every week, Boulevard Bar and Grille provides live music. This week is Tom Hipps, who plays original folk-rock songs and covers blues and classic country.
Contact: 763-204-8091 or lexingtonboulevard@gmail.com

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Contact: 763-785-6164

around and within you. Experience an immersive, meditative session of the Japanese practice of shinrin-yoku, or "forest bathing," with certified Association of Nature and Forest Therapy guide Kirsten Welge.
Contact: 763-324-3350

CENTENNIAL BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS
When: 6:45-8 p.m., Monday, July 27
Where: Anoka County Library, Centennial Branch, Centennial Community Room, 100 Civic Heights Circle, Circle Pines
Details: Interested in trying out a new book

CURRENT EVENTS

PROPERTY TAX REFUND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
When: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesday, July 22
Where: Mary Ann Young Center, 9150 Central Ave. NE, Blaine
Details: This program is

FOREST BATHING
When: 6-8 p.m., Friday, July 24
Where: Wargo Nature Center, 7701 Main St., Lino Lakes
Details: Awaken your senses and connect deeply to nature



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To make changes or to advertise here, call at 651-407-1200.

OPINION

Aging is challenging

Health issues have gotten in the way of my column writing. Pain in my lower back has created a great deal of discomfort that Tylenol and CBD cream do not totally relieve.

I've been to doctors in Florida, Wisconsin and Minnesota who specialize in vertebrae filling and nerve ablation.

I've also had physical therapy in four different locations with some success. The most recent therapist recommended I see a spine specialist. In the last week, I've had four steroid injections in the lower spine. That has given me some relief.

We are very fortunate to have good medical care and resources available to us locally. Dr. Moriarity has given me good direction for finding specialists.

Over 20 years ago, I had prostate cancer surgery at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. During the surgery, some cells escaped, so I have been treating that reoccurring cancer every four months under the guidance of Dr. Eugene Kwon at Mayo in Rochester, Minnesota. The treatment keeps the remaining cancer cells from multiplying and relocating.

Celebrating 90 years

In March of this year, our four children hosted a great birthday celebration at our rental home in Cape Coral, Florida. Over 80 people attended the BBQ dinner. Family, boaters and friends were represented from eight states.

Our great-grandson, Patrick, attended with his mom, our granddaughter Meredith, from California. He hugged me and commented, "You're the best great-grandpa ever!"

Our son Cameron prepared over a dozen racks of ribs. The girls took care of food placement, serving and all the clean-up. What a privilege to have family who pitches in whatever the need.

Lifestyle changes

As Carter indicated in his column last week, Kathy and I have moved to a senior living facility, New Perspectives in White Bear Lake. This is a major adjustment and not always easy. We are discovering a lot of friends who live here and many of them have been White Bear Press readers for years.

When I ask residents why they chose this facility most of them say, "Our children live nearby." They have given us a resident handbook of all the programs they offer and the extra care that is available. The theme of New Perspectives is "Living Life on Purpose."

A big benefit is three meals a day which are ordered from a menu. Each week, a calendar shows the activities for each day; Bingo night, various speakers, shopping expeditions, a walking club, morning exercise, chair dancing, movie night, coffee and conversation, "Did you Know?" sessions, social hour, and various card and board games.

Midterm elections

Voting is important for the future of our government at all levels. Primary voting begins in August and, often, the turnout is light.

Here in Minnesota, television and other media are carrying a lot of messages of what is good for our state and Congress. Our state has been overrun by fraudulent programs that have cost taxpayers hard-earned money.

Accountability has been lacking because voters have elected people without adequate experience in handling budgets and programs. Don't complain, just do your homework before you go to the polls to vote.

Remember, protection of our democracy depends on your participation by voting.

Gene Johnson is publisher emeritus of Press Publications.



About the Town
Gene Johnson



Confessions of an unsafe paddler

Summer is a great time to be out on the water with your kayak, canoe, or stand-up paddleboard. But did you know that according to the most recent U.S. Coast Guard recreational boating statistics, paddle sports are responsible for almost a third of all recreational boating deaths? Many of these fatalities

could have been avoided with some boating safety education.



Movers & Shakers
Chris Moberg

Five years ago, I purchased a low-end recreational kayak. While I had a life jacket with me when I went out on the water, I did not wear it. The bulkiness of the life jacket made it difficult

to paddle, so I strapped it to the back of my kayak instead. I went kayaking when it was hot outside, not paying attention to the water temperature. I never considered the possibility of getting into any kind of trouble requiring me to signal for help, nor was I prepared in case I was caught out on the water after dark. I did not realize that it was unsafe to travel far from shore in a kayak that had no air-tight compartments to keep the water out and the kayak buoyant in case it became swamped or capsized.

