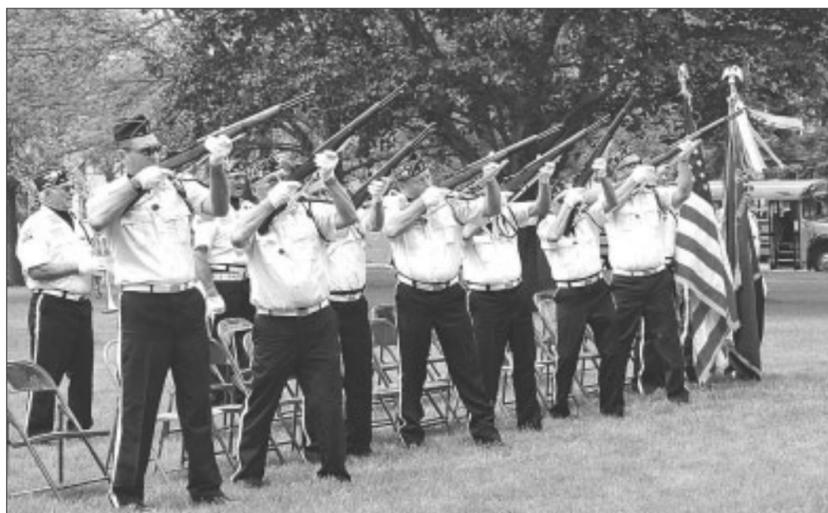




SILVER LAKE

Leader

Vol. 113 No. 23 • Thursday, May 29, 2014 • Silver Lake, MN 55381



Silver Lake Leader photos by Alyssa Schauer

Memorial Day program

On Monday, the Silver Lake American Legion and Silver Lake American Legion Auxiliary hosted the annual Memorial Day program at Legion Park. The event began with a parade along Main Street to the park, followed by the service. Master of ceremonies was Larry Lhotka, past commander of Post 141, and the invocation was by the Rev. Carol Chmielewski. The Gettysburg Address was read by Staff Sgt. E6 Chris Yurek. Joe Niesen (bottom left) was the guest speaker. Niesen was in the Minnesota Air National Guard from 1975 to

1995, and retired with over 20 years of service. During the program, the Glencoe-Silver Lake High School band played the National Anthem, The Navy Hymn and "America the Beautiful." Calling of the roll of deceased veterans was by Post Chaplain Bob Sopkowiak, and Auxiliary members placed wreaths on the wooden crosses. Above, the Post 141 firing squad did a gun salute. To the bottom right is Mercedes Nowak placing a wreath for deceased veterans of peace time.

Leader's final edition today

Today marks the end of an era for the Silver Lake Leader newspaper, a fixture in the Silver Lake community for over 110 years.

Beginning next week on June 4, the news and advertising of the Silver Lake Leader will be incorporated into The McLeod County Chronicle newspaper based in Glencoe.

The Chronicle will add pages to its publication to integrate the current news content of the Silver Lake Leader, while at the same time eliminating the duplications that occur from publishing two newspapers.

Alyssa Schauer will continue to be the Silver Lake reporter, covering the Silver Lake City Council, Lakeside Elementary news, Silver Lake events, such as ice golf, St. Patrick's Day, music in the park and Pola-Czesky Days among others, as well as feature stories from the area.

Her coverage also will include the Glencoe-Silver Lake School Board.

The reason for the Leader's closing is economic; the Leader cannot financially support itself anymore.

The Silver Lake Leader began in 1901 with W.O. "Oscar" Merrill and the help of the Avery family and the Hutchinson Leader.

Carlos Avery, publisher of the Hutchinson Leader, published the first issue of the Silver Lake Leader on Dec. 20, 1901, and it was Oscar Merrill who said in the first edition he "will give his best efforts to the paper as editor."

The Leader office then was over Danek's Hardware Store.

Oscar Merrill moved on to be the Silver Lake postmaster and his sons, Delbert and Wilbert Merrill, took over the business.

Delbert went into the

service and the Leader was then operated by Wilbert and his wife, Genevieve.

The couple continued publishing the newspaper until their passing, and in 1988, Ken and Dorothy Merrill purchased the newspaper from Ken Merrill's siblings.

Ken and Dorothy Merrill managed the business and published the Silver Lake Leader until December 2010, when they sold the business to McLeod Publishing, Inc.

When McLeod Publishing, Inc., purchased the Leader, the agreement guaranteed the newspaper would operate for one year. It went nearly 3-1/2 years, and today, comes to an end.

Thank you again, to all the advertisers and subscribers of the Silver Lake Leader for their continued support of the publication. We could not have continued for so long without you.

Saying goodbye to Leader

By Ken Merrill

Back when I would write regularly for this newspaper, I sat down with knowledge of what I was writing about.

This time I have been thinking what pearls I could come up with. But I am drawing a blank.

This is the last issue of the Silver Lake Leader. A moment in history that is taking on greater-than-normal significance for this writer.

The Silver Lake Leader was a part of the Merrill lives for over 110 years and started with Grandpa W.O. "Oscar" Merrill in 1901, continuing on with Delbert and Wilbert Merrill (my dad), who teamed up with my mother Genevieve for many years of operating the Silver Lake Leader.

My wife, Dorothy, and I continued production until 2010 when the McLeod County Chronicle agreed to purchase and operate the paper for at least another year.

It has been three years and now the economics have forced the hand. Newspapers have been changing, merging with one another.

But one always hoped the Silver Lake Leader would not be one of those papers and would somehow survive. It is a sad time for this writer as something, part of one's life since childhood, will come to an end.

At the same time, we are thankful the community will be continued with dedicated pages in The McLeod County Chronicle.

We hope the community will support the effort of The Chronicle and help keep reporting on Silver Lake. We are happy staff writer Alyssa Schauer will continue writing, as she has become the familiar face the community has come to rely on.

Change is constant and newspapers are no different — we hope the strength of the Silver Lake community will continue making sure the activities are reported to the Chronicle staff — what happened, what is happening, and what could happen.

This issue is the final one of the Silver Lake Leader legacy. It is with sadness and many other deep emotions this writer says goodbye to the Silver Lake Leader.

Minneapolis Tribune wrote of Silver Lake

By Alyssa Schauer
Staff Writer

In May 1978, the Minneapolis Tribune published a series of articles about the history, culture and people of Silver Lake in its "Saturday Neighbors" section.

Ruth Hammond and Tom Sorensen, staff writers with the Tribune, wrote articles about the half-Czech, half-Polish population in town; the green scum of Silver Lake; the decreasing business on Main Street; the anticipation of auditorium wedding dances; the town of South Silver Lake that "never was;" the wooden windmills crafted by Robert Wosmek; Don and Mary Wendolek's beer parlor; and the barber shop owned by George and Florence Warnke.

Also in that issue were photos of Leigh Anglin and Marlene Kasprzyk's wedding ceremony and dance; a photo of Christine and Emil Jerabek, who at the time were Silver Lake's oldest couple; Elmer Warnke trimming Richard Goede's hair; and a scene on Main Street, including Rolling Pin Bakery, G&G Bar, and Don and Mary's, "Home of Turtle Soup."

Below are excerpts from a few of the articles published in that section, including "Half

Czech, half Polish, folks get along in Silver Lake;" "Swimmers and fish avoid Silver Lake, home of green scum;" and "For 75¢, an exotic treat at Don and Mary's place."

'Half Czech, half Polish'

Mayor Francis Slanga, 53, is half Polish and half Czech. So is the town that elected him last year.

The Czechs and Poles may rib each other a lot, but they don't fight, said Slanga, who owns Slanga Hardware Store.

In some aspects of their lives, Silver Lake's 700 residents unite. In others, such as where they go to church and are buried, they tend to segregate by nationality.

Most of the Polish go to the Polish Catholic Church, St. Adalbert's. The Czechs go to the Czech churches: St. Joseph's Catholic, Czech Brethren Presbyterian and Congregational.

(Although the predominance of Czech churches makes the ratio of Czechs to Poles look uneven, the two Protestant churches draw in many members from outside the city limits.)

"They always say the Bohemians pray for the Polacks and the Polacks pray for the

Bohemians," said Don Wendolek, 56, owner of Don and Mary's beer parlor.

... For the past seven summers, the city has been holding Pola-Czesky Days in honor of both the town's backgrounds.

Featured are the softball tournaments, food stands, a parade and toilet bowl races

Part of the accord between the Poles and Bohemians is natural. Their languages are similar, so the early settlers had little difficulty understanding each other. Both ethnic groups know how to "put on a good feed," testify those who have attended funeral luncheons. Children of both nationalities attend school together, either at Silver Lake Public School or at the Catholic School of Silver Lake, which resulted from a merger of St. Adalbert's and St. Joseph's grade schools in 1969

'Silver Lake, home of green scum'

Silver Lake residents don't speak reverently of their town's namesake.

"It smells a lot," said Donna Pesina, 32, who was born and raised in Silver Lake city.

Her sentiments are echoed around town.

No matter how placed, how non-overrun by noisy motor-

boats and fishermen, the lake is polluted.

On hot still summer days, the water looks more pea-soup green than silver. The stench of dying algae is strong. It hangs over the lake and pushes up to Main Street, a few blocks north.

