



Hoops season is here!

GSL boys, girls host Hutch this Friday

— Sports Page 1B

Minnesota Nice still packaging for soldiers

—Page 10

The McLeod County

Chronicle

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Glencoe, Minnesota Vol. 118, No. 47

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November 25, 2015

Senators hear pitches on Morningside, Hwy. 212

By Lori Copley
Editor

The Minnesota Senate Capital Investment Committee heard pitches for both the completion of Morningside in Glencoe and improvements to Highway 212 at a bonding tour stop in Hutchinson Thursday.

Chairman of the committee, Sen. LeRoy Stumpf, said there is a new focus on the importance of infrastructure in the state.

Unfortunately, Stumpf said, there isn't enough money to fund all the requests coming to the committee. There has been \$3.5 billion in requests so far, three times as much as the money that has been budgeted for bonding.

"The real challenge is how do we deal with the relationship between the state and local communities," said Stumpf. "The request of bonding not only has to be of signifi-

cance to the state, but it also has to have support in the local community."

Morningside

McLeod County Highway Engineer John Brunkhorst presented the bonding proposal for Morningside in Glencoe, which is a joint county-city project. Morningside also is McLeod County's County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 15.

Brunkhorst said that the Morning-

side project has three phases, the first two of which have already been completed. The first, in 2005, brought CSAH 15 across the Buffalo Creek. The second, in 2009, reconstructed the Highway 212 and Morningside intersection and extended Morningside north past Coborn's to the railroad tracks.

The final phase, Brunkhorst said, is the most important because it would extend Morningside north

past the railroad tracks to 16th Street, which runs past the high school.

Brunkhorst noted that Highway 22, the major corridor between Hutchinson and Glencoe, zigzags through Glencoe before hitting Highway 212 at Chandler Avenue. The extension of Morningside

Bonding tour

Turn to page 10

Planners consider ordinance for solar

By Rebecca Mariscal
Staff Writer

The Glencoe City Planning Commission discussed the addition of a solar ordinance in the city at its Thursday, Nov. 19, meeting.

Currently, Glencoe has nothing to regulate solar power. City Administrator Mark Larson said the city wants to establish regulations because there is concern that panels are not always attractive.

The city currently has two solar panel systems within the city.

Larson provided model ordinances from other cities and the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA) as examples to help create Glencoe's own ordinance. He said the Planning Commission can use these to decide what regulations to include, from setbacks to height and anything else.

Commissioner Greg Ettl asked if the city will have something different for industrial use versus residential use. Larson said that would probably be the case.

Commissioner Lynn Exsted said the city should step back and make only a few regulations so the energy movement can move forward.

"I don't want to see us limiting people," she said. "We should be encouraging solar."

City Council Member Gary Ziemer asked if those with solar panels are always hooked into the city's electrical grid. Exsted said there are options.

Solar

Turn to page 5



Chronicle photos by Lori Copley

Trailblazer considers '16 budget

By Lori Copley
Editor

With its growth into Wright County, Trailblazer Transit was anticipating a \$4.55 million budget for 2016. And it was anticipating that the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) would approve a budget of \$4.3 million in qualifying expenses, of which it would pay 85 percent, or \$3.65 million.

However, MnDOT set the operating cap for 2016 at \$3.7 million, which means Trailblazer will receive \$3.145 million.

"It's going to be fine," said Gary Ludwig, executive director of Trailblazer, of MnDOT's less-than-anticipated aid. Ludwig reviewed the 2016 budget with members of the Trailblazer Joint Powers Board at its regular meeting Thursday.

The reason MnDOT is capping its budget at \$3.7 million, Ludwig said, is that the Trailblazer 2016 budget is anticipating a total of 29 buses on the road. However, that probably won't happen as of Jan. 1, Ludwig said.

"Our program won't be fully developed by the first of the year," said Ludwig. "MnDOT is expected that we'll be ramping up throughout the year."

Therefore, MnDOT doesn't believe the full budget will be used in 2016.

Ludwig said part of the reason that there will not be 29 buses on the road is that Trailblazer is still struggling to find drivers.

Doug Krueger, a commissioner from McLeod County, said he has talked to people who have applied

Trailblazer

Turn to page 3



Training fire

The Brownton and Glencoe fire departments conducted a training burn at an abandoned house northeast of Brownton Saturday. Pictured at left, one of three interior fire attack crews entered the house for specialized training. After all three crews had completed their training, the house was allowed to completely burn to the ground (above). The training was guided by instructors from South Central Technical College of North Mankato.

Draft of trails plan presented to County Board

By Lori Copley
Editor

McLeod County's new trails committee, established about six months ago, has a framework in place for accomplishing its goals.

Matt Johnson of the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission, who is working with the committee, presented a draft of the committee's goals, objects and policies at the McLeod County Board of Commissioners Nov. 17 meeting.

Johnson said he was particularly appreciative of the committee's diverse membership.

"The trails committee you appointed is a very balanced group,"

said Johnson. "Because of the diversity, it's slowed down the process and makes the committee think about the big picture, not just jump on whatever's popular."

