



Arlington ENTERPRISE

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Enterprise photo by Kurt Menk

SE 6th Grade Speed Stacking Tournament

Robert Sutalo performed his skills at the Sibley East Sixth Grade Speed Stacking Tournament which was held at the Sibley East Elementary School in Gaylord on Friday, Dec. 20. The tournament is held at the end

of the Speed Stacking Unit which is conducted in the physical education classes. The tournament is designed to be fun and promote some friendly competition, according to teacher Dan Morton.

Trailblazer may have opportunity to extend service to Wright County

By Lori Copley
McLeod County Chronicle

Trailblazer Transit may have an opportunity to expand its service into Wright County.

The Joint Powers Board heard Thursday morning that communities in Sherburne County are pulling out of the River Rider system as of July 2014, leaving Wright County communities with a need to restructure their public transit system.

"It's kind of left Wright County out there," said Sibley County Commissioner Bill Pinske, chair of the Trailblazer Joint Powers Board.

The question for the Board, Pinske said, is "do we want to extend our operating radius outside our two counties?"

Trailblazer Transit is the public transportation system for Sibley and McLeod counties.

Bev Herfindahl, Region 8 project manager for transit for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), told the Joint Powers Board that MnDOT feels Trailblazer Transit will be a good fit to provide service in Wright County.

Herfindahl said that while the communities in Sherburne and Wright counties shared a transit system, each county had a "distinct derivation" of service areas. The Sherburne communities are feeling they may be better served with a collaboration with the Community Action Agency in St. Cloud.

"We don't know what the

Wright County communities are feeling; we haven't heard from them yet," said Herfindahl.

Herfindahl said MnDOT will visit with those communities after the first of the year.

But MnDOT knows one thing for sure: it will not fund a single-county system for Wright County, as it is hoping to streamline public transit in the state with fewer systems.

Sibley County Commissioner Harold Pettis asked questions about how a partnership with Wright County would be governed.

"We're the little fish in the big bowl now," said Pettis of a venture with the more-populated Wright County. "We want to make sure we don't

lose any service as a county."

"You won't be the little fish; you'll be an equal partner," said Herfindahl, who said she expects Trailblazer to be the lead agency on any cooperation with Wright County.

She also pointed out that the River Rider system was a collaboration of cities with Sherburne and Wright counties, and not a county-based operation as is Trailblazer.

"It's a different potluck," said Herfindahl.

Herfindahl also said that she doesn't expect service levels in McLeod and Sibley counties to change.

"The last thing we want to

Trailblazer
Continued on page 3

Arlington City Council unanimously approves employee wage/benefit package at meeting

By Kurt Menk
Editor

The Arlington City Council, during its regular meeting on Monday night, Dec. 16, unanimously adopted a resolution to approve the employee wage/benefit package.

City Council members James Jaszewski, Jennifer Nuesse, Curt Reetz, Jason Ruehling and Galen Wills all voted in favor of the resolution.

The City Council made the move after it unanimously approved the employee reviews.

The hourly wage for the city employees include Jason Lovaas (\$18.43 in 2013 to \$18.93 in 2014), Lee Zwart (\$15.24 in 2013 and \$15.24 in 2014), Vicki Pomplun

(\$16.68 in 2013 to \$17.08 in 2014), Bruce Rovinsky (\$22.50 in 2013 and \$22.50 in 2014), Lisa Tesch (\$20 in 2013 to \$20.50 in 2014) and Jennifer Strack (\$12.24 in 2013 to \$12.62 in 2014).

City employees and positions which did not receive an hourly or salary raise included part-time police (\$14), city part-timers (\$8.75), library aide (\$8.75), new library aide (\$7.50), summer recreation director (\$2,715 salary), summer recreation assistant (\$8.75), snow removal workers (\$13.50), firefighters (\$10), fire chief (\$1,200 salary), fire secretary (\$500 salary), fire first assistant chief (\$500 salary), fire second assistant chief (\$500 salary), fire training officers

(\$250 salary), air pack maintenance (\$250 salary), civil defense director (\$1,000 salary), emergency medical technician on-call pay (\$2), assistant ambulance manager (\$1,000 salary) and paramedics (\$23.50).

In addition, the City of Arlington will cover 80 percent of the premium costs for health insurance with the remaining 20 percent being paid by the city employees. The city will also contribute \$1,500 to each eligible HSA Account in 2014.

In other news, the City Council unanimously approved a motion to raise the annual salary of City Administrator from \$65,000 in 2013 to \$66,550 in 2014.

In other news, the City

Council unanimously approved a motion to proceed with a quit claim deed for the building located at 105 Fourth Avenue Northwest and previously owned by the Sibley Medical Center and now owned by the City of Arlington.

In other business, the City Council unanimously approved a motion to reassign the lease of the building at 105 Fourth Avenue Northwest from the Sibley Medical Center to the City of Arlington Economic Development Authority (EDA).

The building, located behind The Floral Shop, is currently used by Technical Services for Electronics for \$1,000 per month.

Year-In-Review

Editor's Note: The following article is a summary of the major news stories in the Arlington and Green Isle area during the first six months of 2012. The final six months will be featured in next week's edition of the Arlington Enterprise.

JANUARY

Over 40 enthusiastic participants, despite cold weather conditions, attended the inaugural Move Strong Community New Year's Day Walk/Run in Arlington on Tuesday, Jan. 1.

It was reported that the Green Isle Fire Department officially took ownership of a 1991 pumper truck during late December of 2012.

The Sibley County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a motion to hire Arlington City Administrator Matt Jaunich as the first ever Sibley County administrator.

It was reported that Dr. Dean Bergersen completely retired on Dec. 31, 2012. An open house for Dr. Bergersen was held at the Arlington Community Center on Tuesday, Jan. 15.

The Green Isle Fire Department responded to 30 total calls in 2012, according to Green Isle First Assistant Chief Dan Kroells.

The Arlington City Council held its annual organizational meeting. City Council members James "Ben" Jaszewski and Jennifer Nuesse were introduced as new members.

Starting with usage in January and billing in February, residents and businesses in Arlington were reported to see an increase in their water, sewer and electric rates during 2013.

Local resident Mary Seeman received the third annual Darwin Mathwig Community Service Award.

Jerry's Home Quality Foods celebrated the grand reopening of its newly remodeled store in Arlington.

The Green Isle City Council held its annual organizational meeting. New Mayor Dale ZumBerge and new City Council members Todd Burg, Shawn Harms and Brian Oelfke were introduced at the meeting.

The Arlington City Council unanimously approved a motion to hire Cynthia Smith-Strack to provide interim city administrative services until the full-time position is filled.