During most of its history, the city of Silver Lake dumped its raw sewage directly into the lake. About 25 years ago, it installed a treatment plant that has proved inadequate for its needs. Now the city is applying for 90 percent federal funds to upgrade its plant

During the widespread drought in 1934 and 1935, the 1-1/2-mile by 3/4-mile lake dried up. Gardens and haystacks appeared where water had been. Silver Lake's oldest resident, 97-year-old Emil Jerabek, remembers that he and his 89-year-old wife, Christine, grew molasses cane and prize-winning potatoes in the lake bed.

Now the murky gray waters are home to minnows, waterfowl and a few off-tasting bullheads, but no trout or other gamefish. Swimming ducks provided the lake's only visible activity last week. Wooden wagon wheels protruded from the water near the banks

Unlimited fishing is permit-

ted each winter because, when the lake freezes, the fish die anyway, said Don Gilbertson, a fishery technician for the DNR in Hutchinson.

Despite the liberties allowed, Gilbertson says he hasn't seen anyone fish the lake for years.

Dick Helmbrecht, 30, who runs Dick's Live Bait on the lake, said he kept three or four acres of the lake "alive" with an aerator last winter ... "It was a decent fishing lake about '63 or '64," he said.

Fishermen caught sunfish and crappies then. Now "it's nothing but a sewage basin."

James H. Butler, 39, an electrical engineer who lives on the lake with his family and commutes weekdays to Minneapolis, is chairman of the Silver Lake Improvement Association. "It's a scenic lake, not a mudhole," he said. "It's worth trying to clean up."

'Exotic treat at Don and Mary's'

Don Wendolek makes good soup and he makes it snappy.

Wendolek, 56, owner of Don and Mary's beer parlor in Silver Lake, adds chicken, beef, seasoning and vegetables to turtle meat. After cooking for nearly six hours, he freezes the soup, 12 gallons at a time.

On Fridays and Saturdays, he sells up to a gallon a day at 75 cents a bowl.

"They always had turtle soup here so I kept making it," said Wendolek, who bought his 92-year-old Main Street building in 1965. Customer reaction to the soup varies.

"Some kind of make a face and others come just for the turtle soup special," Wendolek said.

The turtle meat comes from the Morey Fish Co. in Motley, Minn. Morey buys its snappers from northern Minnesota fishermen.

Wendolek's patrons used to donate snappers, but rarely do now that turtle meat has soared to \$2.50 a pound. Would-be donors eat the meat themselves. Even Morey Fish Co.'s turtle supply is sporadic, so Wendolek tries to buy 20 pounds at a time.

Wendolek runs the business with his French-born wife, Mary, whom he met while working as a U.S. Air Force interpreter during World War II. He's a third-generation Pole, born on a farm six miles north of Silver Lake. "No hospital. That's why I'm so tough," he said.

Upcoming Events

Seniors meet Monday, June 9

The Silver Lake Senior Citizens Club will have its regular monthly meeting Monday, June 9, at 1 p.m., at the Silver Lake Auditorium.

Degree of Honor meeting set

Degree of Honor No. 182 will hold a social meeting on Tuesday, June 10, at 1 p.m., at the Silver Lake Auditorium.

Dairy Day set Friday, June 20

The Silver Lake Business Association is sponsoring the annual Silver Lake Dairy Day on Friday, June 20, from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Legion Park. The event includes kids' activities sponsored by the Silver Lake American Legion Auxiliary, music by Jim's Brewers, ice cream eating and milk drinking contests, and much more. A meal of pulled-pork sandwiches, chips, pickles, milk and ice cream will be served. There is a cost for the meal. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the Silver Lake Auditorium. The public is invited to attend. See future issues of The McLeod County Chronicle for more information.

Centershot Archery begins

Grace Bible Church of Silver Lake will start a new session of its Centershot Archery Ministry on Sunday, June 1, beginning at 1 p.m. Centershot is a Bible-based archery ministry that consists of a 45-minute Bible study and 45 minutes of archery instruction one day a week for eight weeks (ages 7 through adult). This is a wonderful family activity and a great way to get introduced to the sport of archery. The church provides bows and arrows to use during the class time. The cost for the entire eight weeks is \$10. Those interested can contact the church at 320-327-2352 or Jim Richardson at 320-395-2721. Grace Bible Church is located in Silver Lake, next to the city water tower.

Seaside service set June 8

Members and friends of Grace Bible Church in Silver Lake invite you to experience and participate in a unique outdoor worship service. On Sunday, June 8, at 9:30 a.m., a special seaside service will be held at Swan Lake on the north side near the pier. The service is reflective of the times when Jesus preached from a boat on the Sea of Galilee, a fresh water lake. This worship event includes a message preached from a boat and congregational singing. Dress is casual and those who attend are asked to bring their own lawn chairs or a blanket. Boats also are welcome. Swan Lake is located about one mile northwest of Silver Lake on County Rd. 16 (To get there, go to Highway 7, and turn west and take County Road 16 north). In the case of inclement weather, the service will be held at the church building. Grace Bible Church is located in Silver Lake at 300 Cleveland St., next to the city water tower. For more information call 320-327-2352.



Submitted photos



May Day

On May 6, Sarah Lipke's and Tammy Schermann's classes dropped off May Day baskets for residents at Cedar Crest Estate in Silver Lake. Above are McKenzie Patnaude and Betty Boll and, to the left, from right to left, are Gavin Popp, Mason Ittel, Mason Petron, Cameron Kaczmarek, Tage Rosenlund, Jake Schrupp, Jesse Dahlke, Shawn McHugh, Carter Johnson and Brent Lipke.

Sundblad named regional honoree in Outstanding Educator program

Michael Sundblad, a teacher from Glencoe-Silver Lake High School has been named as a regional honoree in the WEM Foundation's 2014 Outstanding Educator Awards program.

Sundblad is being honored in the Teacher Achievement category, which recognizes exemplary teachers who support, inspire and assist students to attain greater learning, as evidenced by student achievement.

Sundblad has been teaching for 22 years, and currently teaches engineering and industrial technology to students ninth through 12th grade at GSL High School.

In addition to teaching, Sundblad runs the Super-mileage team. It is a project-based program where students design, build and test a single-person car to achieve high mileage.

Sundblad also introduced First Robotics at GSL High School to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology.

Sundblad's newest leadership experience outside the classroom is his involvement with the training of future educators. He was hired by St. Cloud State University to instruct courses for prospective industrial technology and engineering instructors.

"During his tenure, Mr. Sundblad has made a lot of changes and improvements," said GSL Principal Paul Sparby. "He has implemented Project Lead curriculum; is using iPads in the classroom for student work, video productions, and as a scan tool for automotive repair class, has implemented the use of a 3D printer."

In addition to the Teacher Achievement Award, honorees are recognized with the Ethics in Education Award (exemplary educators who embody ethical behavior and promote ethical development for students through classroom or school activities, policies or curriculum) and with the Aca-

demic Challenge Coach Award (classroom teachers who are exemplary coaches of student teams that participate and compete in academic challenges endorsed by the Minnesota Academic League Council).

Educators are first nominated for the WEM Outstanding Educator Awards Program by students, parents, colleagues or community members. Those who accept the nomination provide additional information for consideration by Synergy & Leadership Exchange and a blue ribbon selection panel, which reviews and ranks the nominees. Six educators received statewide honors, and seven educators were named as regional honorees for the 2014 WEM Foundation Outstanding Educator awards



NEWSPAPER



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Lions 5th-, 6th-grade football registration

Save the date! Registration for Silver Lake Lions fifth- and sixth-grade football season begins Wednesday, Aug. 1, at the Hutchinson Recreation Center. Hours are from Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The team will play in the lightweight or heavyweight division.

When players are registering, indicate they are a Silver Lake Lions player.

Players are responsible for \$25 of the \$50 registration fee. The Silver Lake Lions will be sponsoring \$25 for each

player.

Equipment pickup (helmets and pads) will be Thursday, Aug. 21, at 7 p.m., at the Hutchinson Recreation Center. Players are to provide their own football pants and shoes (tennis or soccer shoes).

Coaches are Gary Kosek and Brian Mikolichuk. A coaches meeting will be on Thursday, Aug. 21, at 8 p.m., at the recreation center.

More information will follow at a later date.

Lions representatives are Dan Tschimperle and Sandy Posusta.

Donations sought for Music in the Park events

As a prelude to Silver Lake's Pola-Czesky Days, the first of six Music in the Park Thursday gatherings will be June 26. Watch for schedules to be posted soon.

The Music in the Park committee is asking for donations for prizes to be given away during the Music in the Park events at Legion Park on Main Street in Silver Lake.

In order to have your donation acknowledged as being donated by you, your business or organization, please have them to the committee by June 10. A listing will then be compiled.

Donors are encouraged to put their names on the prizes if they want to be acknowledged. Any donations turned in to the committee after that date or brought to Music in the Park will be listed as given by an anonymous donor.

Due to the merging of the newspapers and space availability, there may not be a list of prize winners in the newspaper.

If you have questions, please call DeNeil or Lisa Thompson at 320-327-2278 or Ray or Sharon Bandas at 320-327-3115.

Silver Lake Leader

Established Dec. 20, 1901 by W.O. Merrill
Postmaster send address changes to:

Silver Lake Leader,
P.O. Box 343, 104B Lake Ave., Silver Lake, MN 55381
Phone 320-327-2216 FAX 320-327-2530
Email slleader@embarqmail.com

Hours: Mon. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Tues. 8 a.m.-Noon,
Wed. Closed, Thurs. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Fri. Closed.