Then I joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary. One of the requirements for joining this organization was to complete a safe boating class. While I knew that I was required by law to have a life jacket on board my kayak, I didn't consider that accidents happen too quickly to put on a life jacket before going into the water. Once in the water, if you happen to be lucky enough to be conscious and uninjured, cold-water shock can still cause you to involuntarily gasp under water and drown. Besides that, it is nearly impossible to put on a life jacket once you are already in the water. It is no wonder that the Coast Guard reports that 87% of drowning victims in boating accidents were not wearing life jackets, even though in most cases life jackets were readily available on board their vessels. But what about my objection that life jackets are too bulky to paddle with? It turns out that there are paddle sports life jackets, which allow for a full range of arm motion and have high foam backs designed to clear the seatback of a kayak or canoe.

The safe boating class also taught me the importance of paying more attention to water temperature than to air temperature due to the increased risk of hypothermia in water, and to dress according to the water temperature rather than the air temperature. According to the U.S. Coast Guard cold

water safety guidelines, water temperature below 70 degrees Fahrenheit can cause cold-water shock and impaired coordination. In these water temperatures, you should wear a wetsuit or drysuit to ensure safety. The class also emphasized the legal requirements to carry a whistle or other sound-producing device and to carry a white flashlight for use at night or in bad visibility. However, it was not until I joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary Paddlecraft program that I found out how unsafe my kayak was. As part of the qualification process, I had to swamp my kayak in deep water, use a pump to manually remove the water, and then re-enter the kayak. Since my kayak had no air-tight compartments, it nearly sank. While I could have purchased a new kayak with compartments, I chose instead to buy a sit-on-top kayak that cannot be filled with water and is thus virtually unsinkable.

Since joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary, I have taught many safe boating classes. These classes include important information about paddling safety. Even though Minnesota does not require safe boating classes for non-motorized watercraft, I highly recommend them.

Chris Moberg is the vice flotilla commander for the Twin Cities Metro North Flotilla with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. .

QUAD COMMUNITY PRESS | ELECTION LETTER GUIDELINES

- Election season is considered to be when filing first begins until the day of the election.
- Limited to 350 words. Paid letters running longer will be charged \$10 per 30 words after that.
- Letters are free unless endorsing a candidate, party or question on the ballot. Endorsement letters will have a \$50 fee. Please call 651-407-1200 to arrange payment by credit card or mail a check payable to Press Publications to 4779 Bloom Ave, White Bear Lake, MN, 55110. Endorsement letters are labeled, "paid letter."
- Letters for or against a candidate will qualify as paid letters.
- Submissions must include a full name, address and phone number for verification.
- Letter-writers must live, work or have another connection to Press Publications coverage area.
- Letters are meant to express opinions. If letter-writers include facts, they must attribute those facts to a reputable source.
- Due to space limitations, letters that don't address local issues are not guaranteed publication.
- Repeat unpaid letters by the same writer about the same subject matter will not be published. Repeat paid endorsement letters will be published as space permits.
- Four weeks (or issues) must pass between publication of unpaid letters from the same writer. Exceptions may be made for rebuttal letters at the editor's discretion.
- Submissions containing libelous or derogatory statements will not be published.
- Letters by campaign managers or candidates designed to champion the candidate's position on a specific issue will be accepted as paid letters.
- Letters reprinted as part of letter-writing campaigns are paid letters.
- All letters are subject to editing.
- We reserve the right to not publish any letter.
- The deadline to submit a letter is 5 p.m. Wednesday the week prior to publication.
- The last batch of letters to be printed before the Nov. 3 election will be printed in the Oct. 20 issue and must be received by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct.14.
- To submit a letter, email news@presspubs.com or mail/deliver it to Press Publications.

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3M OPEN: TPC Twin Cities golf course will host Scottie Scheffler July 23-26

FROM PAGE 1

championship starts just before 7 a.m. The event is a team shamble, in which four amateurs and one pro tee off from the driver’s box. The team then plays from whoever had the best opening shot. Amateurs play 18 holes while pros switch after nine.

Thursday marks Round 1 of the 3M Open, with four rounds of play through Sunday.