The Sibley East School Board received 20 applications for the open superintendent position before the application period closed in mid January. Sibley East Senior High Principal Jim Amsden was later named as one of the four semi-finalists.

M.J. Neisen Construction, Arlington, began to demolish a block storage building near the intersection of East Main Street and First Avenue South in downtown Arlington.

The Arlington Fire Department responded to 71 calls in 2012, according to Arlington Fire Chief John Zaske.

FEBRUARY

Steve Haefs, a senior at the Sibley East Senior High School in Arlington, was chosen by his classmates as the Outstanding Senior of the Quarter.

Gerry Berglin, administrator at the Good Samaritan Center - Arlington announced his retirement after 37 years in senior care.

A divided Sibley East School Board, after three hours of discussion and the completion of five feedback sheets, finally united and unanimously approved a motion to offer the superintendent position to current Sibley East Senior High Principal Jim Amsden who later accepted.

Kimberly Kurtzweg and Samuel Bullert were crowned as the Junior Sweetheart and Hunk during a coronation ceremony at the Sibley East Senior High School.

The Arlington Police Department responded to a total of 1,0067 calls in 2012, according to Arlington Police Chief Bruce Rovinsky.

The Sibley East varsity wrestling team captured the Section 4 team championship at Norwood Young America and earned advancement to the Minnesota State Class A Team Wrestling Tournament. Junior Nathan Rose also recorded his 165th career victory and broke the Sibley East school record for most career wins.

It was reported that a new state-of-the-art digital projection system had been installed at the Lido Theater in Arlington.

Sibley East Elementary Principal Mari Lu Martens was chosen as one of three finalists for Minnesota 2013 National Distinguished Principal.

The Sibley East varsity wrestling team placed fourth in the Minnesota State Class A Team Wrestling Tournament at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul in late February.

MARCH

Dr. Lyle Rud reported that the Arlington Animal Clinic was sold to the Minnesota Valley Veterinary Services effective Friday, March 1.

It was reported that the signal light at the intersection of Highway 5 and West Main Street would be deactivated in early March. The deactivation was later delayed until early April.

Year-In-Review
Continued on page 7

News Briefs

Vehicle strikes electrical pole

A vehicle reportedly struck an electrical utility pole along 210th Street just east of 401st Avenue in Green Isle Township at 4:55 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, according to the Sibley County Sheriff's Department.

Brenda Reinert, 47, Green Isle, was driving a white super duty Ford pickup westbound on 210th Street when the vehicle left the roadway, entered the north ditch and struck an electric utility pole, according to the report. The vehicle sheared off the pole at the base, but the electric line was still intact and connected to the pole. The wooden pole came to rest on the front passenger side of the vehicle.

Reinert did not suffer any apparent injuries, according to the report.

The vehicle, which was removed from the ditch by the owner, sustained moderate damage to the front end, windshield and roof all on the passenger side, the report said.

McLeod Co-op Power was contacted to remove the pole from the vehicle.

Students graduate from MSU

Some area students graduated from Minnesota State University, Mankato, during recent commencement exercises.

The students included Jessica Erickson, BA, Psychology, Magna Cum Laude; Laura Schuneman, BS, Exercise Science; Jacob Johnson, BS, Mass Communication; Cody Hallahan, MA, Sport Management; Christopher Odegaard, BS, Sport Management; Courtney Odegaard, BS, Accounting, Magna Cum Laude; Brianne Berger, BS, Accounting and Finance, Cum Laude; and Jessica Heinz, BS, Speech Communication.

Seneca Foods makes donation

The Arlington City Council, during its recent regular meeting, unanimously approved a motion to accept a \$625 donation from the Seneca Foods Foundation.

The money will be designated to the Arlington Fire Department and be used to purchase equipment, specifically a thermal imaging camera.

Accident on Highway 22

A two-vehicle accident reportedly occurred along Highway 22 in McLeod County at 5:09 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, according to the Minnesota State Patrol.

A 2006 Ford Focus driven by Chad Duenow, 21, Hutchinson, and a 2004 Chevrolet Cavalier driven by Judy E. Coleman, 60, Hutchinson, were both northbound on Highway 22, according to the report. Both drivers reportedly slowed down to allow a deer to cross the highway when the Ford Focus struck the rear of the Chevrolet Cavalier.

Blood drive set in Gaylord

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at the American Red Cross in Gaylord from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 26.

For eligibility questions, call 1-866-236-3276. Arlington double red donors from Aug. 27 are eligible to donate.



Enterprise photo by Kurt Menk

Patriotic Pen Contest

Forty-three sixth, seventh and eighth graders at the Sibley East Public School in Gaylord recently entered the Patriotic Pen Contest sponsored by the New Auburn VFW. The theme for the contest was "What patriotism means to me." Left to right: New Auburn

VFW member Wilbert Hahn, Donnae Morton (first place and \$175), Jaci Tourtellott (second place and \$150), Kiana Montes (third place and \$125) and Lindsey Flieth (fourth place and \$100).

Changes in nutrition service will affect senior citizens in Arlington

For 40 years, Senior Nutrition has been working to ensure good health and independent living for senior citizens in Minnesota by providing nutritious meals, opportunities for social contact and safety checks for frail seniors that are homebound.

Each day, 4,300 seniors are served by Lutheran Social Service (LSS) of Minnesota through 225 sites in 39 counties in Greater Minnesota.

But population changes have affected federal dollars that support these services, federal grants have not kept pace with inflation to cover food and other costs, and now, with financial cuts from sequestration, combined financial shortfalls have made the service unsustainable. As a result, 25 of the 225 sites operated by Lutheran Social Service, or about 10 percent of its locations, will lose all or part of their programming by year end.

In Arlington, plans are to close the Senior Nutrition site, but continue offering home-delivered meals. Senior

citizens will also be encouraged to dine with others at Senior Nutrition sites in Gibbon, Gaylord or Henderson.

"We've experienced a triple whammy in Senior Nutrition," explained Monica Douglas, director of Senior Nutrition for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota. "We've had to make some difficult decisions that will be especially felt in Greater Minnesota."

Douglas said that decisions to close were not made lightly. In all instances, Lutheran Social Service worked with the local Area Agency on Aging and considered several factors in making the joint decision, including the availability of other meal options in the area, number of senior citizens using the service, and whether services are reaching seniors that are most in need.

"We will continue to work closely with LSS on targeting nutrition dollars to high risk individuals with the most need," explained Linda Giersdorf, executive director of the Region Nine Development

Commission. "Ongoing support and technical assistance will be provided to LSS under the guidance and direction of our Board of Directors. During these challenging times, providing essential services for older adults requires us to be creative and collaborate with our community partners."