Published Every Thursday at Silver Lake, MN 55381.
Periodicals paid at Silver Lake, MN.

Subscription Rates: McLeod County and Cokato, MN
- \$30.00 per year. Elsewhere in MN - \$34.00 per year.
Outside of state - \$38.00.

Staff
Bill and Joyce Ramige, Publishers;
Rich Glennie, Editor; Brenda Fogarty,
Sales; Alyssa Schauer, Staff Writer/Office.

Letters
The Silver Lake Leader welcomes letters from readers expressing their opinions. All letters, however, must be signed. Private thanks, solicitations and potentially libelous letters will not be published. We reserve the right to edit any letter.
A guest column is also available to any writer who would like to present an opinion in a more expanded format. If interested, contact the editor, richg@glencoenews.com.

Ethics
The editorial staff of the Silver Lake Leader 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 Silver Lake Leader 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 news and advertising in the Silver Lake Leader is noon, Tuesday. Deadline for advertising in The Galaxy is noon Wednesday.

Believe it or not, I'm still not ready

Here we are in our final issue of the Silver Lake Leader.

The office is packed up, the walls are bare, my desk is empty and they're making room for me in at The Chronicle office in Glencoe.

Though this change has been announced for some time now, would you believe I'm still not ready for it?

I know not much will change for me job-wise, as I'll still be the roving reporter covering all Silver Lake events, including Ice Golf, St. Patrick's Day, Dairy Day, Music in the Park, Pola-Czesky Days (my favorite), and Winterfest, along with the ever-exciting Silver Lake City Council meetings and school events.

But there was something so special about having our own town newspaper.

The Silver Lake Leader has been a fixture in the community for over 110 years — a legacy built by the Merrill family that continued until 2010, when Ken and Dorothy sold the business to McLeod Publishing, Inc.

I had just moved back to Silver Lake in November 2010 with hopes to return to school to earn my nursing degree when Grandma Genny showed me the want ad seeking a part-time reporter for the Silver Lake Leader.

I figured part-time work as a writer would be a good idea, seeing as I did spend four years of my life and \$50,000 at Winona State earning a bachelor's degree in English writing.

If anything, I thought my parents would be pleased I found something related to writing, so I applied.

I remember getting the call while at Grandma Genny's

The Travel Section

By Alyssa Schauer



Christmas Eve afternoon from Editor Rich Glennie that I got the job.

Merry Christmas to me, eh? I jumped up and down in excitement and ate a few kolaches to celebrate the news before the nervousness set in.

My first day was Jan. 2, 2011, and I headed to the then Silver Lake Leader office on Main Street to meet with Rich, Silver Lake advertising rep Brenda Fogarty and the Merrills to learn the ropes of the newspaper business and my duties as a part-time reporter for the Silver Lake community.

I had big shoes to fill, and I knew it. I felt as if the fate of the Leader was in my hands, and I was ready for the challenge, though I'll admit, some days I wondered what I had gotten myself into.

That week, Ken drove me around Silver Lake and introduced me to the "key" people I'd have to know in this business, including Mayor Bruce Bebo, City Clerk Kerry Venier, and Postmaster Michele Reno, among others.

I was very grateful for his kindness and patience as I slowly learned the routine of publishing a weekly newspaper.

It didn't take long for others in the community to accept me as the new reporter, and I'm very appreciative of that.

I've gotten to know many of you now that I've been report-

ing and photographing stories and events in Silver Lake for nearly four years, and I cannot tell you all enough how much I enjoy these friendships.

I love running into smiling familiar faces and talking about the latest news, whether it's about the unpredictable weather, travel plans, the trusty Jeep, or family affairs.

Silver Lake is very special to me; I feel as if I have one big family here, so you can imagine the emotional task of cleaning out the office and moving from the Lake Avenue office to 10th Street in Glencoe.

I'll still be living in my little apartment, and you'll still see me running around taking pictures, BS'ing, and covering the latest news in Silver Lake, but it's just going to be a bit different not working from that windowfront in town.

You can all reach me at that office at 320-864-5518, and please keep sending me those Silver Lake news items like births, happenings, academic honors, etc. I'll try my hardest to bring that "Silver Lake touch" to a few pages in The Chronicle.

Thank you, everyone, for staying with me on this journey as a journalist. I look forward to continuing the tradition of covering the news and sharing the latest Jeep mishaps in "The Travel Section."



Silver Lake Leader photos by Rich Glennie

Season finale

Members of the the **GSL Choir**, above, performed at the May 22 awards and senior recognition concert in the high school auditorium. It also marked the final concert at **GSL** for choir director **Randi Erlandson**, at right, who received several departing gifts. She is leaving the district for another teaching position. At her side is **Jenny Rose**, who held a sign indicating what the choir members thought of their director.



Letters to the Editor

Reaching out to fund auditorium project

To the Editor:

On behalf of the city of Silver Lake, I would like to take this opportunity to reach out to all of the present and past residents of our fine city.

As you know, we are in the process of doing some much-needed improvements to the auditorium. These improvements were something that have been discussed off and on for numerous years. So a committee was formed and with everyone's input, it was decided that now is the time.

The entire downstairs epoxy floors needed to be redone as well as the entry floor and the stairs. This project has been funded through the generous donations from local organizations. Along with that, many of these same groups have been putting in many hours of volunteer help with painting, etc.

The other big projects for the auditorium are the new handicapped bathroom on the upper level, the re-working of the bar area and the big one

which is putting in a wheelchair lift. There has been some great volunteer labor as well as working with local contractors to keep these costs down. The goal is to get the wheelchair lift installed in mid June.

These projects were needed to not only make the building handicapped accessible, but also to make it more appealing and used by more people.

So now we need to figure out how to raise the funds to pay for all these improvements! Our organizations have stepped up so many times that it is almost impossible to ask them for more. This building is really the center of our city and holds so much history for years past. We all need to take pride in it.

With that said, I am reaching out to all people who have ties to Silver Lake. Maybe you had your wedding here, or maybe your son's or daughter's wedding, or maybe you celebrated yours or your parents' anniversaries in this building. Or maybe you

wished you could have, but it was not handicapped accessible! So with your help, that will not be the case any longer.

I am personally reaching out to all individuals who can find the means to personally donate toward helping us raise these funds.

Some people have already contacted us and have donated toward this project. If you can help us out, I personally will come to your door, at my own expense, and pick up your donation and give you a voucher from the city for your tax write off. This offer stands for anyone that lives within a 75-mile radius of Silver Lake (Sorry, I have to draw the line somewhere.)

Please feel free to call me at 320-327-3157, or call the city offices at 320-327-2412 and they will pass your info along.

Please help us anyway you can to help us make this building a focal point of our community again!

Mayor Bruce Bebo
Silver Lake

Tracing Roots

By Ron Pulkrabek



Great-great-grandfather dies in war

John (Honza) Wessale, my great-great-grandfather, his wife Catherine and two children came to America in 1854. A baby died en route and was buried at sea.

Honza's original name was Vesley, but through a misunderstanding at the immigration office a "V" in Czech sounds like "W," and was spelled the way it sounded. Who is going to argue with an immigration officer when you can't speak English and you've come so far and are almost in America?

They eventually made their way to a homestead just south of Waconia. They cut down trees, built a shack, grubbed trees for farm land, battled mosquitoes, locusts, grasshoppers, fires, depressed prices and pesky Indians.

Indians would peek through the windows or quietly sneak into the shack in the middle of the day, sometimes while Catherine was cooking. She would turn away from the stove, and "surprise," there would be an Indian standing there. They asked for food.

From all reports, Catherine, not being a small woman and not afraid to stand her ground, would loudly holler, "Pacotch!" It means "Get out of here!"

John and Catherine eventually had eight children, two of whom died. One child was Katherine, my great-grandmother, who married Joseph Bartosh. A son, Anton, married Anna Smida of Silver Lake.

John and Catherine worked hard like all the pioneers and for 10 years improved their farm and kept their children fed. The Minnesota Indian Wars were winding down; the United States Civil War was at its peak in 1864.

One day John, age 39, with a wife and six kids ranging in age from 2 to 13, decided to join the Army and left his family in the woods. Was it due to patriotism? Was he promised another homestead by the government? Was it for the \$100 sign up bonus? Was it for the \$13 a month pay?

We can't imagine how well

this went over with Catherine. Probably, "Honza! Honza! Supoc tam jalot?" "Tse a takova loupny Dedecek!" "Prosim, Prosim, Prosim!" "Nerozumim!" "Tebe vsecko zdravi, ze dalekych vlasti slet pactva zpevem ze vsech koncun svetin!" and finally, "Yanevim!" John, John, what are you doing? etc., etc. (Ladies, fill in your own words if your husband, age 39, said he was going to join the Army and leave you in a cabin in the woods with six children.)

Jan. 18, 1864: Honza walked to Fort Snelling from Waconia, was found physically able, and was sworn in for three years or the duration of the War.

From John's enlistment certificate: "I, Captain George Keith, have minutely (notice the word minutely) inspected John Wesele, finding him entirely 'sober,' is of lawful age, and is qualified to perform the duties of an able bodied soldier."

The Army changes his name from Wessale to Wesele. Private John Wesele, Third Minnesota Regiment U.S. Volunteers, Company F, was shipped from the frozen north to hot and muggy Pine Bluff, Ark., near Little Rock.