According to TPC Twin Cities Golf Course General Manager Chris Weinhold, the location is part of 16 clubs across the country that the PGA Tour owns and operates. PGA created these golf courses with the intent of hosting professional tournaments. To honor Minnesota’s lakes, this course includes water on 14 of its 18 holes. While Hines said the green on the



The TPC Twin Cities course.

seventh hole as a great spectator spot, Weinhold mentioned that the 18th hole is one of the most difficult finishes on the PGA Tour.

“We have miles and miles of front row seats,” Hines noted. “You can pop on a hole, sit there and watch groups come through; or you can walk, get some exercise and follow your favorite golfers around.”

Notable players in the event besides Scheffler include Jordan Spieth, Tom Kim and Kurt Kiyama, last year’s champion. Hines also drew attention to Gary Woodland’s participation. Woodland received the PGA Tour Courage Award in 2025 after undergoing surgery to remove a brain tumor.

“I’m a big Gary Woodland fan,” Hines said. “I just love his story and how he plays, so I’m excited to have him in the field.”

Weinhold, meanwhile, is most excited to see Scheffler. “Any time the No. 1 golfer in the world is going to step foot on your property, you’re going to want to be a part of that.”

Weinhold also said that since the first 3M Open in 2019, the tournament has only grown. “There’s no doubt that Minnesota has always supported



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Spectators gather at the golf course’s first hole. The 3M Open’s participants this year include many of the top-ranked PGA golfers in the world.

professional golf,” he said. Both Hines and Weinhold noted that the 3M Open supports local communities.

“We’ll donate close to a million dollars this year,” said Hines, “and it’s impacting and changing the lives of the Twin Cities community.” The 3M Open Fund donates to many organizations, including Fairview Masonic Children’s Hospital and Folds of Honor, a scholarship fund for spouses and children of fallen or disabled military service members as well as emergency responders.

“PGA Tour has donated more money to charity than the other four organizations combined—NFL, MLB, NHL, NBA,” said Weinhold. “It’s the center of what we do, and it’s really cool to see ... the difference that one tournament can make in your community.”

For tickets and more information about the 3M Open, visit 3mopen.com/spectators/tickets.

CENTERVILLE TIDBITS

- The Centerville City Council resumed its full capacity after new Council Member Kale Kaluptzok took the oath of office from City Administrator Athanasia Lewis at the July 9 meeting. He fills the seat left vacant by the departure of David Kubat several months ago. Council conducted interviews and appointed Haluptzok at the July 22 meeting. Haluptzok grew up in Centerville and has been a small business owner for more than 10 years. Haluptzok’s term will expire in January 2027.
- The city is preparing for elections by appointing members to its absentee ballot board. At its June 22 meeting, council established an absentee ballot board in a proactive effort to further enhance local oversight, transparency and public confidence in election administration. The absentee ballot board will convene to accept, reject and process absentee ballots. The city’s absentee ballot board will also be required to appoint members. The city clerk and deputy clerk are the two employees who have overseen the city’s municipal elections for more than 25 years.
- The city’s Finance Director Bruce DeJong has worked with the city for eight years, and council (unanimously, with Council Member Linda Broussard-Vickers absent) approved the successful completion of his performance evaluation. Council members Anita Rios and Russ Koski commended him for his work. “Bruce has everything packaged for us and always explains things so that the council understands,” Koski said. Golden thanked him for “educating me on a lot of things.” With his successful performance review, DeJong will receive a raise, moving up from Grade 12 Step 7 to Grade 12 Step 8.
- In 2014, the city bought a brine tank to help apply brine to roads for winter de-icing operations. Using the brine tank allows salt to stick where it lands on the road surface and minimizes the amount that bounces off the road surface. That practice works for entities whose trucks reach higher speeds, but the city’s operations don’t achieve those speeds, so the city no longer uses brine for operations. However, the brine tank may still be of value to those high-flying