Douglas said that Lutheran Social Service is committed to actively seeking other ways to meet the nutritional needs of seniors, including the possibility of frozen meal delivery service, private pay options and Diner's clubs that are popular in other communities. Through Diner's clubs, local restaurants become partners with Lutheran Social Service to create affordable, easily accessible and healthy meal options available to seniors. Officials are also meeting with policymakers to help them understand the impact cuts are having on seniors.

"With the coming age wave, it will be important for us as a community to come together to find creative and

affordable ways to keep seniors healthy and living independently and build on successful programs like Senior Nutrition that can offer enormous social and financial benefit to us all," Douglas said. "In the meantime, we'll be connecting with seniors to inform them of other options available in the community and express our gratitude to the many outstanding volunteers who have worked alongside us in this important work."

Senior Nutrition is funded in part with federal funds from the Older Americans Act and state funding that is distributed through the Department of Human Service, Minnesota Board on Aging and local Area Agency on Aging. Additional financial support is provided by site sponsorships, United Way, contributions from participants and discretionary funds through Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota.

Sibley East tax levy to decrease \$183,696.74 or 14.49%

By Karin Ramige Cornwell Manager

No one from the public was in attendance for Sibley East's Truth-in-Taxation hearing on Monday, Dec. 16 where the district's business manager, Janna Tessmer, reported that Sibley East's 2013 tax levy payable in 2014 will decrease by 14.49 percent or \$183,696.74.

The total tax levy, payable in 2014, is \$1,083,995.14 down from \$1,267,691.88.

The general fund levy decreased by 16.27 percent or \$189,811.25. The community service fund increased by \$6,114.51 or 6.04 percent for the 14.49 percent total decrease.

Tessmer noted that the main reason for the decrease is due to legislative changes in the state aid funding formula.

The district will receive more money in state aid, eas-

ing the burden on local tax payers.

Tessmer explained that 83.6 percent of the general fund revenue comes from state aid, 9.8 percent from local taxes, 3.6 percent from local taxes, 3.6 percent from federal aid.

She further explained how the general fund dollars are spent. All expenses incurred in the operation of the district come from the general fund.

The district allocates the funds in the following way:

District and school administration, 6.6 percent; district support services, 2.6 percent; regular instruction, 51.7 percent; vocational instruction 2.4 percent; special education instruction, 12.9 percent; instructional support service 7.5 percent; pupil support services, 8.1 percent; site, building, and equipment, 7.7 percent; fiscal and other fixed cost programs, 0.5 percent.

There were a few points to remember that Tessmer pointed out: revenue formulas are set by the State Legislature except for voter approved referendums, local levy and state aid mix are set by the State Legislature, and an increase in local taxes does not necessarily mean an increase in the revenues for the school district.

The School Board passed a motion to approve and certify the 2013 payable 2014 levy certification at maximum levy authority for \$1,083,995.14 during the regular meeting the same evening.

Minnesota's Truth in Taxation laws require all city,

county and school district to follow certain steps before adopting a tax levy for the following year.

One of the main required components of the law are mailing a notice to each property owner in the county describing the tax levies proposed by the county, city and school district which explains what the percentage increase or decrease means in dollars.

The other main required component is for each taxing jurisdiction, for example, county, city and school board to hold a Truth in Taxation public meeting giving the public the opportunity for questions and comments.

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Maintenance Supervisor Jason Lovaaas

Community Calendar
Tuesday, December 31: NEW YEAR'S EVE
Cut off for 2013 year end business transactions will be noon.
Main Bank will close at 3:00 p.m.
Drive-Up will close at 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1: Both banks will be closed.
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Enterprise photo by Kurt Menk

Wolverines of the Month

The following students were recently chosen as Wolverines of the Month at the Sibley East Junior High School in Gaylord. Front Row: (left to right) Rocio Cardenas, Jose Felipe and Michaela Sylvester. Back Row: (l to r) Seth Fredin, Brooke Klehr and Neyland Ott.

Gaylord City Council hopes to cut paper use with iPads next year

Paperless in 2014. That's the plan for Gaylord's City Council, according to *The Gaylord Hub*.

Members recently opted to purchase iPads in an effort to reduce the amount of paper used by the city. City Council members, earlier this month,

came to the consensus to each purchase a 32 gigabyte iPad Air. Council members will be reimbursed for their purchase. The estimated cost to the city is \$6,500, according to City Administrator Kevin McCann.

McCann envisions that

City Council agendas and memos will eventually all be shared on iPads, compared to printed out versions used currently. The transition to iPads is scheduled for early January.

Trailblazer Continued from page 1

do is reduce service," said Herfindahl.

Herfindahl noted that MnDOT had just received official notice of Sherburne's withdrawal from River Rider the day before the Trailblazer Joint Powers Board meeting, although MnDOT was aware of the pending change.

She added that a lot of details would have to be worked out before the dissolution of River Rider becomes official in July 2014.

"Six months is a blink of an eye," said Herfindahl. "And there's lots to be done."

And if Wright County is interested in working with Trailblazer, most of the burden for managing the details of lining up service will fall on the shoulders of Trailblazer Di-

rector Gary Ludwig.

"This may take up Gary's entire job," said Herfindahl. "It may be like the effect that Gary walked out and took another job."

To that end, Herfindahl said it was important to get an operations manager on board, and that MnDOT may be willing to fund some of the transitional costs if Trailblazer took on service in Wright County.

Pinske said he has been assured by MnDOT that extending service to Wright County won't cost McLeod and Sibley counties any more money than what they already contribute to the system. In fact, their shares may be less, Pinske said.

Ludwig said that working with Wright County would

help with two issues: getting transportation service to residents and meeting MnDOT's transit regionalization goals.

"First of all, taking care of people is just the right thing to do," said Ludwig, "especially if we can do it at no extra costs to the counties. And we can do it."

"Second, regionalization has been on the table for the past year," Ludwig added. "This may be an opportunity to meet MnDOT's goal and still be in the driver's seat to protect what you've built here."

After a lengthy discussion, the Board voted to explore with MnDOT the possibility of extending service into Wright County.

SMC opens new clinic in Winthrop

The Sibley Medical Center Winthrop Clinic opened its doors at its new location on Monday, Dec. 16, according to the *Winthrop News*.

It is attached to the soon-to-open assisted living and Good Samaritan Center-Winthrop. When people enter the

building, they will find a spacious reception area. There are several exam rooms, a lab room and an x-ray room.