The Army placed the camp in a swamp near a bend in the river, right on the river's edge, with mosquitoes, slimy green scum water, no breeze, damp conditions and a mysterious mist that came floating in each evening, called "Miasma."

The poor food, including moldy hard tack, poor drinking water, bad sanitation conditions and malaria, attacked the healthy northern soldiers. There seemed to be no defense against it!

Medical supplies were in short supply or none. Of the 200 men in his camp, 89 died of disease.

Dysentery and bloody stools start with gripping stomach pains, followed by vomiting and dehydration. The bowels start to relax accompanied by a high fever and headaches.

There are not enough men

to pull guard or bury the dead. "John Wesele dies on July 5th, 1864." We don't think he ever fired a shot.

In 2006, we stopped at the National Cemetery in Little Rock, looking for John's gravesite.

In 1868, after being buried in Pine Bluff for three years, all 1,482 dead soldiers from various camps were dug up and shipped 50 miles to Little Rock in bumpy wooden-wheeled wagons and boats. The grave diggers were paid \$4.78 per grave for exhuming the remains.

Name tags fell off the bodies; bodies were mixed up and partially decomposed. Up until 1868, 3,000 known and 2,000 unknown were buried in this now very beautiful cemetery.

John lies in the Minnesota section someplace under one of the 164 markers; 82 are unknown.

The huge, 12-foot high Minnesota monument has a life-sized soldier standing on top with his head bowed. Erected in 1913, Minnesota is the only state to have a huge monument like this in the cemetery. John's name is listed in a burial book and embossed on a Civil War Memorial in the city park in Waconia.

John's wife, Catherine, received \$38 in back pay plus \$8 a month for the death of her husband. She raised six children and for many years walked two miles to Waconia carrying supplies home on her back.

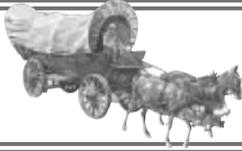
John and Catherine's children grew up to be very successful: some owning the Waconia Sorghum Mill (employed 123 people at peak season), some farmed, some owned the Waconia Patriot newspaper.

Catherine died at age 91. Her daughter, Katherine, is buried on the Silver Lake Presbyterian Cemetery, 30 feet away from her husband, Joseph Bartosh.

Katherine's daughter Anna, my grandmother, and her husband, John Splichal, are also buried there.

Down Memory Lane

Compiled by Margaret Benz



75 YEARS AGO - JUNE 3, 1939 — Wednesday, June 7, has been set for the first concert of the season by Silver Lake's recently reorganized Concert Band. Clarence Erickson is the director of the band.

On Thursday, June 8, the Rev. Father Joseph J. Bouska, pastor of the St. Joseph Church, will celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. The Silver Jubilee celebration will begin with a Solemn High Mass followed by a dinner.

The White Eagle Society of St. Adalbert's Church will hold an ice cream social and Bingo on Sunday, June 4, at the church grounds.

Memories of oldtimers as well as World War veterans were stirred by a collection of souvenirs, pictures and relics displayed in Joseph Lowy's store window over the weekend.

Edward Oliva, employed at Lowy's I.G.A. Store, seriously injured his right hand, cutting it to the bone while slicing meat.

Dr. Daniel Holton, 59, Silver Lake's veterinarian, died at the Veterans Hospital at Fort Snelling. Funeral services were held on Monday forenoon and burial was in the Crystal Lakes Cemetery in Minneapolis.

Frank Herzan, 44, died on Friday, May 19, at the Veterans Hospital in Minneapolis. Funeral services were conducted at the I.O.O.F. Hall in Hopkins on Sunday.

Frank Tupa, 55, died on Saturday, May 27. Funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon from the Nuwash Funeral Home in Silver Lake.

Shirley Prieve and Larry Chapek were united in marriage on Saturday afternoon, May 20, at the Faith Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

Wednesday evening, May 24, Lorraine Smutka and Walter Dummer were married at the Trinity Lutheran Church Parsonage in Hutchinson.

50 YEARS AGO - MAY 28, 1964 — Memorial Day Services, sponsored by Silver Lake Legion Post 141, will be observed on Saturday, May 30, at the Legion Park. Ancher Nelson, Second District congressman, will give the Memorial Day address.

The summer recreation program for boys and girls in fourth through 11th grades will begin on Monday, June 1, and continue through July 24 at the Silver Lake Public School.

The Gary-Lee Studio will be taking pictures of your children and any family member on Fri-

day, June 5, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Ruzicka's Super Market. No appointment is necessary. You will receive an 8x10 portrait for only 75¢.

Twelve neighbor farmer friends and relatives of Victor Pulkrabek gathered at his farm in Rich Valley Township on Monday morning to plow a 35-acre field. Victor was hospitalized from May 2 through May 10 with serious sciatic back trouble.

Mrs. John Picha will hold an auction at her place west of the Great Northern at South Silver Lake on Thursday, June 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Machemehl will observe their golden anniversary with an open house on Sunday, May 31, at the Village Hall in Lester Prairie.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kasprzyk will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary with an open house on Saturday, May 30, at their home in Silver Lake.

25 YEARS AGO - JUNE 1, 1989 — Forty-one Silver Lake High School seniors will receive their diplomas at commencement exercises on Thursday night, June 1. Commencement speeches will be given by valedictorian Tara McKim and Lisa Lhotka, salutatorian, members of the class of 1989.

The Silver Lake City Council has named Kevin Hagen to the position of Silver Lake chief of police effective July 1. Current Chief of Police James Jurek Jr. will be retiring on July 1.

A joint effort by the Silver Lake Sportsmen's Club and the Silver Lake Lions Club to clean up Swan Lake will be held on Saturday, June 3, starting at the county park.

Kyle Wawrzyniak, shot put; Tracy Jaskowski, 100-meter dash; Gordy Chmielewski, 1600-meter run and 3200-meter run; and Jamie Yurek, high jump, members of the Silver Lake High School track team, advanced to the Region IV meet to be held in Brooklyn Center on Saturday, June 3.

The Silver Lake swimming pool will open on Saturday, June 3.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Cuhel have moved to Richville, Minn.

An open house 50th Jubilee to the priesthood honoring the Rev. Michael Skoblik will be held on Sunday, June 4, at the St. Joseph Church basement.



Submitted photo

Installation of Legion officers

At the regular monthly meeting on May 19 of the Silver Lake American Legion Post 141, new officers and returning officers were installed with the ceremonies presided over by Third District 1st Vice Commander James Entinger (right) and Third District Commander Duane Anderson. From left to right are Leon Pesina, re-

turning sargeant at arms; Ron Paggen (partially hidden), 2nd vice commander; Ron Miskosky (standing in for new 1st vice commander Tom Zanoth); Bob Sopotowski, returning chaplain; Larry Ardolf, returning finance officer; Gary Mallak, adjutant; John Otteson, commander, and Larry Lhotka, past commander.

County Board awards bids for summer road projects

By Lori Copley
Staff Writer

The McLeod County Board of Commissioners awarded a long list of bids May 20 in preparation of the summer road construction season.

The major projects for the season tend to center around the western half of the county, with a primary project being the reconstruction of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 25 (also known as Page and Plum avenues), between CSAH 115 (Airport Road) near Hutchinson and CSAH 26, just north of Brownton.

Duininck, Inc., of Prinsburg was the low bidder at \$1.862 million, about 14.4 percent less than the engineer's estimate of \$2.175 million for the project.

County Highway Engineer John Brunkhorst said most of the project will be a mill and overlay, with the exception of a short stretch between County Road 62 and CSAH 115, which will be an under seal and overlay.

Brunkhorst said the project is expected to take about 30 working days, within a window of July 7 and September 26.

Also on tap this summer is work on the west side of Lake Marion.

Brunkhorst said the county will use the new technology of

a prime, seal and fog on County Road 54 (Tagus Avenue) from the lake to CSAH 7, as well as Sunset Circle and Sunset Drive North, both Collins Township roads, which will provide a pavement-like surface on the currently gravel roads. The two Sunset roads provide access to homes on the west side of the lake.

The County Board approved an agreement with Collins Township for the work on Sunset Circle and Sunset Drive.

Also on tap for the new prime, seal and fog method are the gravel in Lake Marion Park.

The cost for Tagus Avenue will be \$157,377, the cost for the Lake Marion Park is \$31,295, and the cost for the Collins Township roads is \$30,937, for a total of \$219,604. The engineer's estimate for the work was \$306,655. The bid went to Pearson Bros., Inc., of Hanover.

The project should take approximately five working days, said Brunkhorst, with a contract window of June 22 to Aug. 1.

The Unit Avenue project was included in the county's total seal coating work for the summer, which also includes about 50 miles of seal coating.

The low bid was submitted by Scott Construction of Wisconsin at \$899,951, 14.4 percent under the engineer's estimate of \$1.052 million.

Work for all the seal coating is expected to take 10 working days between June 16 and July 11.

There were four township box culverts that were bid upon, two in Lynn Township and two in Round Grove Township.

Midwest Contracting submitted the low bid of \$477,300 for all four, about 4.7 percent under the engineer's estimate of \$500,765.

The final bid approved was for \$417,204 to AAA Striping Services Co. for in-ground pavement markings.

The low bid was 6.12 percent higher than the engineer's estimate of \$393,165, but was the lowest of the three bids received.