And not everyone's primary goal is to add to or improve the trail system, Johnson said. For example, the Sno Pros, a snowmobile group, wants to ensure safety on the trails, particularly snowmobile trails.

"Everyone is bringing something unique to the table," said Johnson.

Along with input from its committee members, the committee is seeking opinions from the public.

A recent open house regarding the trails plan drew about 25 people,

who brought up a wide range of issues, Johnson said. Not all of those who attended are fans of trails, "but we got the impression that they weren't against them if the issues they had were addressed."

In addition, Johnson said, the committee has been seeking public input through an online survey. As of the Nov. 17 County Board meeting, there were 172 respondents.

Johnson said he was pleased with the number of people who were responding.

"The state of Minnesota did a survey on bicycling, and only got 400 responses statewide," said Johnson.

Johnson said about three-fourths

of the respondents "want to do something with the Dakota Trail."

The committee will need to develop a master plan for the Dakota, said Johnson. "We need to do that in order to get any Legacy money."

The online survey was open through Nov. 20.

The trails committee was established in order to coordinate a comprehensive trail plan for the county, so that cities and organizations are not duplicating efforts, and to make sure there is connectivity among trails.

The draft of the trails plan outlines objectives regarding how trail projects should be prioritized, funding of

sources, establishing safety features and accessibility, how to mesh public rights with the rights of private property owners, access points and making sure trails have adequate amenities, creating connectivity, and encouraging healthy lifestyles, among other goals.

Johnson said the committee will now be incorporating feedback from the public as it continues to fine tune the plan.

In other business Nov. 17, the County Board:

- Suggested having a workshop to

Trail plan

Turn to page 5

Weather

Wed., 11-25	Thur., 11-26	Fri., 11-27	Sat., 11-28	Sun., 11-29
H: 45°, L: 28°	H: 31°, L: 22°	H: 31°, L: 20°	H: 36°, L: 25°	H: 36°, L: 24°

Looking back: Winter-like temperatures arrived behind a cold front that swept through Thursday.

Date	Hi	Lo	Precip.
Nov. 17	53	48	0.72
Nov. 18	55	36	0.50

Nov. 19	36	27	Trace
Nov. 20	27	20	0.00
Nov. 21	30	13	Trace
Nov. 22	34	12	0.00
Nov. 23	45	22	0.00

Temperatures and precipitation compiled by Robert Thurn, Chronicle weather observer.

Chronicle News and Advertising Deadlines

All news is due by 5 p.m., Monday, and all advertising is due by noon, Monday. News received after that deadline will be published as space allows.

Glencoe blood drive results in 141 units

A sizeable, steady stream of donors at the American Red Cross blood drive in Glencoe resulted in 141 units of blood being donated. This exceeded the Red Cross goal of 131 units.

Allen Rolf, Julie Busse and Rebecca Mariscal were first-time donors. These donors reached new goals:

- 1 gallon: Jeremy Mattson, Diane Robinson and Dan Welch, all of Glencoe.
- 2 gallons: Susan Blad and Veryl Becker, Glencoe.
- 3 gallons: Matthew Gruber and Linda Donnay, Glencoe.
- 4 gallons: Sarah Kuehl,

Pam Gould and David Uecker, Glencoe.

5 gallons: Randall Carrigan and Vernon Lindeman, Glencoe.

7 gallons: Carmen Kienberger, Glencoe.

8 gallons: Dennis Roisum, Glencoe.

9 gallons: Jeff Lueders, Glencoe.

10 gallons: Gale Donnay, Wallace Wendorff and Charlie Becker, all of Glencoe.

15 gallons: Leslie Engelmann, Plato.

The next Glencoe blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2016.



Submitted photo

Local law enforcement agencies are combining efforts to put extra patrols on the road for DWIs during the holiday season. The extra patrols will be on the road from Wednesday, Nov. 25, through Saturday,

Jan. 2. Pictured above are, from left, McLeod County Deputy Aaron Ward, Brownton Police Chief Ken Bauer, Glencoe Police Officer Jamey Retzer; Winsted Officer Reiner, and Minnesota Trooper Mathews.

Extra DWI patrol planned during holidays

Turkey, stuffing and unfortunately DWIs are all a part of Thanksgiving and other holiday celebrations this time of year. As people get together for the holidays, McLeod County area law enforcement will be taking drunk drivers off the road as they conduct extra DWI patrols. The extra enforcement campaign starts Nov. 25 and runs on weekends through Jan. 2.

The enforcement is part of a statewide effort with officers, deputies and troopers from more than 300 agencies working overtime with funding provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety (DPS-OTS) coordinates the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over enforcement and education effort.

Most people think about a sober ride home when making their New Year's plans, but statistics show motorists need to pay just as much attention to other holidays. The percentage of drunk-driving-related deaths compared with total traffic fatalities is significantly higher for Thanksgiving and Christmas than other holidays (2010 – 2014):

- Thanksgiving: 53.8 percent.
- Christmas: 46.2 percent.
- Fourth of July: 40 percent.

- Memorial Day: 27.3 percent.
- Labor Day: 16.7 percent.
- New Year's Day: 12.5 percent.