Vehicles break through ice on area lake

Two vehicles reportedly broke through the ice on Scotch Lake in rural Cleveland on Friday, Dec. 20, according to the KNUJ Radio website.

St. Peter resident Ryan Augustin, 35, and his son had re-

portedly driven out onto the lake to fish when the front wheel of his pickup truck broke through the ice and became stuck.

St. Peter resident Jeff Hulke, 35, reportedly came to assist Augustin, but his vehi-

cle reportedly broke through the ice as well.

Officials said the occupants of both of vehicles were able to exit safely and no injuries were reported.

OK Corral shuts down between Belle Plaine and Jordan

Almost exactly one year after undergoing new ownership and renovation, the OK Corral on Highway 169 between Belle Plaine and Jordan has closed, according to the *Belle Plaine Herald*.

The only public statement made by the OK Corral came

on its Facebook page, dated Dec. 11.

"Well the rumors are true! It is with great regret that we must close the OK Corral. Thank you to all those who supported us over the year. We just couldn't get enough people to support us. It's a

big place and we needed many more guests to be successful. We will miss all the new friends we made while in Jordan. I have to apologize to all the bands we had scheduled in the next few months. Hopefully, they will find another place to play."



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New Year's Eve Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2013
– Cut Off for 2013 year-end business transactions will be Noon.

New Year's Eve – Tuesday, Dec. 31
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Opinions

Woman who attempted to escape from authorities is placed into a fenceless facility

Our View: Officials who make idiotic decisions should be held accountable

A woman who was serving a sentence for attempting to escape from Hennepin County officials was recently placed into a fenceless women's prison in Shakopee. It does not take a genius to figure out what happened next. The woman made a run for it and escaped from the facility.

The good news is that the woman was found hiding in a bush behind a house 23 minutes later.

The bad news is that the official or officials who made the decision to place a runner in a fenceless facility will probably not be held accountable for such an idiotic decision. How can these officials still keep their jobs?

The debate for a fence at the Minnesota Correctional Facility - Shakopee has dragged on for nearly a decade and it is finally time for state politicians to step up and solve the problem.

There are currently 653 inmates at the women's prison in Shakopee. Over 190 of these women are hardcore criminals with sentences for murder, sexual assault or first degree felonies. Eight prisoners have escaped from the facility since 1995.

State Senator Julianne Ortman co-authored a bonding bill to raise \$5.7 million for the project during the last legislative session.

"It includes a security fence around the entire facility," said Ortman. "It is intended to make it acceptable to the local communities. It also has some underground technology to make sure people stay away from that fence.."

The bill is now in the hands of the Capital Investment Committee. It will be taken up again this coming session.

If state politicians can find nearly \$350 million to contribute toward a new Minnesota Vikings stadium, they can find money for a security fence at this women's prison.

-K.M.



Letter To The Editor

Update on proposed industrial wind turbines

To The Editor,

To everyone in and around Sibley County here is an update on the proposed industrial wind turbines near the Winthrop golf course.

First, our chairman is awaiting from the MMPA, who recently signed an agreement to buy the power, the following information:

- What the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) rate is with Sibley Wind (Wind gets higher reimbursement which means you get higher utility bills. Guaranteed.)

- Whether or not MMPA considers this a CBED project (Community Based Energy Development requires Minnesota ownership which does not exist now.)

- A copy of the executed PPA

Second, we continue to be disturbed that this out-of-state corporation:

- Demands building these turbines in fields that regularly flood and hold standing water

- Refuses to do a timely environmental analysis

- Will not educate the public that property values often go down

where wind turbines go up

Finally, get involved in your township, city, or county board meetings. Many government officials at every level reassure us that they have our best interests at heart and that their endless laws and regulations in your life are what you need (think Obamacare). Yes, some things outlined in the Constitution may be necessary. Remember though everything government does gives you and me tax increases, climbing utility bills, higher grocery costs, less freedom, and more government bureaucracy. America is drowning in \$17 trillion in debt, almost \$1 trillion in annual deficits, never-ending-wars-for-never-ending-peace, a privately-owned secret Federal Reserve creating another stock market bubble . . . we did not get here because we have too FEW laws and regulations.

Friends, with your help it can be "Morning in America" once again for Minnesota and our great country of color and culture. Meanwhile, the Sibley County GOP will continue advocating for all Sibley county

citizens.

The Sibley County Republican Executive Board
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Nathan Kranz, Treasurer, rural Gaylord
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Too Tall's Tidbits

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to the following local and area residents compliments of the Arlington Lions Club Community Calendar.

Friday, December 27

Garrett Boblitt, Kristopher Von Eschen, Mari Hebeisen, Mitch Dietz, Renae Rose, Ryan McCarthy, Mr. And Mrs. Arden Kreft, and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Ebersviller.

Saturday, December 28

Amy Bigaouette, Cooper Stier, Crystal Stein, Katelyn Geib, Marion Van Moorehem, Travis Luepke, and Mr. and Mrs. Matt Scharpe.

Sunday December 29

In Memory Of Jeff Vos, Emily Rabe, Jonny Wiederhoeff, Keith Kroells, Sara Brochert, Zach Rischmiller, and Mr. and Mrs. Tim Reinert.

Monday, December 30

Draco Schlueter, Lucas Dose, Matt Morriem, Steven Luepke, Todd Vrklan, Mr. and Mrs. Chad Kleist, and Mr. and Mrs. John Kreft.

Tuesday, December 31

Breanna Krueger and Gary Kleist.

Wednesday, January 1

Bhinesen Raghu, Gaitree, Jason Quast, Julie Karger, and Mr. and Mrs. Chad Fisher.

Thursday, January 2

Audrey Harter, Carla Roinestad, Carrie Duckett-Halverson, Kathryn Lang, Marvin Wentzlaff, Mary Krentz, Mike Arabian, Mike Pinske, Sandra Roinestad, Chris Stone, Eric Koch, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Arabian, and Mr. and Mrs. Rick Shimota.

An accountant is having a hard time sleeping and goes to see his doctor.

"Doctor, I just can't get to sleep at night," the accountant said.

The doctor replied, "Have you tried counting sheep?"

The accountant stated, "That's the problem - I make a mistake and then spend three hours trying to find it."

An angry wife was complaining about her husband spending all his free time in a bar, so one night he took her along with him. "

"What'll you have?" he asked.

"Oh, I don't know. The same as you I suppose," she replied.

So, the husband ordered a couple of Jack Daniels and threw his down in one shot.

His wife watched him, then took a

sip from her glass and immediately spat it out. "Yuck, that's terrible!" she spluttered. "I don't know how you can drink this stuff!"