Church News

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH
300 Cleveland Ave.,
Silver Lake
Dr. Tom Rakow, Pastor
320-327-2265

http://silverlakechurch.org
Sat., May 31 — Men's Bible study, 7 a.m.; women's Bible study, 9 a.m.

Sun., June 1 — "First Light" radio broadcast on KARP 106.9 FM, 7:30 a.m.; fellowship and refreshment time, 9 a.m.; pre-service prayer time, 9:15 a.m.; morning worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday school for all ages, 10:35 a.m.; new session of Centershot Archery Ministry begins, 1 p.m.

Wed., June 4 — Prayer time, 7 p.m.

Sat., June 7 — Men's Bible study, 7 a.m.; women's Bible study, 9 a.m.

Sun., June 8 — "First Light" radio broadcast on KARP 106.9 FM, 7:30 a.m.; seaside service at Swan Lake, 9:30 a.m.; all-church potluck following the service; Centershot Archery Ministry, 1 p.m.

Mon., June 9 — Church Board meeting, 7 p.m.
Dial-A-Bible Story, 320-327-2843.

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN
108 W. Main St.,
Silver Lake
320-327-2452
Fax 320-327-6562
E-mail: faithfriends@embarqmail.com

Carol Chmielewski, pastor
Office hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sun., June 1 — Worship service with fellowship to follow, 10 a.m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
700 W. Main St.,
Silver Lake
Anthony Stubeda, Pastor

Thurs., May 29 — Mass at Cedar Crest, 10:30 a.m.

Fri., May 30 — Mass, 8 a.m.

Sat., May 31 — Server training, 10 a.m.-noon; Mass, 4 p.m.

Sun., June 1 — Mass, 8 a.m. (Rosary Society to sit as a body); Mass, 8 p.m.

Mon., June 2 — No Mass.

Tues., June 3 — Mass, 8 a.m.; eucharistic adoration, 8:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

Wed., June 4 — Mass, 8 a.m.; parish office closed for calendar meeting at Holy Trinity.

Thurs., June 5 — Mass at Cedar Crest, 10:30 a.m.; CCW, 7

p.m.
Fri., June 6 — Mass, 8 a.m.; First Friday calls.

Sat., June 7 — Reconciliation, noon; Braem/Wehr wedding, 2 p.m.; Mass, 4 p.m.

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH
950 School Rd. S.W.
Hutchinson
320-587-9443
E-mail: infor@loversoftruth.com

Jim Hall, Pastor
Sun., June 1 — Worship, 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

770 School Rd.,
Hutchinson
Kenneth Rand,
Branch President
320-587-5665

Sun., June 1 — Sunday school, 10:50 a.m.-11:30 a.m.; priesthood, relief society and primary, 11:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

RIVERSIDE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
20924 State Hwy. 7 W.,
Hutchinson
320-587-2074

E-mail: assembly@hutchtel.net

Dr. Lee Allison, pastor
Sun., June 1 — Worship, 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

FIRST CONGREGATION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

31 Fourth Ave. S.W.,
Hutchinson
320-587-2125

E-mail: jmm@hutchtel.net
Sun., June 1 — Sunday school, 9 a.m.; worship, 10:15 a.m.

ST. PIUS X CHURCH
1014 Knight Ave., Glencoe
Anthony Stubeda, Pastor

Thurs., May 29 — Morning prayer, 7 a.m.; Mass, 7:20 a.m.; junior choir and year-end party/recognition, 2:50 p.m.

Schoenstatt boys group, 2:50 p.m.

Fri., May 30 — Last day of school; closing school Mass with grade 6 recognition, 1 p.m.; Spanish Mass, 5:30 p.m.

Sat., May 31 — Noon reconciliation; Alexis Perez quinceanera, 2 p.m.; Mass, 6 p.m.

Sun., June 1 — Mass, 10 a.m.; Spanish Mass, 11:30 a.m.; Mass at Holy Family, Silver Lake, 8 p.m.

Mon. June 2 — No Mass; St. Pius X teacher workshop.

Tues., June 3 — Evening prayer, 5:40 p.m.; Mass, 6 p.m.

Wed., June 4 — AFC calendar at Holy Trinity, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; evening prayer, 5:40 p.m.; Mass, 6 p.m.

BETHEL LUTHERAN
77 Lincoln Ave.,
Lester Prairie
Bethany Nelson, pastor
320-395-2125

Sun., June 1 — Worship, 9 a.m.; coffee and fellowship, 10 a.m.

Wed., June 4 — Education meeting at One Eyed Willys, 6 p.m.

Pregnancy care is our specialty.

Whether it's your first pregnancy or your last, your experience should be what you want it to be. Choose your pregnancy care provider from our team of three family medicine physicians, two certified nurse midwives, an OB-GYN physician and a certified physician assistant. Pregnancy care is available at our clinics in Glencoe, Lester Prairie and Stewart.

Call our scheduling team at 320-864-7816 or toll free 1-800-869-3116 for assistance in finding the perfect provider. Or visit www.grhsonline.org/birth-center to learn more.

We have what you need.

Glencoe Regional Health Services

GRHS0570 (4/14)
F18C21CU

GSL Panther Spring Sports

BASEBALL

April

01.....at Lester PrairieCanceled
11.....at Mound Wtka.....W,11-1
15.....NLSW,6-1
21.....at HutchinsonL,3-2
22.....at OronoW,2-1
25.....at AnnandaleW,11-7
29.....Holy FamilyPostponed

May

02.....Dassel-CokatoW,2-0
05.....at Dassel-CokatoL,10-1
06.....at NLSW,12-3
09.....Waconia.....L,9-0
12.....Litchfield.....W,1-0
13.....DelanoW,9-7
14.....at LitchfieldL,5-4
15.....AnnandaleW,11-5
17.....at Mpls Edison Invite.....
(W,17-3 vs MEI) (W,7-1 vs Mi-
laca)
20.....at Lester Prairie9-2
24.....Jordan (subsection)W,1-0
27.....Watertown-Mayer (subsec-
tion)W,8-3
29.....Holy Family Catholic (sub-
section)5:00

SOFTBALL

April

04.....NYACanceled
10.....Lester PrairieW,9-3
11.....Mound Wtka.....W,11-1
15.....at NLSW,11-1
21.....HutchinsonL,13-9
22.....at OronoL,11-0
25.....AnnandaleW,7-3
29.....at Holy FamilyPostponed

May

02.....at Dassel-CokatoW,9-3
06.....NLSW,6-5
08.....at Litchfield.....
(W,20-1/W,12-4
12.....at DelanoL,15-14
13.....at AnnandaleW,7-1
16.....Belle Plaine (subsection)
L,14-5

BOYS' GOLF

April

07.....at NYACanceled
21.....GSL Invite3rd
22.....at Litchfield6th
24.....at New Ulm6th
29.....GSLPostponed

May

01.....at NLSPostponed
02.....at Hutchinson6th
05.....at Annandale13th
06.....at Dassel-Cokato5th
08.....at BeckerCanceled
09.....at NLST 8th
15.....at Annandale(5th)
21.....at Dassel-Cokato10th

GIRLS' GOLF

April

07.....at NYACanceled
15.....at Annandale4th
21.....GSL Invite1st
22.....at Dassel-Cokato2rd
24.....at New Ulm4th
28.....at AnnandalePostponed

May

01.....GSL
.....(2nd front 9) (4th back 9)
06.....at Litchfield.....
.....(4th front 9) (2nd back 9)
08.....at BeckerCanceled
15.....at NLS
.....(2nd front 9) (3rd back 9)
19.....at Dassel-Cokato
.....(5th front 9 only)
19.....at Annandale Scramble5th

TRACK AND FIELD

April

08.....at Mankato West
.....(Boys 3rd) (Girls 4th)
10.....at Willmar
.....(Boys 6th) (Girls 5th)
14.....at Holy FamilyCanceled
21.....at Shakopee
.....(Boys 7th) (Girls 10th)
22.....at Dassel-Cokato
.....(Boys 3rd) (Girls 2nd)
28.....GSL conf. meetPostponed
29.....GSL invitePostponed

May

01.....at WaconiaCanceled
05.....at Mound Wtka.....Postponed
06.....at Litchfield.....
.....(Boys 5th) (Girls 7th)
13.....at Annandale conf.
.....(Boys 7th) (Girls 6th)
15.....at Waconia
.....(Boys 1st) (Girls 4th)
22.....GSL subsection.....
.....(Boys 3rd)(Girls 3rd)

TRAP TEAM

All competitions take place at Winthrop Game Protective League except championship and state tourney events

April

14.....Reserve Scoring
21.....First Competition6th

May

05.....Second Competition5th
12.....Third Competition4th
19.....Fourth Competition4th
26.....Fifth Competition4th

June

06.....Championship meetTBD
07.....Championship meetTBD
08.....Championship meetTBD
14.....State tournamentTBD

Panthers were nearly perfect

Captains play huge role in GSL's 1-0 playoff rout of Jordan

By Josh Randt
Sports Editor

It was nearly a perfect game Saturday at home for Panther pitcher Cole Petersen, who only allowed one base runner through seven innings, as Glencoe-Silver Lake advanced to the second round of the Section 2 playoffs with a 1-0 victory over Jordan.