- entities, and staff sought permission to declare the tank as surplus and sell it through an online action. Council unanimously approved this request from its public works department. Revenue will be credited to Fund 409 of the capital improvement fund. “I really appreciate that you’re going through equipment that is no longer of service to Centerville and looking for ways to save our pennies,” Rios said. Public Works Director Charlie Lehn thanked his staff for keeping an eye out for ways to save and for assessing the department’s equipment.
- The homeowner at 7025 Brian Drive will now install a new solid dog-eared 6-foot wooden fence in their yard. They have been given permission to install a fence in the side and rear yard setbacks within the city’s right-of-way/ drainage and utility easements after council approved an encroachment agreement.
- Council approved a special event permit on private property for the property owners on Mound Court for an Aug. 22 event at which a band will play and alcohol will be served. The party, from 3-6 p.m., is expected to host from 40 to 60 guests.
- As summer is party time, council also approved another special event permit on private property, otherwise known as St. Genevieve’s Annual Festival. The church also received a temporary on-sale liquor license for the event. St. Genevieve’s Church has held this festival every year for many years, and it is a wonderful community event with no incidents, said City Administrator Athanasia Lewis.
- Boy Scout Troop No. 136 held its annual award ceremony at Hidden Spring Park on July 9, as it has done each year. The troop was given a park facility permit as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Committee.
- At the May 14 meeting, council approved the purchase of a 2018 Kubota tractor from Crawford Equipment to replace the city’s 2001 Massey Ferguson tractor. Staff asked council to declare the Massey Ferguson tractor and its attachments as surplus to be traded in to help offset the \$29,300 purchase price of the Kubota Tractor. The trade-in should bring in \$11,300. Following



CONTRIBUTED

New Council Member Kale Kaloptzok is sworn in by the City Administrator Athanasia Lewis as Mayor Nancy Golden looks on.

approval by council, the net price of the new tractor is now \$18,000, which will be financed by Fund 409 of the city’s capital replacement fund.

- With the state partisan primary election to take place on Tuesday, April 11, the city has set the dates for notarized affidavits of candidacy to be accepted (from 7:30 a.m. July 14 to 4:00 p.m. July 27). Affidavits of candidacy will be accepted for the office of mayor (two-year term); two council member seats (four-year terms) and one special election council member seat (two-year term). The filing fee is \$2. Those interested in running for office can find an affidavit packet from the Secretary of State’s Office website or from City Hall.
- Now that Centennial Lakes Police Department Chief James Mork has retired after 29 years of service, the new CLPD chief will be Brian Goetzke, who officially began as chief on July 1.

The council next meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 23, at City Hall, 1880 Main St.

Loretta Harding

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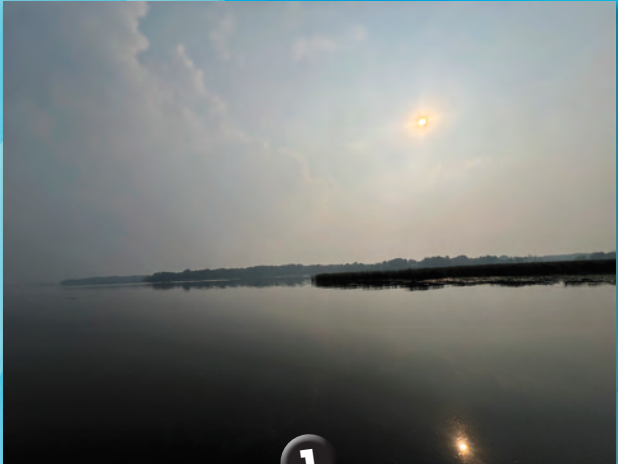
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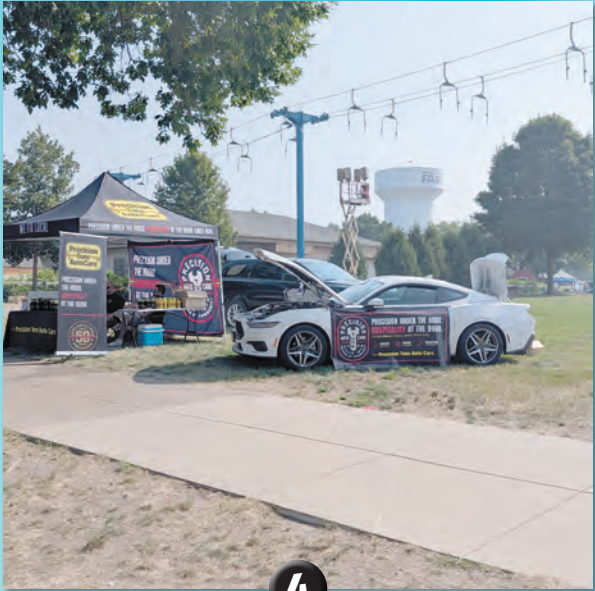
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1. A lakeside walker snapped this photo, titling it "Canadian Smoked Bald Eagle Lake". - **Contributed**