"You should not only be planning a sober ride home when you're going to the bar, but also when you will be consuming alcohol at a friend's or family's home, or when attending holiday work parties," said Officer Andrew Fiebelkorn of the Glencoe Police Department. "When hosting a celebration, don't be afraid to speak up. Find guests a sober ride home or let them sleep at your house. You could be helping save lives that night. Many of us know someone that has been arrested for DWI or was involved in a crash as a result of drinking and driving. It's time to take a stand and bring these numbers down to make our roads safer for everyone."

The 2014 Minnesota Motor Vehicle Impaired Driving Facts report reveals there is much more work to be done when it comes to getting drunks off the road:

- 88 out of 361 people killed in traffic fatalities statewide (24 percent) were drunk driving-related.
- 25,258 DWIs (an average of 70 per day).
- 159 DWIs in McLeod County in 2014.

In the last five years (2010 – 2014), there were 479

drunk-driving-related traffic deaths in Minnesota.

DWI consequences include:

- Loss of license for up to a year, thousands of dollars in costs and possible jail time.
- Repeat DWI offenders, as well as first-time offenders arrested at 0.16 and above alcohol-concentration level, must use ignition interlock in order to regain legal driving privileges or face at least one year without a driver's license.
- Offenders with three or more offenses are required to use interlock for three to six years, or they will never regain driving privileges.

Residents are asked to help prevent drunk driving:

- Plan for a safe ride — designate a sober driver, use a cab/public transportation or stay at the location of the celebration.
- Offer to be a designated driver, or be available to pick up a loved one anytime, anywhere.
- Buckle up — the best defense against a drunk driver.
- Report drunk driving — call 911 when witnessing impaired driving behavior. Be prepared to provide location, license plate number and observed dangerous behavior.

Definitions of some common phrases include:

- Driving While Impaired (DWI) is a violation for driv-

ing under the influence of alcohol.

- Alcohol-related: any evidence of alcohol detected in a driver, pedestrian or bicyclist.
- Impaired-related: any driver, pedestrian or bicyclist with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or above.
- Drunk-driving-related: any driver with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or above.

DPS-OTS coordinates the statewide campaign, and local agencies participating are:

- Brownton Police Department,
- Glencoe Police Department,
- McLeod County Sheriff's Office,
- Minnesota State Patrol
- and Winsted Police Department.

The enhanced DWI enforcement campaign is a component of the state's Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) program. A primary vision of the TZD program is to create a safe driving culture in Minnesota in which motorists support a goal of zero road fatalities by practicing and promoting safe and smart driving behavior. TZD focuses on the application of four strategic areas to reduce crashes — education, enforcement, engineering, and emergency medical and trauma response.

Driver swerves to avoid deer, hits power pole

A Green Isle woman was not injured after swerving her vehicle to avoid four deer in the road and hitting a power pole on Friday.

The Sibley County Sheriff's Office said the accident occurred about 11:44 p.m. Vanessa Gail Feist, 31, of Green Isle, was northbound on 411th Avenue, about 5/2

miles north of Arlington, in a 1994 Ford Ranger when she saw the deer in the road, swerved into a ditch, and hit the power pole.

There was moderate damage to the truck and the pole was snapped off. Feist was wearing a seat belt and was not injured.

Happenings

Blood drive set at Biscay

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive Friday, Nov. 27, from noon to 6 p.m., at Neisen's Bar & Grill in Biscay. The Red Cross urges eligible donors to give before the holiday season begins.

Gingerbread houses at ECFE

Glencoe-Silver Lake Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) will host a "Make and Bake: Gingerbread Houses" activity Tuesday, Dec. 1, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., or 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Early Childhood Learning Center, 1621 16th Street E, Glencoe. There is no charge for admission, but participants may bring a new, unwrapped game or toy as a donation for local children in need if they wish. Register online at www.gsl.k12.mn.us under Comm Ed/ECFE, or by calling the ECFE office at 320-864-2681.

GRHS tree lighting ceremony

The Glencoe Regional Health Services Foundation will have its annual Trees of Lights lighting ceremony Sunday, Nov. 29, at 5 p.m. The lighting ceremony will feature live reindeer and refreshments. The display will remain lit throughout the holiday season.

Community Thanksgiving

All are welcome to the annual community Thanksgiving dinner Thursday, Nov. 26, at noon, at First Congregational, 1400 Elliott Ave. N, Glencoe. The event is sponsored by Glencoe area churches and there is no charge. A freewill donation will be collected for the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf. An RSVP is requested, but not required, by calling the church at 320-864-3855, by Wednesday, Nov. 18.

Abundant Table meal Dec. 2

The next Abundant Table community meal is set for Wednesday, Dec. 2, in the Christ Lutheran Church basement fellowship hall, 1820 Knight Ave. N, Glencoe. The meal is free and open to everyone — families and children, the elderly and all seeking fellowship or a helping hand. The doors will open at 4:30 p.m. for fellowship; the meal is served at 5 p.m. This will be a Christmas meal, and the menu features ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, applesauce, green beans, Abundant Table bread, Christmas cookies and ice cream. This meal marks the beginning of the ministry's third year. Please let the church know to prepare for you by calling 320-864-4549.