"Well, there you go," cried the husband. "And you think I'm not enjoying myself every night!"

Worried because they hadn't heard anything for days from the widow in the neighboring apartment, Mrs. Silver said to her son, "Timmy, would you go next door and see how old Mrs. Kirkland is?"

A few minutes later, Timmy returned.

"Well," asked Mrs. Silver, "is she all right?"

"She's fine, except that she's angry at you," Timmy answered.

"At me?" the woman exclaimed.

"Whatever for?"

"She said, 'It's none of your business how old she is,'" snickered Timmy.

For the first time in many years, an old man traveled from his rural town to the city to attend a movie. After buying his ticket, he stopped at the concession stand to purchase some popcorn.

Handing the attendant \$1.50, he couldn't help but comment, "The last time I came to the movies, popcorn was only 15 cents."

"Well, sir," the attendant replied with a grin, "You're really going to enjoy yourself. We have sound now."

A policeman pulled a female driver over and asked to see her license.

After looking it over, he said to her, "Lady, it stipulates here on your license that you should be wearing glasses."

"Well, I have contacts," the woman replied.

"Look lady, I don't care who you know," snapped the officer. "You're getting a ticket."

While on a field trip to an amusement park, the teacher lost his wallet. Gathering the group together, he told the kids, "My wallet had \$500 in it. I will give a \$25 reward to anyone who finds it."

A voice from the back of the group chimed in, "And I'll give \$50!"

Guest Column

Time to throw big business off the Republican stool

By Rick Manning

The Republican Party winning coalition has traditionally stood on a three legged stool consisting of God, guns and economic freedom with the economic freedom part of the equation being the glue.

The God part of the equation tends to revolve around social issues. Many of those in this category hold a strong belief in a sovereign God who manifested Himself through Jesus Christ. This religious belief is not something held by every, or even, quite possibly, a majority of Republicans, but it is a fundamental part of the Party's winning political equation. In 1976, Jimmy Carter, a practicing Christian, broke this part of the coalition off from the Republicans and squeaked by to win the presidency.

In Pennsylvania, the late Democratic Governor Robert Casey, Sr, and to some extent his son, Senator Robert Casey, Jr., broke this leg of the stool by standing out from their Party and supporting right to life issues winning impressive majorities in the process.

The guns portion of the coalition is a combination of Second Amendment and strong national security voters, many of these voters are veterans who can be identified by the American flags flying in front of the homes year round. This middle class voter fervently believes in the idea of America and tends to be a constitutionalist.

Reagan's famous "Bear in the

Woods" 2004 television ad appealed to this voter's sense that defense of country is the government's first and foremost responsibility.

For those who don't remember, the bear in the ad is Russia and the Cold War was raging. Russian force capabilities in Europe exceeded our capacity to defend the West, and President Reagan was in the midst of changing the madness of the, "if you blow us up, we'll blow you up" mutually assured destruction promise. There were those who argued for defense cuts, and appeasement, Reagan stood firm and the Soviet Union's Gorbachev folded his hand as his economy collapsed under the weight of centralized planning.

Now, an entire generation has been raised without that bear in the woods, and our nation has fought small insurgent wars in the interim against an ideological enemy which transcends traditional nation states. An enemy, who for politically correct reasons, remains unnamed by our government officials.

The guns wing of the Republican Party is in danger of being fractured as very real concerns about abuses of national surveillance systems overwhelm the very real concerns about attacks by Islamists as well as the continuing rise of China and the re-emergence of a strong Russia led by Vladimir Putin.

However, while this patriotic wing of the Party is somewhat ignored, it is susceptible to breaking away over concerns about immigra-

tion, and free trade policies which seem to result in smaller paychecks, fewer jobs and a weaker America.

It is then the third, economic freedom leg of the stool that should be a great unifier as the current Administration attacks private property, individual initiative and prosperity on every front.

Over the past 50 years, American's aspiration for better lives through hard work, personal initiative and the unique opportunities to pursue their dreams offered by the free enterprise system have been eroded by the growth of the dependency society.

However, with nearly fifty percent of Americans receiving a government check in some form, and the economy in a slow, steady decline with fewer and fewer people even participating in the labor force, the underpinnings of the economic freedom stool are being shaken to their core.

This leg of the stool has also been effectively used by Democrats to define Republicans as the Party of the rich among voters in the other two legs of the stool. Ironically, this deliberate miscasting of those who believe in limiting the size and scope of government as being tools of the corporate elite is now being used by some within the Republican Party to foment a civil war.

Manning
Continued on page 5

Arlington ENTERPRISE

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Letters

This page is devoted to opinions and commentary. Articles appearing on this page are the opinions of the writer. Views expressed here are not necessarily those of the Arlington Enterprise, unless so designated. The Arlington Enterprise strongly encourages others to express opinions on this page.

Letters from our readers are strongly encouraged. Letters for publication must bear the writer's signature and address. The Arlington Enterprise reserves the right to edit letters for purpose of clarity and space.

Ethics

The editorial staff of the Arlington Enterprise strives to present the news in a fair and accurate manner. We appreciate errors being brought to our attention. Please bring any grievances against the Arlington Enterprise to the attention of the editor. Should differences continue, readers are encouraged to take their grievances to the Minnesota News Council, an organization dedicated to protecting the public from press inaccuracy and unfairness. The News Council can be contacted at 12 South Sixth St., Suite 940, Minneapolis, MN 55402, or (612) 341-9357.

Press Freedom

Freedom of the press is guaranteed under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution:
"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press..."

Ben Franklin wrote in the Pennsylvania Gazette in 1731: "If printers were determined not to print anything till they were sure it would offend nobody there would be very little printed."



Deadline for the Arlington Enterprise news is 4 p.m., Monday, and advertising is noon, Tuesday. Deadline for The Galaxy advertising is noon Wednesday.

White is Senior of the Quarter

By Kurt Menk
Editor

Ben White, a senior at the Sibley East Senior High School, was recently chosen by his classmates as the Outstanding Senior of the Quarter.

Seniors at Sibley East vote for the outstanding member of the senior class each quarter. The names of those students are then submitted to the Gaylord Rotary Club to consider for a scholarship sponsored by the club. The scholarship will be presented to the outstanding senior of the year during the annual awards ceremony next spring.

White is currently enrolled in U.S. Government, Physics, English, Forensics, Engineering, Choir, Calculus and Independent Spanish.