While it wasn't quite a perfect game for the lefty, the Panthers needed every bit of the one walk, no-hit performance he displayed before coming away with a walk-off victory on a single by fellow captain Carter Pinske in the bottom of the seventh. Pinske's single with two outs plated Cole Petersen, who was on second after leading off with a single.

"I want to be the guy that can come out and provide either a clutch hit or a shutout when needed," Cole Petersen said after the game.

"I guess he took care of that," Head Coach Dean Schwirtz said dryly of Cole Petersen's aspirations.

"Cole was absolutely phenomenal on the mound," Schwirtz said. "Throwing 91 pitches, a no-hitter ... almost a perfect game. You couldn't ask more out of him."

Pinske got his fair share of credit as well, as teammates swarmed the center fielder after his RBI single clinched an opening round playoff win.

"All I was thinking was slap my hands at it, put it in play and put it in a gap somewhere," Pinske said of the at-bat. Adding about his fellow captain, "All the credit goes out to Cole. He pitched a great game ... And he put me in the position to be able to come in and win that game."

Jordan pitcher Jacob Allen had a fine game as well, holding the Panthers to just five hits before falling in the final inning. Allen gave up a total seven hits, one run and no walks, while fanning four of 27 batters faced. Cole Petersen struck out 15 of 21 batters faced, and only walked one, just missing a perfect game.

GSL also defeated Lester Prairie 9-2 on May 20.

It's now double elimination in the Section 2 playoffs. GSL defeated No.3 Watertown-Mayer Tuesday 8-2 in a rematch from the section semifinals of last season, where the Royals ended the Panthers' journey with a 3-1 victory. The Panthers now face No.4 Holy Family Catholic Thursday, in Glencoe. The winner of that game advances to the section semifinal game, which will be played in Belle Plaine at 11 a.m. Saturday morning. The loser of Thursday's game falls into the loser's bracket, and must win out in order to reach the section championship. All remaining games in Section 2 will be



Silver Lake Leader photo by Josh Randt

Cole Petersen, left, and Teddy Petersen celebrate after the former scored the game-winning run Saturday to defeat Jordan 1-0 in the first round of the Section 2 playoffs.

held at Belle Plaine until the state tournament.

Panthers 1, Jordan 0

Cole Petersen didn't waste a lot of time getting started on the 15 strikeouts he accrued by game's end — striking out Derek Karsky and Trevor Hentges after getting Mitchell Martin to pop out.

It looked like the Panther offense might get started early, as Teddy Petersen led off with a single, but Bennett Bielke hit into a fielder's choice before Nolan Lepel grounded out, and Mason Goettl hit a fly ball directly at the center fielder.

The Hubmen couldn't catch up to Cole Petersen's speed in the second either, as the lefty struck out all three batters.

A Jordan batter finally reached base as Mitchell Martin led off the fourth with the only walk for the Hubmen on the day. Karsky went down swinging again, before Hentges hit a line drive at Bielke. Bielke squeezed his glove for the second out and fired the ball over to first before Martin could get back and turned a 4-3 double play to get out of the inning.

The Hubmen never threatened for the rest of the game, as Cole Petersen struck out seven of the last nine batters he faced, with the other two popping and

grounding out.

GSL had a scoring opportunity in the bottom of the sixth, as Bielke and Lepel led off with back-to-back singles. But Goettl followed with a fly ball to the right fielder for out one before the Panthers committed a mental error. With one out and two men on, Levi Vorlicek hit a ground-ball at Titus Schmitt at third base. Schmitt forced Bielke out at third and faked a throw to first, where Vorlicek was about to touch the bag. Lepel bit on the fake and overran second, prompting a throw from Schmitt, where Noah Miller tagged Lepel for the third out.

Despite the folly, Cole Petersen didn't blink, and struck out all three batters in the top of the seventh, before batting lead-off for the Panthers in the bottom.

Cole Petersen went opposite field to left for a single before Tanner Grack executed a sacrifice bunt to move him over to second. Josh VonBerge came to the plate after singling and striking out in his previous at-bats, and popped out to the first baseman.

With two out and the winning run on second, Pinske lined Allen's second pitch between the second and first baseman, as Cole Petersen started to celebrate while rounding third.

Buffalo Creek BMX underway

Buffalo Creek BMX has begun its seventh season with USA BMX sanctioned racing on May 20. The Bicycle Motocross (BMX) track is located at Sterner-Meyer BMX Park in Glencoe behind the Napa-Do-It-Best at 1017 9th Street.

This year will see many improvements to the park. A new riders canopy will provide shade near the starting hill. A new playground is set to be installed in late May, providing a play area for youngsters on the northwest corner of the park. New paved walking surfaces throughout the park will provide safer pedestrian travel, as well as create buffer areas for new grass. The above improvements are made possible by sponsorships from the business community and support of the City of Glencoe and Parks Department.

This year will also have

themed nights featuring other youth organizations, special guests, and fundraisers for charitable causes. One of the highlights will be an Olympic Night featuring USA Olympians from recent games on June 20. A big weekend will be during the Glencoe Days event June 20-22.

Regular racing is every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Practice is on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon. Spectators are free and concessions are available on site. The park is open to the public for practice most days throughout the summer and fall. A beginner's clinic is scheduled for May 31 at 10 a.m. New riders will learn about proper equipment, safe riding, and race tips for the sport.

For more information contact Ryan Voss at 320-510-0404 or visit www.buffalocreekbmx.com



Silver Lake Leader photo by Josh Randt

Steph Klockmann, left, and Becca Green, right, sport somber faces after dropping out of the Section 2 playoffs when the Belle Plaine Tigers trounced GSL 14-5 on May 20.

Belle Plaine downs GSL 14-5 in playoffs

By Josh Randt
Sports Editor

It all came to an abrupt end in Belle Plaine for the Panther softball team on May 20, as Glencoe-Silver Lake fell 14-5 to the Tigers in the first round of the Section 2 playoffs.

Belle Plaine scored a pair of touchdowns in the first two innings - seven runs each - while GSL managed three in that same span. The Panthers scored two more in the third, and shut down the Tigers defensively for the rest of the game to avoid getting 10-runned.

But after winning the West Division of the Wright County Conference, the Panthers' hopes for a playoff run were high.

"We're proud of what we did. We won our conference on our side. That was our first goal, and we did that," Head Coach Steve Davis said. "It's just tough. We would've liked to play a few more games."

Batting first as the visitors, GSL took a 1-0 lead before the

Tigers teed off on Moriah Maunu.

The Tigers racked up all of their runs and all but one of their hits in the first two innings as Layne Herrmann came in with one out left in the bottom of the second. Herrmann pitched well in relief, but 14 runs proved too much for the Panther offense, which went cold after the third inning.

"To give up back-to-back seven-run innings is tough, but we didn't get 10-runned, which would have been easy to do," said Coach Davis. "It was just a tough way to lose it. We wish we could have played our best. Then, win or lose, it's not as bad. But we obviously didn't play our best game."

Departing from the Panthers will be seniors Steph Klockmann and Amanda Meyer. Other than the departure of those two, GSL returns a full squad that took some big strides in the right direction this year.

Track teams finish third at home subsection



Silver Lake Leader photo by Josh Randt

Emily Muetzel, left, takes off after Taylor Novak, right, hands her the baton during the 4x200-meter relay. Novak took a spill

after the handoff, but GSL's relay team still managed to take first at the event held in Glencoe on May 22.

By Josh Randt
Sports Editor

Hosting the first home track meet in over a year, the Glencoe-Silver Lake track teams advanced in 24 events from the subsection meet on May 22.

The boys advance 11 individuals and two relay teams, while the girls will bring seven individuals and two relay teams to the section meet at Mankato West on Saturday, May 31.

"It's pretty impressive to get that many kids to move on," said Josh Metcalf, head boys' coach. "Hopefully the kids get in the top two, or otherwise challenge the state standard, because you have to be in the top two to get to state."

Both teams finished third overall, with the girls scoring 136.5 points, and the boys 178. Belle Plaine/Holy Family Academy claimed first for both divisions. Their girls scored 273.5 points, while their boys managed 282.

Mankato will be teaming with athletes from all over the state as 27 schools converge on the site Saturday, for a chance to move on to the state

meet at Hamline University starting June 6.

Top placers

GSL had a total of eight first place finishes Thursday in Glencoe. For the boys, they included: Brandon Richter, 800-meter run; Jac Chelman, 3,200-meter run; Dalton Clouse, 110-meter hurdles; Adam Eberhard, shot put; and the 4x800-meter relay team of Chelman, Garret Ardolf, Michael Schaefer and Richter. First place finishers for the girls included: Kelly Arnold, 100 and 200-meter dashes; and the 4x200-meter relay team of Arnold, Taylor Novak, Emily Muetzel and Shelby Clouse.

The Panthers turned in seven second place finishes. For the boys, they included: Kyle Beck, 200-meter dash; Aaron Giesen, 400-meter dash; and the 4x100-relay team of Keenan Mehlos, Gus Mendoza, Beck and Patrick Kunkel. The girls included: Muetzel, 400-meter dash; Tori Burr, 3,200-meter run; Zoe Christensen, shot put; and the 4x4 relay team of Muetzel; Illg, Hecksel and Monahan.