2. Grunge unplugged plays at Centerville's Music in the Park. - **Contributed**

3. Lino Lakes Ambassador Candidates take self-defense classes with police department. - **Contributed**

4. Precision Tune Autocare was one of the vendors at Street Machine Summer Nationals, July 17-19 at the State Fairgrounds Precision Tune Autocare has a location in Lino Lakes. - **Contributed**

5-6. As part of the annual Fete des Lac festivities, a Saturday morning parade featuring a variety of entries, including fire and law enforcement officials, high school sports teams, city ambassadors, dancers, musicians, local business representatives, aspiring politicians and more, traveled along the streets of Centerville. Preceding the official start of the parade, a group of scouts traveled ahead along the parade route and distributed hundreds of miniature American Flags to crowd members. - **Photos by Paul Dols | Press Publications**

Send us your photos for possible inclusion in Spotted Around Town. Please email your best shot to quadnews@presspubs.com. Please include information about when and where it was taken and who is in the photo.



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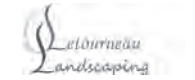
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CITY OF CENTERVILLE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public accuracy test of vote counting equipment to be used in the August 11, 2026 Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at 9:00 AM at Centerville City Hall, 1880 Main Street, Centerville, MN 55038-9794.

If you would like to witness this demonstration, you are welcome to do so at the above mentioned location.

Teresa Bender, City Clerk
Published one time in the Quad Community Press on July 21, 2026.

CITY OF LEXINGTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public accuracy test of vote counting equipment to be used in the August 11, 2026 Primary Election will be held on Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 10:30 AM at Lexington City Hall, 9180 Lexington Avenue, Lexington, MN 55014.

If you would like to witness this demonstration, you are welcome to do so at the above mentioned location.

Brenda Beaudet, Deputy City Clerk
Published one time in the Quad Community Press on July 21, 2026.

CITY OF LINO LAKES
SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide summary financial information concerning the City of Lino Lakes to interested citizens. The complete financial statements may be examined at City Hall, 600 Town Center Pkwy, Lino Lakes, MN 55014 or online at linolakes.gov/249/finance. Questions about this report should be directed to the Finance Director, at (651) 982-2411.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR GENERAL OPERATIONS
(GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS)
For the Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	Total 2025	Total 2024	Percent Increase (Decrease)
Revenues			
Property Taxes	\$ 15,366,695	\$ 14,125,489	8.79%
Other Taxes	166,181	196,911	100.00%
Tax Increment	986,651	1,002,712	(1.60%)
Licenses and Permits	1,159,502	1,143,987	1.36%
Special Assessments	1,287,172	2,264,926	(43.17%)
Intergovernmental	11,894,104	5,168,490	130.13%
Charges for Services	2,242,408	2,539,647	(11.70%)
Fines and Forfeits	88,386	101,657	(13.05%)
Investment Earnings	1,900,916	1,517,537	100.00%
Miscellaneous	167,232	144,436	15.78%
Total Revenues Per Capita	\$ 35,259,247 1,563	\$ 28,205,792 1,264	25.01% 23.68%
Expenditures			
Current			
General Government	\$ 3,482,305	\$ 3,108,922	12.01%
Public Safety	7,329,985	6,558,432	11.76%
Public Works	2,328,016	2,383,537	(2.33%)
Culture and Recreation	2,893,590	2,839,288	1.91%
Conservation of Natural Resources	181,024	255,761	(29.22%)
Community Development	968,859	739,702	30.98%
Capital Outlay	28,860,557	9,277,960	211.07%
Debt Service			
Principal	1,615,000	2,115,475	(23.66%)
Interest and Other Charges	591,799	513,966	15.14%
Total Expenditures Per Capita	\$ 48,251,135 2,139	\$ 27,793,043 1,245	73.61% 71.76%
Total Long-Term Indebtedness	\$ 23,769,268	\$ 16,904,979	40.61%
Per Capita	1,054	757	39.11%
General Fund and Special Revenue Funds			
Committed, Assigned, and Unassigned			
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 11,077,680	\$ 9,320,691	18.85%
Per Capita	491	418	17.59%

Published one time in the Quad Community Press on July 21, 2026.