St. John's Advent program

St. John's Lutheran Church, Helen Township, invites the public to a unique Advent by candlelight program centered around the theme, "A Mother Remembers," on Sunday, Nov. 29, at 6:30 p.m. The church is located five miles southeast of Glencoe. Participants will receive a gift and enjoy Christmas treats. Freewill donations for the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf will be accepted. For more information, contact the church office at 320-864-3093.

Glencoe seniors meetings

The Glencoe Senior Citizens meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. in the seniors room at the Glencoe City Center. Sheephead is played on Tuesdays, and both sheephead and 500 are played on Thursdays. All seniors over 55 are invited. For more information, call 320-864-3799 and leave a message.

To be included in this column, items for Happenings must be received in the Chronicle office no later than 5 p.m. on Monday of the week they are to be published. Items received after that will be published elsewhere in the newspaper as space permits. Happenings in Glencoe, Brownton, Stewart, Plato, New Auburn, Biscay and Silver Lake take priority over happenings elsewhere.

Community Strings Christmas program set for Dec. 13

The annual Community Strings Christmas program, "A Little Peace of Christmas," will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Glencoe on Sunday, Dec. 13. An afternoon program will be held at 3 p.m., followed by an evening performance at 7 p.m. A freewill offering will be taken to support the area food shelf and defray costs of the Community Strings program.

The Community Strings were created as a family musical group by Melissa Pinske and her father, Dr. Jack Noennig. Over the years, the Community Strings have grown to include four Noennig children and most of their grandchildren playing violin, string bass and keyboard.

The Community Strings soon expanded to include area violinists, young and old. About six years ago, the

Community Strings added violas and cellos. Current musicians come from Arlington, Cokato, Glencoe, Hamburg, Hutchinson, Norwood Young America and Plato. Twelve of the musicians have gone off to college with some of them continuing to use their musical talents.

The goal of Community Strings is to provide an opportunity for string musicians to enjoy their talents and share them with the public. In its 10th year, the Community Strings have performed for local festivals, nursing homes, churches and area businesses. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church has allowed the Community Strings to rehearse weekly in the church,

culminating in the annual Christmas program.

This year's program, "A Little Peace of Christmas," will feature the Glencoe-Silver Lake Madrigal Choir, directed by Kay Wilson, as well

as music performed by the former Golden Strings. There will be carols to sing and a few additional surprises during the program.

Thank You
Words cannot adequately express my thanks for your cards and presence at the party my children gave for my 90th birthday. I was sincerely humbled by the turnout. My only regret is that I didn't have the opportunity to visit with each one of you.
God Bless You.
Love, Vi Gould

Woman dies in Hwy. 212 accident

Katherine Zika, 34, of Bloomington, died in a two-vehicle accident on Highway 212 in Carver County Monday morning.

According to the Minnesota State Patrol, Zika was westbound on Highway 212 in a 2007 Buick LaCrosse when she lost control on the slippery roadway, crossed the median and was struck by an eastbound 2002 Ford van driven by James W. Gildea, 40, of Glencoe. Gildea and a passenger, Ryan C. Miller, 27, of Winsted, had minor injuries and did not require transport to a hospital, according to the State Patrol.

The highway was shut down for nearly three hours after the accident, which was reported about 7:30 a.m., as officials investigated the accident scene and cleared debris from the roadway.

Catch the Spirit of the Holidays at Hutchinson Mall!

Shop National, Regional and Local retailers, in addition to seasonal stores and holiday kiosk vendors. A festive, climate controlled retail environment including live entertainment, McLeod County Gift Giving Tree, visits with Santa and more. Admire the choices, savor the savings this holiday season!

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Chronicle photos by Rebecca Mariscal

Helen Baker has AMP night
Glencoe-Silver Lake's Helen Baker hosted an AMP (arts, music and physical education) Night for its first-grade students and their families on Thursday night. The event was a night of art, music and physical education activities that also connect to science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) ideas. The night featured a variety of activities all throughout the Helen Baker building. Students could play instruments, complete obstacle courses, build kazoos, decorate CDs, follow a musical course and more. Above, Sylvia Jorgensen looks to her parents for encouragement before completing the last piece of one of the obstacle courses. At left, Molly Johnson tries her hand at the xylophone.



Court eFiling coming to Carver, Goodhue, Le Sueur counties Dec. 2

Beginning Dec. 2, court users in Carver, Goodhue and Le Sueur counties will be able to electronically file and serve court documents through an online portal.

The move to electronic filing and service of case documents — known as eFiling and eService — is part of the Minnesota Judicial Branch's eCourtMN initiative, which is transforming the state's court system by replacing paper-based court files with an electronic information environment. The goal of the eCourtMN initiative — which received a 2014 State Government Innovation Award from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs — is to make the state's court system more accessible, more efficient, and more convenient for court customers.

One of the key elements of the eCourtMN initiative is the establishment of eFiling and eService — giving case participants the ability to submit documents to the court and serve documents on opposing parties electronically, through an online portal. This allows court customers to file documents without traveling to the courthouse or paying for postage or courier costs, allows filers to submit documents immediately and outside of courthouse business hours, and allows court documents to be sent to filers electronically.