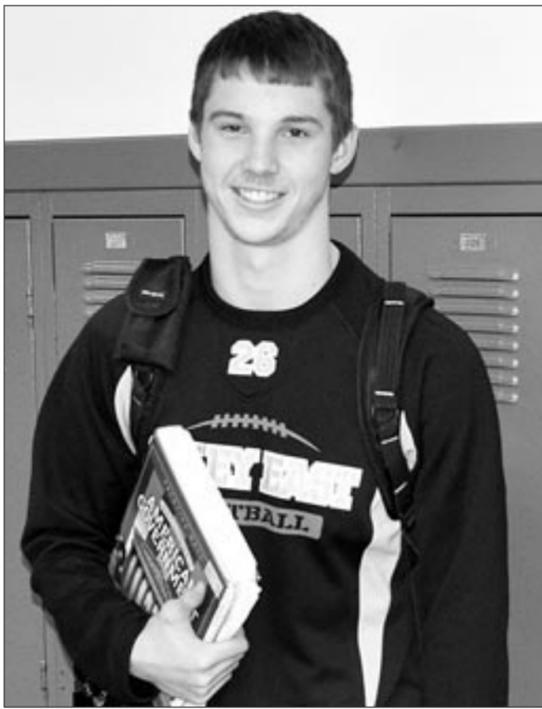
White, a member of the National Honor Society, is a member of the "A" Honor Roll and is a past Student of the Month. He is a member of the Student Council was selected as Academic All State in football last fall.

White was a three-year starter in football and was recently selected as third team all state. He lettered in basketball last season and is a starter this year. He is also a two-year letterwinner in track.

Outside of school, White is a member of the Youth League at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church, Norseland, where he is a Pre-School Sunday Teacher. He is also very active in the Rush River Rushers 4-H Club. In addition, White has volunteered 140 hours during the past year.

White plans to attend a four-year liberal arts college and major in engineering.

He is the son of Alex and Slava White, Gaylord.



Enterprise photo by Kurt Menk

Ben White

Obituary

Elaine I. Galbraith, 88, Arlington

Elaine I. Galbraith, age 88 of Arlington and formerly of Omaha, Neb., died at the Arlington Good Samaritan Center on Saturday, Dec. 21.

Funeral service was held at the Kolden Funeral Home at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 26. Rev. Rod Stemme officiated.

Visitation was held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Interment was in the Arlington Public Cemetery.

Elaine was born in Jackson

County, Mo., on July 16, 1925. She grew up in Ottumwa and moved to Omaha, Neb., as a teenager. She lived most of her life in Omaha where she raised her four children. She has lived in Arlington for the last three years. Elaine loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She also enjoyed traveling with her friend, Barb.

Elaine is survived by her children, Regina, (Jim)

Ploeger of Arlington, Dennis (Barb) Galbraith of Omaha, Neb., Ramona Clark of Pensacola, Fla., and Garold (Diana) Galbraith of Saratoga, Wyoming; seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and brother, Lowell Dunham of the Philippines.

She is preceded in death by her parents; one grandchild; three husbands; two brothers; and one sister.

Manning Continued from page 4

In the early 2000s, Washington, D.C. Republicans seemingly lost sight of their purpose to limit the size and scope of government. With regular increases in government programs and spending, along with scandals involving congressional Republicans playing the D.C. game and getting tax breaks and special favors for Wall Street and multi-national corporations, Republicans lost their right to govern, and in 2006 Democrats took control of Congress.

And it is clear as day now they do not favor getting government under control. They opposed taking any meaningful steps to stop Obamacare before it goes into effect. They oppose getting spending under control. They like quantitative easing that over time will destroy the dollar. They want corporate welfare subsidies and anti-competitive regulations that help them stay on top.

With this recent history, we now are learning that Walmart, Google and a multitude of other major corporations have been funding the far left Center for American Progress' campaign to destroy the free market system.

This should forever end the myth that corporations are a legitimate part of the economic freedom leg of the stool. They are nothing more or less than funders who pursue their

own interests outside of ideology and there is nothing wrong with that.

When contrasted with labor unions which are "all in" supporting the Democrat agenda, even when it hurts their own members' interests (see the left's war on coal and the impact on mine workers and the United Mine Workers union as an example), one wonders why Republicans bother defending big business interests at all.

Yet it is this professional big business class that seeks through hired guns to declare war on the legitimate economic freedom, God and guns legs of the Republican stool.

The corporate "Republican" class has come out of the closet, no longer content with attending all the parties and dominating the back rooms of D.C. They are now determined to permanently shatter the economic freedom leg of the stool by silencing those who actually believe in limited government and a free, competitive marketplace.

They somehow believe that with enough money they can trick voters in the other two legs of the stool to continue supporting them, while getting economic freedom voters because there is no other available choice.

Not fearing any political backlash if they fail, reasoning that those who don't believe in using government as a

tool to punish your enemies and help your friends will still vote their limited government principles.

But they forget that a Republican winning coalition depends upon getting the other two legs of the stool on board as well, and those voters really don't like the corporate crony Republican and their funders who spend money attacking their core concerns.

It is somewhat ironic that the "funding" corporations and their lackeys are inciting and funding a civil war against the base of the Party that they depend upon to provide the votes to hold power.

The real question is whether a group that funds the opposition and only really spends a little more than half of their contributions on the Republican side of the aisle should even have a seat at the Republican Party table?

In the end, Republicans just might discover that they are better off shedding the Party of the Rich label by throwing these corporate welfare, government leeches to the curb altogether leaving them to commune with those on the left who hate them.

Perhaps then, everyone would be happy.

Rick Manning is the vice president of public policy and communications for Americans for Limited government.

History

95 Years Ago

December 26, 1918
Louis Kill, Editor

In a little more than two months time it has been estimated that 350,000 people in the United States have died of the influenza and complications. The Americans killed in the war numbered about 60,000 so it will be seen that the present epidemic is far more deadly.

Drys claimed a new gain of 20 votes at noon Monday in Sibley County in the recount of the prohibition amendment ballots at the November election. Dry leaders said this gain might be increased to 30 with decisions of 49 disputed ballots referred to the court. To date 207 precincts out of 3,129 in the state have been recounted.

This is the first Christmas for many years that the old and young folks did not have the pleasure of attending the annual Firemen's Ball. Blame it to the Kaiser and the "flu."

71 Years Ago

December 28, 1944
Louis Kill, Editor

The highway bridge near the Egan farm in Jessenland township, about 8 miles east of Arlington, was the scene of a tragic accident in which two men lost their lives. The men Christ Delzer, about 50, of Henderson and Wilmer Boettcher, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Boettcher of New Rome, were buried beneath an avalanche of earth which resulted from a cave-in. The men were working on a county bridge project on State Aid Road No. 1. A new

bridge was put in at this point several years ago, crossing a ravine of considerable depth. However, the stream was gradually washing away the approaches to the bridge and a crew of workmen was sent down to put in a retaining wall. It was while the two unfortunate men were digging a trench for the wall at the bottom of the ravine that the cave-in took place.