CITY OF LINO LAKES
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
December 31, 2025

	Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Funds			
	601 Water	602 Sewer	603 Storm Water	Total
Assets:				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$5,713,347	\$7,734,551	\$627,375	\$14,075,273
Due from other governments	1,035	2,929	-	3,964
Accounts receivable - net	273,046	283,097	63,064	619,207
Prepaid items	28,823	146,612	2,717	178,152
Inventory	198,362	-	-	198,362
Total current assets	6,214,613	8,167,189	693,156	15,074,958
Noncurrent assets:				
Interfund loan receivable	-	2,146,653	-	2,146,653
Capital assets:				
Land	374,867	-	-	374,867
Construction in progress	25,060,068	2,463,021	-	27,523,089
Equipment	463,789	1,345,634	-	1,809,423
Water and sewer systems	42,795,994	34,976,421	-	77,772,415
Total capital assets	68,694,718	38,785,076	-	107,479,794
Less: Allowance for depreciation	(14,560,361)	(14,249,948)	-	(28,810,309)
Net capital assets	54,134,357	24,535,128	-	78,669,485
Total noncurrent assets	54,134,357	26,681,781	-	80,816,138
Total assets	60,348,970	34,848,970	693,156	95,891,096
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	44,369	44,583	7,684	96,636
Liabilities:				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	159,371	36,165	6,892	202,428
Salaries payable	19,915	19,915	9,712	49,542
Due to other governments	15,257	314	199	15,770
Deposits payable	8,200	-	-	8,200
Accrued interest payable	10,665	-	-	10,665
Compensated absences payable - current portion	33,074	33,074	14,581	80,729
Long-term debt - current portion	688,000	-	-	688,000
Total current liabilities	934,482	89,468	31,384	1,055,334
Noncurrent liabilities:				
Compensated absences payable	24,950	24,950	11,000	60,900
Other post employment benefits	49,650	49,650	5,303	104,603
Long-term debt	1,966,787	-	-	1,966,787
Net pension liability	118,112	120,463	38,316	276,891
Total noncurrent liabilities	2,159,499	195,063	54,619	2,409,181
Total liabilities	3,093,981	284,531	86,003	3,464,515
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	85,757	85,940	25,073	196,770
Net position:				
Net investment in capital assets	51,479,570	24,535,128	-	76,014,698
Unrestricted	5,734,031	9,987,954	589,764	16,311,749
Total net position	\$57,213,601	\$34,523,082	\$589,764	\$92,326,447

Published one time in the Quad Community Press on July 21, 2026.

CITY OF LINO LAKES
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Funds			
	601 Water	602 Sewer	603 Storm Water	Totals
Operating revenues:				
Charges for services	\$2,316,472	\$2,287,098	\$562,097	\$5,165,667
Hook-up charges	73,558	61,161	-	134,719
Water meter sales	109,681	-	-	109,681
Total operating revenues	2,499,711	2,348,259	562,097	5,410,067
Operating expenses:				
Personal services	395,500	402,369	185,406	983,275
Materials and supplies	290,785	21,220	18,441	330,446
Contractual services	326,040	218,562	151,652	696,254
MCES sewer charges	-	1,344,995	-	1,344,995
Depreciation	992,929	840,045	-	1,832,974
Utilities	129,750	54,370	-	184,120
Other	9,640	6,931	5,888	22,459
Total operating expenses	2,144,644	2,888,492	361,387	5,394,523
Operating income (loss)	355,067	(540,233)	200,710	15,544
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):				
Investment earnings	292,663	381,681	25,670	700,014
Interest expense	(26,530)	-	-	(26,530)
Intergovernmental revenue	5,060	-	-	5,060
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	271,193	381,681	25,670	678,544
Income (loss) before contributions and transfers	626,260	(158,552)	226,380	694,088
Contributions and transfers:				
Capital contributions from private sources	1,038,460	945,753	-	1,984,213
Capital contributions from governmental activities	19,306,024	1,465,677	-	20,771,701
Transfer out	(2,565,829)	-	-	(2,565,829)
Total contributions and transfers	17,778,655	2,411,430	-	20,190,085
Change in net position	18,404,915	2,252,878	226,380	20,884,173
Net position - January 1	38,808,686	32,270,204	363,384	71,442,274
Net position - December 31	\$57,213,601	\$34,523,082	\$589,764	\$92,326,447
			Capital Grants and Contributions	Transfers - Net
Amounts reported above			\$22,755,914	(\$2,565,829)
Amounts reported for business-type activities in the statement of activities are different because:				
Transfer in of capital assets from governmental activities			(20,771,701)	20,771,701
Amounts reported on the statement of activities			\$1,984,213	\$18,205,872

Published one time in the Quad Community Press on July 21, 2026.