District court eFiling and eService has operated on a pilot basis in 11 courts across the state — including Dakota County District Court — for several years. Based on the

success of that pilot, the Minnesota Judicial Branch began expanding eFiling and eService to the rest of the state earlier this year.

Today, eFiling and eService is available in 57 district courts across the state. The Minnesota Judicial Branch aims to make eFiling and eService available in all 87 district courts statewide by mid-December.

“Electronic filing will help make our courts more efficient and customer-friendly,” said First Judicial District Chief Judge Terrence E. Conkel. “We’ve had great success with electronic filing in Dakota County, and we know our customers in other counties are eager to take advantage of this new service.”

Upon implementation, eFiling and eService will be voluntary for filers in Carver, Goodhue and Le Sueur counties, meaning filers will still be able to file documents using the traditional, paper-based method. Electronic filing and service in these counties will continue to be voluntary until July 1, 2016. Under recent amendments to Minnesota's Court Rules, use of the eFiling and eService system to file court documents will become mandatory for attorneys, government agencies, guardians ad litem, and sheriffs in all district courts statewide on July 1, 2016. Use of the eFiling and eService system will remain voluntary for other filers, such as self-represented litigants.

In addition to electronic filing and service of court documents, the eCourtMN initiative includes a wide array of

various projects that are utilizing new technologies to increase efficiency and expand access to information throughout Minnesota's justice system. This includes:

- Providing judges and court staff with new electronic tools to more efficiently review and process court documents within the courthouse;

- Creating an electronic portal for government partners — such as law enforcement, prosecutors, and public defenders — to more efficiently access court documents and records;

- Making it easier and more convenient for the public to view electronic court records from across the state at their local courthouses;

- Partnering with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to expand use of electronic citations (eCitations) and other charging documents (eCharging). These tools allow law enforcement and prosecutors to file citations and complaints electronically, from their office or squad car, with the data automatically transferred to court and law enforcement databases. Use of eCharging and eCitations will become mandatory for adult complaints and adult citations statewide on July 1, 2016.

The Minnesota Judicial Branch has posted informational resources, training materials, and a three-step guide to starting eFiling and eService at www.mncourts.gov/eFile. The Minnesota Judicial Branch also operates an eFile Support Center for filers with questions about the eFile and eServe system.

Record

Glencoe Police

TUESDAY, NOV. 17

Four citations were issued for violations of the winter parking ordinance.

1:04 a.m. — The police and fire departments responded to Elm Avenue N for a carbon monoxide detector going off. The batteries were changed and everything was fine.

6:49 a.m. — An officer checked on a car parked in front of Unhinged! Pizza on the grassy area. It had no license plate and the keys were in the ignition. It turned out the car belonged to the pizza place and had broken down.

8:51 a.m. — There was a report of a gas drive-off on 13th Street E. The person called the gas station and said they would be right in to pay.

9 a.m. — A citation was issued for no Minnesota driver's license at a traffic stop on 11th Street near Pryor Avenue.

9:54 a.m. — Officers conducted a welfare check on a person on Knight Avenue N, who was fine.

11:16 a.m. — Officers and sheriff's deputies responded to a disturbance on 11th Street E.

1:07 p.m. — The department received a report of someone smoking marijuana in an apartment on Newton Avenue. When officers arrived, they found no smell of marijuana and no one would come to the door.

1:59 p.m. — A male came to the department to report that someone had tried to apply for a credit card in his name.

7:51 p.m. — Officers responded to a medical on Basswood Street W. The person was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18

Two citations were issued for violations of the winter parking ordinance.

3:39 p.m. — An officer responded to a minor fender bender with no injuries at the intersection of 13th Street E and Ford Avenue N. Involved were a 2006 Ford Taurus, owned and driven by Wendell Ehlers of Green Isle, and a 2007 Ford Edge, owned by Mark Conklin of Glencoe and driven by Jessica Conklin, also of Glencoe.

9:26 p.m. — A citation for speeding was issued at a traffic stop in the area of Highway 22 and 115th Street.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19

Three citations were issued for

violations of the winter parking ordinance.

7:22 a.m. — A cow was reported to be wandering in the area of Armstrong Avenue N and Ninth Street E. The cow was corralled and the owner came and got it.

8:38 a.m. — An officer responded to a juvenile issue on 16th Street E.

12:29 p.m. — Officers assisted the Glencoe Ambulance with a medical.

2:30 p.m. — An officer stopped a vehicle for non-working tail lights on Eighth Street E near Morningside Drive, and issued a citation for no Minnesota driver's license.

9:16 p.m. — A person with chest pain was taken by ambulance to the hospital from an address on 10th Street E.

FRIDAY, NOV. 20

Five citations were issued for violations of the winter parking ordinance.

3:57 p.m. — Officers assisted with a disturbance at the courthouse.

10:19 p.m. — Extra patrol was provided on Park Street W.

11:53 p.m. — Officers responded to McLeod Avenue N for a person who fell. The person was taken to the hospital.