The J. H. Jasken family recently received another message from the War Department in regard to their son, Norbert. It said "I am pleased to inform you that the latest report from the theater of operations states that on 24 November your son, Corporal Norbert P. Jasken, was convalescing." He was awarded the Purple Heart and the Expert Infantry Medal.

1944 humor - Poor Company
Harry - You smoke?
Jerry - No
Harry - You drink?
Jerry - No
Harry - Do you eat hay, then?
Jerry - Of course not!
Harry - Why, you're not a fit companion for man or beast!

45 Years Ago

December 26, 1968
Val Kill, Editor

Considerable damage resulted but no one was hurt when a car driven by Mrs. Malinda Brockhoff of Arlington crashed into the front of the Tjosvold's Furniture Store. Mrs. Brockhoff's car skidded on the snow as she attempted to park. Smashed were two panes of glass, one divider, a bit of the foundation and one bedroom set was damaged.

Two different blizzard - type snow storms struck this area during the past week and dropped more snow on the ground than we had all last winter. About nine inches of the white stuff fell here and it was piled up into high drifts by stiff winds. Some church programs were postponed and the mail truck was late coming through Monday morning.

1968 building projects that were pictured in the Enterprise.

February 22 - The Arlington Creamery Association's new farm service center was completed. Also completed at the same time was the new Custom Farm Service, both are located on Highway 5, northeast of Arlington.

August 1 - The Big Stone Canning Company began rebuilding its main canning building here.

August 8 - The Arlington Lumber Company completed two temporary classroom buildings at the Arlington public school. And a new 60X100 clear span livestock building was finished and ready in time for the fair at the Sibley County Fair Grounds.

20 Years Ago

December 23, 1993
Kurt Menk, Editor

The Arlington City Council unanimously adopted a resolution to increase the local water rates by ten percent effective January 15, 1994. Under the new adjustment, the first 50,000 gallons of water use will cost \$1.57 per 1,000 gallons. Water use over 50,000 will cost \$1.17 per 1,000 gallons.

WE'RE ALL EARS

Questions? Comments?
Story Ideas?

Let us know how we're doing.

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Sports



Submitted Photo

Six members of the Sibley East varsity wrestling team placed in the Redwood River Riot last weekend. Left to right: Jake Wenzlaff (170-pounds, fifth place), Tanner Pasvogel (113-pounds, first place), Austin Brock-

hoff (138-pounds, first place), Jason Meyer (132-pounds, first place), Mitch Wenzlaff (152-pounds, third place) and Nathan Rose (220-pounds, first place).

Sibley East wins Redwood River Riot

By Kurt Menk
Editor

The Sibley East varsity wrestling team had four champions and captured top honors in the Redwood River Riot last weekend.

The champions were Tanner Pasvogel (113), Jason Meyer (132), Austin Brockhoff (138) and Nathan Rose (220). Mitch Wenzlaff (152) placed third while Jake Wenzlaff (160) placed fifth.

Sibley East had 154 team points while Maple River placed second with 148 team points. Overall, there were 29 teams.

Results

106-pounds: Tommy Wenzlaff (SE) lost by a major decision to Mario Garcia (SJ) 15-3 in the opening round. After a bye in the wrestlebacks, Wenzlaff was decided by Justin Kopel (TCU) 11-5.

113-pounds: Tanner Pasvogel (SE) received a bye in the opening round. In the next round, Pasvogel decided Wyatt Johansen (CAN) 8-6. In the semi-final round, Pasvogel pinned Lincoln Arndt (MR) 4:29. In the championship match, Pasvogel decided Adam Kunz (ROCORI) 8-2.

120-pounds: Mitch Heibel (SE) lost by a major decision to Spencer Jenniges (WRRC) 12-0 in the opening round. After a bye in the wrestlebacks, Heibel won by a major decision over Conner Bertram (RIV) 15-4. In the next round, Heibel decided Gunnar Feldhege (ROCORI) 6-0. In the next round, Heibel was pinned by Trey Wigand (MR) 2:22.

126-pounds: Mason Voight (SE) received a bye in the opening round. In the next

round, Voight was decided by Mitchell Fulton (WRRC) 5-4. After two byes in the wrestlebacks, Voight forfeited the next match to Derek Moore (MR).

132-pounds: Jason Meyer (SE) pinned Isak Figueroa (TCU) 1:43 in the opening round. In the next round, Meyer won by a major decision over Jeffrey Camacho (WORTH) 12-2. In the semi-final round, Meyer pinned Trent Piepenburg (ALEX) 4:59. In the championship match, Meyer decided Tyler Jones (LITCH) 5-3.

138-pounds: Austin Brockhoff (SE) received a bye in the opening round. In the next round, Brockhoff decided Mark Alvarado (SJ) 7-0. In the semi-final round, Brockhoff decided Russell Caldwell (MR) 5-0. In the championship match, Brockhoff decided Jordan Engler (KMS) 9-4.

145-pounds: Sibley East did not have a wrestler in this weight decision.

152-pounds: Mitch Wenzlaff (SE) received a bye in the opening round. In the next round, Wenzlaff decided Billy Deslauriers (CAN) 5-2. In the semi-final round, Wenzlaff was decided by Joe Weber (FMCW) 5-2. In the wrestlebacks, Wenzlaff pinned Dustin Neu (ALEX) 2:12. In the third place match, Wenzlaff decided Zach Motschke (SAR) 7-2.

160-pounds: Jake Wenzlaff (SE) pinned River Zvorak (TMBWWG) 2:34 in the opening round. In the next round, Wenzlaff pinned Tyler Logan (NRHEG) 5:24. In the next round, Wenzlaff decided Evan Jakes (MW) 9-4. In the semi-final round, Wenzlaff was decided by Aaron Trio (MR) 9-5. In the

wrestlebacks, Wenzlaff was decided by Tyler Logan (NRHEG) 5-0. In the fifth place match, Wenzlaff pinned Marko Arroyo (TCU) 2:39.

170-pounds: Austin Kube (SE) received a bye in the opening round. In the next round, Kube was pinned by Blake Schroder (WORTH) 1:30. After a bye and forfeit in the wrestlebacks, Kube was decided by Lukas Trio (MR) 7-3.

182-pounds: Aaron Kapke (SE) received a bye in the opening round. In the next round, Kapke lost by a technical fall to Josh Whitesell (STPJ) 15-0. After two byes in the wrestlebacks, Kapke was pinned by Nathan Gillis (FMCW) 0:50.