CITY OF LINO LAKES
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Funds			
	601 Water	602 Sewer	603 Storm Water	Totals
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Receipts from customers and users	\$2,547,883	\$2,370,395	\$568,040	\$5,486,318
Payment to suppliers	(846,939)	(1,692,627)	(173,174)	(2,712,740)
Payment to employees	(397,856)	(404,724)	(209,008)	(1,011,588)
Net cash flows provided by operating activities	1,303,088	273,044	185,858	1,761,990
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities:				
Intergovernmental revenue	6,670	-	-	6,670
Repayment of interfund loan receivable	-	221,565	-	221,565
Transfers out	(2,565,829)	-	-	(2,565,829)
Net cash flows provided by noncapital financing activities	(2,559,159)	221,565	-	(2,337,594)
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:				
Acquisition of capital assets	(185,423)	(775,328)	-	(960,751)
Note proceeds	1,787,692	-	-	1,787,692
Principal paid on debt	(349,190)	-	-	(349,190)
Interest paid on debt	(18,957)	-	-	(18,957)
Net cash flows provided by capital and related financing activities	1,234,122	(775,328)	-	458,794
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Investment earnings	292,663	381,681	25,670	700,014
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	270,714	100,962	211,528	583,204
Cash and cash equivalents - January 1	5,442,633	7,633,589	415,847	13,492,069
Cash and cash equivalents - December 31	\$5,713,347	\$7,734,551	\$627,375	\$14,075,273
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Operating income (loss)	\$355,067	(\$540,233)	\$200,710	\$15,544
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash flows from operating activities:				
Depreciation	992,929	840,045	-	1,832,974
Changes in assets and liabilities:				
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable - net	48,172	22,136	5,943	76,251
Decrease (increase) in prepaid items	1,185	634	3,406	5,225
Decrease (increase) in inventory	(112,984)	-	-	(112,984)
Decrease (increase) in deferred outflows of resources	10,114	10,113	5,393	25,620
Increase (decrease) in payables	21,075	(47,183)	(599)	(26,707)
Increase (decrease) in compensated absences	4,857	4,857	4,553	14,267
Increase (decrease) in other post employment benefits	9,953	9,953	(19,003)	903
Increase (decrease) in net pension liability	(11,968)	(11,967)	(6,381)	(30,316)
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows of resources	(15,312)	(15,311)	(8,164)	(38,787)
Total adjustments	948,021	813,277	(14,852)	1,746,446
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$1,303,088	\$273,044	\$185,858	\$1,761,990
Noncash investing, capital and financing activities:				
Contributions of capital assets	\$20,344,484	\$2,411,430	\$ -	\$22,755,914

Published one time in the Quad Community Press on July 21, 2026.

WEEKLY WAG

Lucky is a sweet, smart girl and has so much love and companionship to offer. She arrived at Ruff Start Rescue as a surrender after her former family's unfortunate circumstances. Lucky is still trying to figure things out and is a bit timid and shy, but she warms up quickly when trust is established.

Lucky is two-and-a-half years old. She is a Parson Jack Russell Terrier/Chihuahua mix, and she weighs 15 pounds. Lucky is doing very well in foster care, and she will do best in

a new, loving forever home with a patient, caring, kind companion who will ensure her safety.

Lucky enjoys going for walks and lounging with her people on the couch. While there, she will lobby for a good belly rub. One of Lucky's favorite things is spending time outside. So a forever home with a securely fenced yard where she can explore and hang out would be best. Lucky is social with other dogs and with cats. She is house trained and crate trained.

If you are interested in



learning more about Lucky or adopting her, please fill out an application at www.ruffstartrescue.org. Once your application is received, Ruff Start Rescue will contact you as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY BRIEF

DNR rep says dead fish in Lake Peltier likely due to heat wave

The large amount of dead fish found in Lake Peltier is likely due to the lengthy heat wave. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources East Metro Fisheries Area Supervisor TJ DeBates said that, without any testing, however, the DNR cannot know for sure.

"As water warms up, fish get stressed out," DeBates said. "We've had water temps in the mid-80s for a week and a half now." He described that, like human beings, fishes' immune systems become compromised and susceptible to viruses and bacteria when put under stress.

"This is probably not the first time we'll be hearing about this during the week," DeBates said.



CONTRIBUTED

Dead fish in Lake Peltier.

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Centennial Lakes Fastpitch softball team wins tournament in Colorado, heads to Minnesota state tournament

BY LOGAN GION
STAFF WRITER

Centennial Lakes Fastpitch 18U team, coached by Montana Miller, is gearing up for the Minnesota softball state tournament July 25-26. They've been gaining momentum this season, placing higher in each subsequent tournament. The team has now secured a win in United States Specialty Sports Association Softball Tourney of Champs in Colorado.