SATURDAY, NOV. 21

Ten citations were issued for violations of the winter parking ordinance.

3:05 a.m. — An officer responded to a report of a rear window that had been smashed on a vehicle on 11th Street E.

4:07 a.m. — Officers responded to a disturbance on Hennepin Avenue N.

11:55 a.m. — A wallet was forgotten at the library; the owner returned and picked it up.

3:35 p.m. — Officers and the fire department responded to a three-vehicle accident on 11th Street E. Involved were a 2002 Honda Accord, owned and driven by Rosella Brinkman of Glencoe, a 2000 Mercury Mountaineer, owned and driven by Sharon Beneke of Glencoe, and a 2001 GMC Sonoma, owned and driven by Ivan Ische of Arlington.

3:38 p.m. — An officer responded to a report of a suspicious person on 11th Street E.

10:40 p.m. — A citation for driving after suspension was is-

sued at a traffic stop on Highway 212 near Chandler Avenue.

SUNDAY, NOV. 22

Seven citations were issued for violations of the winter parking ordinance.

12:16 a.m. — A possible fight was reported on Pryor Avenue N, but officers were unable to locate anyone upon arrival.

7:31 p.m. — Officers assisted the Hutchinson Police Department at the law enforcement center.

11:49 p.m. — A juvenile reportedly ran away from an address on Newton Avenue. Officers found the juvenile a short time later.

MONDAY, NOV. 23

Five citations were issued for violations of the winter parking ordinance.

4:13 a.m. — An officer and the Glencoe Ambulance responded to a medical on 13th Street W. A male was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

11:38 a.m. — Officers responded to a verbal domestic on Hennepin Avenue.

5:23 p.m. — A person reported that a dog had been hit in the area of 16th Street E and Ives Avenue N. The dog fled and was not found.

6:40 p.m. — An officer took a report of a stolen wallet from a person on 13th Street E.

10:19 p.m. — Officers and the Glencoe Ambulance responded to a medical on McLeod Avenue N. The person was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

STATE THEATRE	
Fri Nov 27 to Thu Dec 3	
WOODLAWN Daily 4:45	PG
BRIDGE OF SPIES Daily 7:30	PG13
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2	PG
Fri Sat Sun 7:30 4:30 Mon-Thur 4:30	
THE INTERN Daily 8:00	PG13
MAZE RUNNER Daily 7:45	PG13
MINIONS	PG
Fri Sat Sun 7:45 4:45 Mon-Thur 4:45	
INSIDE OUT	PG
Fri Sat Sun 7:00 only Weekdays no shows	
www.statetheatre.com	
320.687.9999	

Bake & Craft Sale
Sat., Dec. 5
11am-1:30pm
Prairie Community Church
 1st Ave N & Oak St.
 Lester Prairie
Serving: Chili, egg salad sandwiches, cake, milk & coffee

Christmas Brunch, Bake Sale & Country Store
 First Ev. Lutheran Church Fellowship Center
 925 13th St. E., Glencoe
SAT., DEC. 5
8:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
 Menu: Scrambled eggs, ham patties, fruit, homemade coffee cake, coffee and juice.
 Adults \$7.00; Children 8 & Under \$4.00

Trailblazer

Continued from page 1

for jobs and not been hired, in particular school bus drivers who are attracted by the higher wages being offered at Trailblazer.

“They want to drive for Trailblazer and can’t get hired,” said Krueger. He said he understands that Trailblazer doesn’t want to hire unqualified drivers, but can’t understand why some applicants are being turned away.

Ludwig said interview questions are carefully designed to make sure candidates are good matches.

“If we determined that they are not a good match, they are not going to be happy with us,” said Ludwig.

Ludwig said people still underestimate how stressful the job can be. A former school bus driver quit after two days, Ludwig said. In another instance, a driver who used to drive a propane truck stopped a Trailblazer bus at the side of the road “and simply walked away.”

Krueger asked if he could ride a bus so that he experience it firsthand.

Getting back to the budget, Ludwig said the goal is to “grow into the plan” throughout 2016, and to keep close tabs on it throughout the year.

In other business, the Joint Powers Board:

- Heard that Trailblazer had hired a human resources/compliance officer.

- Heard that construction on the new facility in Buffalo “is going very well,” according to Ludwig. “Progress is excellent. It’s on schedule and it’s on budget.”

- Heard that the Adult Training and Habilitation Center (ATHC) had renewed its contract with Trailblazer for 2016.

St. Pius X
Christmas Tree Sales
Coborn's Parking Lot, Glencoe
NOVEMBER Hours:
 Sunday, Nov. 22 • 11 am-5 pm;
 Monday, Nov. 23 • 3-6 pm
OPEN FOR SEASON
 Friday, Nov. 27 • 9 am-8 pm;
 Saturday, Nov. 28 • 9 am-8 pm;
 Sunday, Nov. 29 • 10 am-5 pm;
 Monday, Nov. 30 • 3-8 pm;
 —Variety of trees available —
 Wreaths, Garland & Tabletops.