195-pounds: Cody Voight (SE) was decided by Isaac Hernandez (USC) 10-5 in the opening round. After a bye in the wrestlebacks, Voight was pinned by Brian Bratsch (QC) 3:57.

220-pounds: Nathan Rose (SE) received a bye in the opening round. In the next round, Rose pinned Jacob Nading (TCU) 0:30. In the next round, Rose pinned Cole Bungarden (UNITED) 1:00. In the semi-final round, Rose decided Tyler Olson (MR) 9-6. In the championship match, Rose decided Adam Treptau (BUFF) 4-0.

285-pounds: Jon DuFrane (SE) pinned Andrew Kinnetz (SJ) 3:51. In the next round, DuFrane was pinned by Jake Russel (MW) 5:15. In the wrestlebacks, DuFrane was pinned by Mark Washa (FMCW) 2:26.

Scott West 42, Sibley East 18

The Sibley East varsity wrestling team was topped by visiting Scott West 42-18

SE girls basketball team tops Belle Plaine Tigers, falls to NYA in MRC play

By Kurt Menk
Editor

The Sibley East varsity girls basketball team split a pair of games in Minnesota River Conference action last week.

The Lady Wolverines, 1-2 in the MRC and 3-3 overall, will face Redwood Valley in the opening round of the Redwood Valley Holiday Basketball Tournament at 4:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27. The third place game will be played at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28. The championship game will be played at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28.

Sibley East 65, Belle Plaine 43

The visiting Sibley East varsity girls basketball team jumped out to an early lead and topped Belle Plaine 65-43 in Minnesota River Conference play on Tuesday night, Dec. 17.

Juniors Kelli Martens sparked the Lady Wolverines with 14 points in the victory. Senior Megan Eckberg and sophomore Katie Tuchenhagen also hit double digits with 13 points apiece. Junior Autumn Dose and senior Kimberly Kurtzweg hit for seven and six points respectively while junior McKenzie Sommers and sophomore Mikayla Stumm scored four points each. Junior Liz Thies netted three points while junior Shelby Voight added one point.

Sibley East hit 18 of 42 shots from two-point range for 43 percent and seven of 31 attempts from beyond the arc for 23 percent. The Lady Wolverines also sank eight of 17 free throw attempts for 47 percent.

The Lady Wolverines also grabbed a total of 35 rebounds in the win. Sommers pulled down eight caroms while Martens and Dose collected five boards apiece.

Senior Jessica Garza dished out four assists and recorded two steals while Stumm had three assists and three thefts.

NYA 56, Sibley East 31

The visiting Sibley East varsity girls basketball team started slow and lost to Norwood Young America 56-31 in Minnesota River Conference action on Friday night, Dec. 20.

Seniors Jessica Garza and Megan Eckberg led Sibley East with nine and seven points respectively. Junior Autumn Dose scored four points while junior Mikayla Perschau and sophomore Katie Tuchenhagen netted three points apiece. Senior Kimberly Kurtweg and junior Kelli Martens tallied two points each while junior Shelby Voight added one point.

The Lady Wolverines connected on eight of 33 shots from two-point range for 24 percent and three of 21 shots from three-point land for 14 percent. Sibley East also canned six of nine charity tosses for 67 percent.

Sibley East grabbed 33 rebounds in the setback. Eckberg snared seven caroms while Dose had six boards. Martens and Perschau added five rebounds.

Garza also contributed eight steals and one assist while Dose collected two assists and two thefts.

SE boys defeat Cathedral and Le Sueur-Henderson

By Kurt Menk
Editor

The Sibley East varsity boys basketball team posted two wins in action last week.

The Wolverines, 1-2 in the Minnesota River Conference and 3-6 overall, will face Mankato West in the opening round of the Daily Globe-Trojan Holiday Classic in Worthington at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27.

The championship game will be played at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28. The third place game will be played at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28.

Sibley East 59, New Ulm Cathedral 44

The Sibley East varsity boys basketball team raced to an early lead and defeated New Ulm Cathedral 59-44 in non-conference action on Tuesday night, Dec. 17.

Junior Zac Weber sparked a balanced scoring attack with 15 points. Senior Brody Rodning and junior Andrew Bullert also hit double figures with 11 and 10 team points respectively. Senior Ben White chipped in with nine points while junior Jordan Petzel scored eight points. Senior Cordell Bates and juniors Darin Neisen and Lukas Bullert added two points each.

White also pulled down eight boards while Andrew Bullert snared five caroms.

White, Rodning and Weber dished out two assists each. Weber contributed three steals while Rodning, Petzel and Andrew Bullert added two steals each.

Sibley East 62, Le Sueur-Henderson 61

The Sibley East varsity boys basketball team edged visiting Le Sueur-Henderson 62-61 in Minnesota River Conference action on Thursday night, Dec. 19.

The Wolverines fell behind 32-28 at halftime, but outscored the Giants by five points in the second half for the one-point victory.

Senior Brody Rodning sparked the Wolverines with 30 points in the win. Junior Zac Weber also hit double digits with 14 points. Seniors Cordell Bates and Ben White hit for six and four points respectively while juniors Lukas Bullert, Andrew Bullert, Jordan Petzel and Darin Neisen added two points each.

Rodning yanked down seven rebounds while Neisen had four caroms.

Andrew Bullert dished out three assists while Neisen added two steals.

DNR: Warning, ice is not strong enough for vehicles

With recent reports of vehicles breaking through the ice from Douglas to Beltrami counties, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is cautioning everyone about driving on the ice.

"Ice is never 100 percent safe," said Capt. Greg Salo, DNR enforcement manager. "Winter recreationists need to think twice before driving out on the ice because the ice in

many places is still not strong enough to support vehicles.

"No fish is worth your life," he added.

Last winter (November to April), six people died in Minnesota from breaking through the ice. All the deaths involved either a snowmobile or vehicle.

If a vehicle breaks through the ice, the owner is responsible for removal and must re-

port it to the county sheriff. If the vehicle is not removed within 30 days, the owner is subject to fines.

The DNR recommends anyone heading out on the ice should check with a local bait shop or resort - ask about ice conditions - and measure the ice.

The DNR clear ice thickness recommendations are:

- 4 inches for walking.
- 5 inches for a snowmobile or ATV.
- 8-12 inches for a car.
- 12-15 inches for a medium-sized truck.

When the temperature rises above freezing for six of the last 24 hours, double the recommended minimum thickness. And remember, if it stays above freezing for 24 hours or more, stay off the ice - it is not safe.

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