Kitchen Delights & Other Things



Fresh Strawberries and Amaretto Pie

Ingredients:
 3/4 cup sliced almonds, toasted
 1 cup all-purpose flour
 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar
 1/8 teaspoon salt
 1/4 cup cold butter, cubed
 2 tablespoons shortening
 3 to 4 tablespoons ice water
Filling:
 4 cups sliced fresh strawberries, divided
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 1/2 cup water
 1/2 cup sugar
 1/4 cup cornstarch
 4 to 6 drops red food coloring, optional
Amaretto Cream:
 1 cup heavy whipping cream
 2 tablespoons sour cream
 1 tablespoon confectioners' sugar
 2 tablespoons amaretto or 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
 Additional strawberries and almonds for toppings

Directions:
 Place almonds in a food processor; cover and pulse until almonds are finely ground. Add flour, confectioners' sugar and salt; pulse until blended. Add butter and shortening; pulse until butter and shortening are the size of peas. While pulsing, add just enough ice water to form moist crumbs. Shape dough into a disk; wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for 30 minutes or until easy to handle. On a lightly floured surface, roll dough to a 1/8-inch thick circle; transfer to a 9-inch deep dish plate. Trim pastry to 1/2-inch beyond edge of plate; flute edges. Line unpricked pastry shell with a double thickness of heavy-duty foil. Fill with dried beans, uncooked rice or pie weights. Bake at 425° for 8 minutes. Remove foil and weights; bake 5 to 7 minutes longer or until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack. In a large bowl, mash 1 cup strawberries with the lemon juice. Add water. In a large saucepan, combine sugar and cornstarch; stir in mashed berry mixture. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Transfer to a large bowl; stir in food coloring if desired. Refrigerate for 20 minutes or until cooled slightly, stirring occasionally. Fold in remaining sliced

berries and transfer to crust. Refrigerate at least 3 hours or until set. In a small bowl, beat whipping cream until it begins to thicken. Add the sour cream, confectioners' sugar and amaretto; beat until stiff peaks form. Spread over filling. Top with additional strawberries and almonds.

Rhubarb Blueberry Crumble

Ingredients:
 2/3 cups sugar
 2 tablespoons cornstarch
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 3 cups fresh blueberries
 3 cups sliced fresh or frozen rhubarb, thawed
Topping:
 3/4 cup sup biscuit baking mix
 1/3 cup sugar
 1/8 teaspoon salt
 1/3 cup cold unsalted butter, cubed
 1/2 cup old-fashioned oats
 1/2 cup chopped almonds

Directions:
 Preheat oven to 375°. In a large bowl, mix sugar, cornstarch and salt. Add blueberries and rhubarb; toss to coat. Transfer to a greased 8-inch square baking dish. For topping, in a small bowl, mix baking mix, sugar and salt. Cut in butter until crumbly; stir in oats and almonds. Sprinkle over filling. Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until filling is bubbly and topping is golden brown.

Dreamy S'more Pie

Ingredients:
 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
 1-1/4 cups heavy whipping cream
 1 jar (13 ounces) Nutella
 1 graham cracker crust (9 inches)
 3 cups miniature marshmallows

Directions:
 In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and cream until thickened. Add Nutella; beat just until combined. Spoon into crust. Cover and refrigerate for at least 3 hours. Just before serving, top with marshmallows; press gently into filling. Broil six inches from the heat for 1 to 2 minutes or until marshmallows are golden brown.



Silver Lake Leader photo by Alyssa Schauer

Community schools luncheon

Last Thursday afternoon, Glencoe-Silver Lake hosted the final "Community in the Schools" luncheon of the school year at the high school media center. Community members are invited to interact with students from Helen Baker Elementary, Lake-side Elementary, Lincoln Junior High and GSL High School to get to know each

other. Jason Schmitz, special education teacher at GSL high school, gave a presentation on the work-based learning program at the school. Above, second grader Andrew Bandas and fifth grader Majkya Metcalf talk with David Nelson, president of the Glencoe Area Chamber of Commerce.

County, city of Biscay enter into joint powers agreement

By Lori Copler
 Staff Writer

The McLeod County Board of Commissioners approved a joint powers agreement May 20 with the city of Biscay "to construct a community wastewater treatment system and also install a series of individual sewage treatment systems (SSTS) where necessary."

County Environmentalist Roger Berggren said the total project will cost about \$1.5 million, "but there are no county funds going into this, except for some administrative costs."

Berggren said the city of Biscay has received \$400,000 in Clean Water grant funding to put toward the project. The county will act as the fiscal agent for administering the grant funding, and Biscay is hoping for more grant money.

The County Board also approved Berggren's request to hire a contractor to inspect and review the design for Biscay's

sanitary sewer system.

In other business May 20, the County Board:

- Approved the annual housing contract with Renville County to board inmates at the Renville County Jail when needed. The cost is \$55 per day per inmate, the same as a similar contract McLeod County has with Carver County.

- Agreed to buy a new John Deere tractor with a mower deck, snow blower and broom from Midwest Machinery of Glencoe for a net cost of \$12,775 with the trade-in of an older tractor. Building Maintenance Supervisor Wayne Rosenfeld said the county has not owned a broom in the past, and said a broom will help in cleaning sidewalks after snowfalls.

- Approved the annual grant from the state of Minnesota for the boat and water safety program in the amount of \$6,966, which is a 50-50 match with

the county.

- Approved spending \$25,269 in 2014 to add maintenance coverage of ARMER radio equipment that is no longer under warranty.

- Approved a request from Assistant Veterans Services Officer Cassandra Carrigan to attend the National Association of County Veteran Services Officer training in Grand Rapids, Mich., in June. The training will help Carrigan complete her certification as a veterans service officer.

- Approved a one-day temporary on-sale liquor license for Slow Food Minnesota, Minneapolis, for an event set for the Star Thrower Farm, rural Glencoe, on June 1.

- Appointed Doug Johnson of Lynn Township and Ron Rausch of Acoma Township as representatives on the Hutchinson Joint Planning Board.



Silver Lake Leader photos by Rich Glennie

Band concert

The GSL spring band concert was held May 19. Above are members of the concert band, including, in front, Lizzy Gran and April Brady on clarinets. In the back are Allison Johnson, trumpet, Lili Mallak, Alyson Winn, clarinets, and partially obscured is Josie Schmitt. Standing is percussionist Austin Cooper. At the right are members of the ninth and 10th-grade band, including Robin Swift, Gabe Schweikert, Amanda Husted (percussionist in back), D.J. Wemhoff, Marissa Kirchoff, Kelli Bailey, Grei Butterfield, Erica Hecksel and Daria Fegley.



Legal Notices

City of Silver Lake

A SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE 79 AMENDING CHAPTER 18, FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT OF THE SILVER LAKE CODE

The legislature of the State of Minnesota has, in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103F and Chapter 462 delegated the responsibility to local government units to adopt regulations designed to minimize flood losses.

The full text of Section 18 is available for inspection at Silver Lake City Hall during regularly scheduled business hours.

Section 18.1.0 Statutory Authorization, Findings of Fact and Purpose	
18.1.1	.....Statutory Authorization
18.1.2	.....Purpose
Section 18.2.0 General Provisions	
18.2.1	.....Lands to Which Ordinance Applies
18.2.2	.....Overlay Districts
18.2.3	.....Incorporation of Maps by Reference
18.2.4	.....Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation
18.2.5	.....Interpretation
18.2.6	.....Abrogation and Greater Restrictions
18.2.7	.....Warning and Disclaimer of Liability
18.2.8	.....Severability
18.2.9	.....Definitions
18.2.10	.....Annexations/Detachments
Section 18.3.0 Establishment of Zoning Districts	
18.3.1	.....Districts
18.3.2	.....Compliance
Section 18.4.0 Floodway District	
18.4.1	.....Permitted Uses
18.4.2	.....Standards for Floodway Permitted Uses
18.4.3	.....Conditional Uses
18.4.4	.....Standards for Floodway Conditional Uses
Section 18.5.0 Flood Fringe District	
18.5.1	.....Permitted Uses
18.5.2	.....Standards for Flood Fringe Permitted Uses
18.5.3	.....Conditional Uses
18.5.4	.....Standards for Flood Fringe Conditional Uses
Section 18.6.0 RESERVE FOR FUTURE USE	
Section 18.7.0 Land Development Standards	
18.7.1	.....In General
18.7.2	.....Subdivisions
18.7.3	.....Design Criteria for Flood-Prone Areas
Section 18.8.0 Public Utilities, Railroads, Roads, and Bridges	
18.8.1	.....Public Utilities
18.8.2	.....Public Transportation Facilities
18.8.3	.....On-site Water Supply and Sewage Treatment Systems
Section 18.9.0 Manufactured Homes, Manufactured Home Parks and Recreational Vehicles	
18.9.1	.....Manufactured Home Parks
18.9.2	.....Placement of Manufactured Homes
18.9.3	.....Recreational Vehicles
Section 18.10.0 Administration	
18.10.1	.....Zoning Administrator
18.10.2	.....Permit Requirements
18.10.3	.....Board of Adjustment/Variations
18.10.4	.....Conditional Uses
Section 18.11.0 Nonconformities	
18.11.1	.....Continuance of Nonconformities
Section 18.12.0 Penalties and Enforcement	
18.12.1	.....Violation Constitutes a Misdemeanor
18.12.2	.....Other Lawful Action
18.12.3	.....Enforcement
Section 18.13.0 Amendments	
18.13.1	.....Floodplain Designation – Restrictions on Removal
18.13.2	.....Amendments Require DNR Approval
18.13.3	.....Map Revisions Require Ordinance Amendments

Section 2. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect after its passage and publication.