"This is our first time getting rings or any medal this season," Miller said. "This was our fourth tournament of the season ... we've been slowly building up, and then we finally came together and won."

Because club softball is not associated with a school district, high school girls from other areas, including White Bear, Roseville and Saint Anthony, joined the team.

"At the start of the season, they were all from a bunch of different teams, now morphed into one," Miller said. Team captain Sophie Soderberg, who plays second base and outfield, added that the team started playing together this past winter, which helped team members coalesce into one unit.



From left: Greta Rust and Grace Hugger.

"It's just nice, everyone supporting you and having your back," Soderberg said.

Team support was crucial during the Colorado tournament, held July 11-12. Higher elevations and a scorching heat index meant the team had to take extra health measures, both physically and mentally.

"The heat kind of got to us," Soderberg noted. "It makes you feel more irritable and down on



Team Captain Sophie Soderberg at bat.

sightsee. Miller believes this rest was crucial to her team's well-being.

"Having that reboot, I think, was really important for them, too, because it can get to be a lot of softball in the summer when you're practicing or playing a game every day," Miller said. "Having a little break let them explore Colorado and take some time to heal themselves and settle in."

For Soderberg, coming in fresh helped her adjust to opponents' play styles. "If you notice you're missing a lot, and (the ball's) coming right past you—taking a deep breath, taking a step back and making sure you stay ready."

Greta Rust—who plays first base and, occasionally, third base—explained that her job is all about control.

"First base ... catch the balls that are coming in and out. Whereas third, it's called 'the hot corner,' you have a bunch of balls coming towards you at incredible speeds," Rust described. "You have to make the plays cleanly and get the girls out." Rust did just that in the Colorado tournament, making a few double plays to propel her team forward.

yourself." Soderberg mentioned that, besides hydration, she made sure to read when her teammates needed encouragement and when they needed space.

"When we have game after game when it's really hot and we're not used to the climate, to keep going out there and trying your best, I was super proud of them," Miller added. The team also had a one-week break before the tournament because of the Fourth of July holiday. They also traveled to Colorado early to bond and



PHOTOS BY CENTENNIAL LAKES FASTPITCH | CONTRIBUTED

The Extreme team lines up, showing off their championship rings. Coach Montana Miller is pictures bottom center.

Pitcher Hannah Hugger stated that she and the three other pitchers make it difficult for opponents to read the pitch.

"No two of us pitch similarly," Hugger said. "We have a wide variety of which pitches each of us throw, a range of speeds and spots we prefer to hit."

Coach Miller, a Centennial High School alumni and 2026 Hamline University graduate, made 29 pitching appearances for her college team this year. She believes that coaching for Centennial Lakes Fastpitch has made her a better player.

"When I'm talking to my pitchers, 'Make sure you hit this spot when you've got two strikes' or 'Know how to read what the batter is doing,' I can reflect on myself, like, 'Do I really do that when I'm in a game?'" Miller laughed. "If I'm telling my girls to be better players, then I also need to make sure I do that myself."

Looking ahead, Miller believes that if her team keeps their confidence, intensity and calmness, they will excel in the state tournament.

"Throughout this whole year, I've been super proud of them," Miller said. "I think they've finally started to gel with each other and start to trust their skills even more." At the Minnesota softball state qualifier, July 17-19, Miller's team placed third in their bracket.

SPORTS BRIEF

Whelan, former Cougar, drafted by Texas Rangers

Will Whelan, 2023 Centennial graduate, was chosen by the Texas Rangers in the 13th round of the Major League Baseball draft last week.

Whelan has pitched for the Minnesota Gophers for three seasons and recently transferred the University of South Carolina.

With the Gophers this season, he threw 16 innings in 12 games with a 6.75 earned run average. Last season, he threw 40 innings in 20 games with a 6.75

ERA. In three seasons, he threw 74 2/3 innings in 49 games with 84 strikeouts.

Whelan's stock rose in summer ball with Bourne in the Cape Cod League. This season, he's pitched 18 innings with an 0.50 ERA and 20 strikeouts. Last summer with Bourne, he had a 1.74 ERA in 20 2/3 innings with 20 strikeouts. He earned a spot on the league's All-Star roster last summer.

The six-foot, 200 pound left-hander typically throws 90-95 mph.

Bruce Strand

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