Silver Lake Lions
Christmas Brunch
Sunday, Dec. 6
 Serving 8:30 am-12:30 pm
 Silver Lake Auditorium • Silver Lake, MN
 Menu: Pancakes, sausage, eggs, toast, fruit, milk, juice & coffee
 Homemade potato sausage
Freewill Offering
 Proceeds go to the Silver Lake Summer Recreation and Silver Lake Swimming Pool.
 Please bring a food shelf item to donate to the McLeod County Food Shelf.

Thanksgiving Day Buffet
Thurs., Nov. 26
 11 am-2 pm
Every Sunday
 Meat Raffle at 2 pm
 Bingo at 3 pm
Every Friday Night Buffet
 5-8 pm
Cactus Jack's II
 Stewart • 320-562-2609

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The McLeod County Chronicle

Same old story: more need than money

Our view: State's infrastructure failing as funding fades

The good news is that state and federal officials, coming out of a recessive economy, are starting to focus on the ever-growing needs of aging and insufficient infrastructure across our nation.

The bad news is that the state and federal officials still don't know where they are going to scrape up the money to fix all our needs.

At last Wednesday's Glencoe Area Chamber of Commerce meeting, Margaret Donahoe, executive director of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance, outlined the needs of strengthening Highway 212, a vital east-west corridor that stretches from the Twin Cities metro area all the way west to the South Dakota border.

The most immediate need is to correct two bottlenecks between Norwood Young America where the four-lane highway narrows to two lanes.

Donahoe noted that the federal government just passed a six-year funding bill, which will help stabilize transportation funding, but there is still no mechanism in place that provides a steady, reliable source of revenue to fund transportation needs.

And while the Highway 212 project, Donahoe said, is critical, so are several other needs.

"There are no dollars and, frankly, we see this all over the state," Donahoe said.

State Sen. LeRoy Stumpf had a similar message Thursday when the Senate Capital Investment Committee visited Ridgewater College. The com-

mittee spent three days traveling the state last week, hearing about transportation needs.

And Stumpf acknowledged that those needs are great — in fact, total dollars requested for bonding projects is three times what the committee has budgeted to spend.

Carver County Public Works Engineer Lyndon Robjent and McLeod County Highway Engineer John Brunkhorst did their constituents well in outlining the needs of Highway 212 and the Morningside improvement project in Glencoe. There is no doubt both projects are critical improvements to the area.

Unfortunately, as Donahoe said, these projects will compete with equally critical projects all across the state. And we must remember that "critical infrastructure" is not just roads and bridges, but pipelines, electrical power grids, railroads and that perennial scapegoat, light rail.

When one applies for bonding, it's almost like buying a lottery ticket — not much of a chance of winning but, if you don't buy a ticket, there is no chance at all.

We truly hope the state Legislature sees the value of the local projects and comes through with some bonding funding.

But, more importantly, we hope it finally comes up with a mechanism to provide a steady, reliable source of funding to address our infrastructure needs for generations to come.

— L.C.



Guest Column:

State bonding sought for local projects

By State Sen. Scott Newman R-Hutchinson

Over the last several days, the Capital Investment Committee and members have traveled across Southwest Minnesota to view potential project sites and hear various project presentations. This stretch of the bonding tour was very similar to the previous three.

However, part of this tour took place in District 18, which I represent. Thursday, we started the day by taking a tour of a cheese processing plant located in the city of Litchfield. This plant is called the First District Association and is the largest milk processor in the Midwest. This dairy cooperative has partnered with Litchfield to power its extensive dairy operation. Here are several other projects that are located in or directly affect the district.

- City of Litchfield – Phase 2 Power Generation Improvements (\$5 million): state bond funding to design and construct electrical generation improvements in the city of Litchfield to expand the current standby generation capacity to meet

the expanding electrical demands in the city as a result of the continuous expansion of First District Association.

- U.S. Highway 212 (Carver County) – U.S. Highway 212 is a vitally important interregional corridor that connects our region to both the Twin Cities and South Dakota. This project is requesting a total of \$28 million in bonding to construct two separate four-lane expressways along the corridor which will help increase mobility, improve traveler safety and help provide for economic growth across the region.

- McLeod County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 15 – Morningside (CSAH 15) Corridor Completion (\$2.35 million): state funds requested to acquire land, design, and construct new urban street extension of CSAH 15, also known as Morningside within the city of Glencoe, and adjacent trail between 11th and 16th Street. Additionally, the project includes providing storm water and drainage improvements, which would provide flood mitigation for a significant portion of the communi-

ty.

- Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority (MVRRA) — The MVRRA is requesting \$22 million in bonding funds to help upgrade 26 miles of existing railroad track that was built in 1912. The stretch of railroad serves as a major artery for commodities to head to market or processing plants. The existing track is in such poor condition, trains are forced to go just 10 miles per hour. The replacement area is in Sibley and Renville counties and runs from west of Winthrop to Franklin.

As I have mentioned in the past, this is not a comprehensive list of projects that we were presented with during this stretch of the bonding tour, but it provides a better understanding of what we are seeing while traveling across the region.

For additional information regarding any of the bonding tours, please visit the Build.MN website. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

You can
vote
online at www.glencoenews.com

Question of the week

Should the United States allow Syrian refugees into the country?