Adopted by the City Council this 19th day of May, 2014.

CITY OF SILVER LAKE
 By: /s/ Bruce Bebo
 Mayor

ATTEST:
 By: /s/ Kerry Venier
 City Clerk

(Published in the Silver Lake Leader May 29, 2014)

McLeod Publishing

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Silver Lake Leader photos by Alyssa Schauer

Mock Crash

Last Wednesday, Glencoe-Silver Lake High School partnered with Glencoe Regional Health Services, Glencoe Police Department, the McLeod County Sheriff's Department and other local rescue squads to host the annual "mock crash" for senior students about the consequences of drinking and driving. Above, EMTs work with student Matt Breije and to the left is Samantha Lange as one of the victims.



GSL receives national certification for PLTW

Glencoe-Silver Lake High School recently announced that it has received national certification for its Project Lead The Way (PLTW) program that has been offered for the first time this school year.

PLTW, a nonprofit organization and the nation's leading provider of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education programs, offers a rigorous world-class curriculum that allows students to apply what they are learning in math and science class to real-life engineering and technology projects.

PLTW also prides itself on high-quality professional development of its teachers and an engaged network of business, community and university partners to give students the fullest experience.

The national PLTW recognition program distinguishes schools for successfully demonstrating a commitment to PLTW's national standards. Additionally, certification as a PLTW school provides students with the opportunity to apply for college credit or receive college-level recognition at PLTW affiliate universities when they successfully complete select PLTW courses in high school.

PLTW has more than 40 affiliate college and university partners, including the University of Minnesota.

In order to remain competitive in the global economy, America needs approximately

400,000 STEM college graduates annually, according to a National Business Roundtable report.

Currently, the U.S. is graduating only 265,000 annually. PLTW is providing students with the skills, foundation, and proven path to college and career success in STEM areas to increase the number of STEM graduates.

Paul Sparby, principal of Glencoe-Silver Lake High School, said, "We've seen how the PLTW program draws more students to engineering and technology courses and gets them thinking about college and their careers. We are extremely proud to be PLTW certified and ecstatic that our students are eligible for college-level recognition, which may include college credit for select PLTW courses, scholarships and admissions preference."

As part of the recognition process, Sparby and a team composed of teachers, staff, students and members of the community submitted a self-assessment of the school's implementation of PLTW's engineering program.

A site visit by a PLTW-trained team followed. PLTW's team met with teachers, school administrators, counselors, students and members of the school's Partnership Team.

A PLTW school's Partnership Team (sometimes referred to as an advisory council) is comprised of teach-

ers, counselors, administrators, post-secondary representatives, business and industry professionals, and other community members who actively support the PLTW program within a school.

"Glencoe-Silver Lake High School should be congratulated for demonstrating once again its commitment to PLTW's quality standards," said PLTW President and CEO Vince Bertram.

"The real winners here, however, are GSL's students. Students benefit from PLTW's innovative, project-based curriculum that encourages creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking. We look forward to many more years of working together to prepare GSL students to become the most innovative and productive in the world," Bertram said.

Mike Sundblad, GSL industrial technology and engineering instructor, added, "The beauty of PLTW courses is that our kids get to experience how a concept they learned in science applies to real-world projects, including robotics."

"Rather than sit passively and listen to a lecture, kids are building, developing and creating," Sundblad said. "It's the kind of hands-on experience that will engage more students in science, technology, engineering and math—fields that they might otherwise never have considered."

Trailblazer Transit continues plans to provide service in Wright County

By Lori Copley Staff Writer

Trailblazer Transit will continue with its plans to provide transit service in Wright County, the Joint Powers Board indicated Wednesday afternoon, May 21.

At a meeting the previous week, the Joint Powers Board had voted to provide three buses a day starting July 1 to provide morning and evening transportation to clients of Functional Industries, with service to the general public in between. It also had decided to provide up to seven buses for service before the end of 2014 once it had drivers and another full-time dispatcher hired.

At the same time, it's working with a coalition of Wright County cities to provide more transportation within the county.

But the Board's decision came under a cloud when it learned that Wright County commissioners had approached the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) about entering into a contract with another service provider or getting its current provider, River Rider, to extend service past its July 1 dissolution date.

Mike Schadauer of MnDOT said he had been at the Wright County Board meeting when Commissioner Pat Sawatzke brought up the idea of engaging a third-party operator to provide transportation service in Wright County.

Schadauer said he thought MnDOT was "making good progress with Trailblazer" and was a little surprised by the request.

There also were representatives from two Wright County cities who were at the Wright County Board meeting and had expressed support for Sawatzke's request "and that kind of threw me for a loop" because Schadauer was under the impression that the cities wanted to work with Trailblazer.

Schadauer said he tried to "buy a little time" to meet with his MnDOT co-workers to "make sure MnDOT is still moving forward with Trailblazer and to make sure that the cities are still on board."

Schadauer said officials walked away from that MnDOT meeting "with very clear priorities to go ahead with Trailblazer, Functional Industries and the cities. If for some reason that fell apart, then we would consider Commissioner Sawatzke's proposal."

"I'm sorry if that threw confusion into the mix," Schadauer continued. "We're going to for this, and we hope Trailblazer is as well."

Sibley County Commissioner Bill Pinske said that he had "a little heartburn" the

previous week when he learned of the Wright County Board discussion.

"But it's gratifying to have MnDOT clarify things," said Pinske. "Sibley County is on board with moving forward."

McLeod County Commissioner Sheldon Nies said that even with Wright County's discussion, he felt Trailblazer always had MnDOT's backing on providing service in Wright County.

"I feel very, very comfortable with how this is going," said Nies.

Gary Ludwig, Trailblazer executive director, said the next steps include advertising for drivers and a dispatcher, transferring ownership of some River Rider buses to Trailblazer, and looking for a facility in Wright County as a "hub" for buses and employees.

And Merton Auger, city administrator for Buffalo, said cities in Wright County are continuing to move forward on a joint powers agreement to work with Trailblazer on providing additional transportation.

"Our resolve is even stronger," said Auger. "We've seen the professionalism of your board and staff. You've shown that you are very pro-

fessional and able to do the job."

Ludwig said that while he appreciates Auger's comments, he asked that the cities in Wright County do some "marketing" to explain why Trailblazer can't do a start-up of full service in Wright County by July 1, when River Rider dissolves.

"There may be a perception that Trailblazer is not everything it promised to be," said Ludwig. "But collectively, the government response was not there to ensure a smooth transition."

The Trailblazer Board also got an apology from Wright County Commissioner Mike Potter, who said that all the cities in his district are "going through the joint powers process" to work with Trailblazer.

Potter also said it isn't Trailblazer's fault that it couldn't get service in place by July 1.

"This is all the fault of the Wright County Board," said Potter. "The citizens of Wright County are very much disappointed in their board, and I'm hearing it every day."

The next Trailblazer Joint Powers Board meeting is set for June 26 at 9 a.m.

Weather Corner

By Jake Yurek



We'll stay warm and slightly muggy this week as it looks like we've skipped the pleasant 70-degree late spring temperatures once again. We warmed well into the 80s over the weekend and had a few more bouts of soaking rain.

Highs this week will stay in the 80s due to a warm front holding just to our north. If we stay clear any given day, we could rise even higher, but it's hard to say if a 90 could make it up our way.

We'll dry out after our wet start to the week with plenty of sunshine all the way to mid-Saturday. Rain and thunder chances, unfortunately, move back in late Saturday into Sunday and Monday.

At this point, we'll be very close to the frontal boundary the entire time, so we could see decent rainfall totals if this forecast holds firm. Stay tuned to more up-to-date forecasts. Some models are hinting at as much as 2 to 4 inches of rain for the hardest-hit areas, so that is definitely a bit more than we need at this point.

The long range forecasts keep us warm/wet with no big shots of Canadian air to cool us off, so I'm hoping the forecast models change their minds and cool us back off.

Ma dobry weekendem Mit dobry vikend

Thursday — Highs 78-84; lows 62-68; clear.

Friday — Highs 79-86; lows 62-68; mostly clear.

Saturday — Highs 79-86; lows 62-68; partly cloudy/afternoon thunder.

Sunday — Highs 74-82; rain/thunder.

Weather Quiz: Why has the severe weather season been slow-going for the most part again this year?

Answer to last week's question: **What are some of June's weather extremes?** Highest temperature, 104 degrees (June 27, 1934); lowest temperature, 34 degrees (June 3, 1945); most precipitation, 3.48 inches (June 29, 1877). The average high goes from 74 to start the month to 83 at the end.

Remember: I make the forecast, not the weather!

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Advertising Section

We have a great way for you to show what gift ideas you have available for dad this Father's Day.

In the June 8 Glencoe Advertiser and the June 11 McLeod County Chronicle, we will be publishing a special FULL COLOR section promoting all the great items to give this Father's Day.

Advertising Deadline:
Wednesday, June 4 at Noon

CHRONICLE/ADVERTISER
320-864-5518
716 East 10th St. • Glencoe

Call Your Sales Rep TODAY!
Sue Keenan, suek@glencoenews.com;
Brenda Fogarty, brendaf@glencoenews.com;
Karin Ramige Cornwell, karinr@glencoenews.com

Happy Father's Day