- 1) Absolutely; it's the right thing to do.
- 2) Only if they've cleared security checks first.
- 3) Absolutely not; we need to tend to our own first.

Results for most recent question:

Thanksgiving is coming up Thursday, Nov. 26.
What is your favorite thing about the day?

- 1) Turkey and all the fixings — 10%
- 2) Spending time with family — 31%
- 3) The pie; it's all about the pie — 2%
- 4) Football is on all day long — 10%
- 5) All of the above — 48%

52 votes. New question runs Nov. 25-Dec. 1

Letters to the Editor

Glencoe blood drive collected 141 units Nov. 18

To the Editor:

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of the donors who took time out of their day on Wednesday, Nov. 18, to donate at the Glencoe Community Blood Drive.

The American Red Cross set our goal for this November drive at 131 units; we collected 141 units! Eighteen double-red donors were able to give 36 units and 105 donors gave single units. As we head into this busy season, the Red Cross needs to build a substantial inventory of blood due to a significant reduction in the number of donations after Dec. 15. Each unit collected may help up to three patients, so the 141 units collected on Nov. 18 may help up to 423 total patients. Awesome!

A fair number of donors used the new online tool called RapidPass, made available at the end of October by the American Red Cross, to

speed up the check-in process prior to donating. If you used this option, I would be interested to know how you felt about that new tool.

Each drive is a team effort! A team of many diligent, efficient, and hard-working volunteers give behind-the-scenes and up-front support for the Community Blood Drives, including community support from Coborn's, Security Bank & Trust, The McLeod County Chronicle and Glencoe City Center. My co-chair, Scheduling Coordinator Nelda Klaustermeier, and her team do the hard work before, during and after the drives preparing the donor schedules. We thank the Glencoe-Silver Lake National Honor Society members for again delivering publicity posters before the drive. Without all of your efforts, we couldn't fulfill our lifesaving mission to the American Red Cross. We also thank

Thrivent Financial Action Team for financial support for the drive.

The American Red Cross collection supervisor, Debbi, said it best in her note to us: "Thanks for making a difference in many lives — there will be many 'thankful' recipients of your blood this Thanksgiving!"

Mark your 2016 calendars: the next Glencoe Community Blood Drive is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2016, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Glencoe City Center. My thanks to all of you for taking one of the blessings you have — the gift of life — and paying it forward. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and Blessed Christmas!

Charleen Engelmann,
Coordinator
Glencoe Community Blood Drive

The McLeod County Chronicle

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Staff
Karin Ramige Cornwell, Publisher; Lori Copler, Editor; June Bussler, Business Manager; Sue Keenan, Sales Representative; Brenda Fogarty, Sales Representative; Rebecca Mariscal, Staff Writer; Tom Carothers, Sports Editor; Jessica Bolland and Alissa Hanson, Creative Department; and Trisha Karels, Office Assistant.

Letters

The McLeod County Chronicle 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. loric@glencoenews.com.

Ethics

The editorial staff of the McLeod County Chronicle 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 Chronicle to the attention of the editor, Lori Copler, at 320-864-5518, or loric@glencoenews.com.

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 McLeod County Chronicle news is 5 p.m., and advertising is noon, Monday. Deadline for Glencoe Advertiser advertising is noon, Wednesday. Deadline for The Galaxy advertising is noon Wednesday.

BASICS concert to benefit Julie Pederson

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Singers (BASICS) will have their annual holiday concert Sunday, Dec. 6, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Stewart.

This year's concert will be a fundraiser for Julie Pederson, who was diagnosed in June 2014 with non-small cell adenocarcinoma lung cancer, which has since spread to her spine and hip.

Pederson is employed at the Buffalo Lake Healthcare Center and is an organist at St. Paul's Lutheran in Stewart. She and her husband, Randy, travel to Mayo in Rochester for her treatments. All proceeds will be donated to the Pedersons to assist with their travel and medical expenses.

The concert starts at 3 p.m., followed by a free-will supper until 6 p.m., fellowship and a silent auction.

The fundraiser is co-sponsored by BASICS and St. Paul's Lutheran WELCA and is a Thrivent Action Team Project.

Members of BASICS are Ruth Wagner, Lori Bleck, Carol Maiers, Molly Markgraf, Steve Krenik, Mark Maiers and Tim Sifferath. Soundmen are Paul Bleck and Greg Maiers.

17 Brownton seniors met on Monday

Seventeen Brownton senior citizens met Monday, Nov. 16, at the Brownton Community Center.

Cards were played after the business meeting with the following winners — 500, Archie Diehn, first, and Gladys Rickert, second; pinocle, Ordell Klucas, first, and Ruby Streich, second; and sheephead, Lil Lindeman, first, and Norma Albrecht, second.

Pearl Streu won the door prize. Ordell Schmidt served refreshments.

The next meeting will be Monday, Nov. 30, at 1 p.m. All area seniors are welcome.

NA VFW Auxiliary meets

On Nov. 11, the New Auburn VFW Auxiliary meeting was called to order by President Phyllis Schwanke.

The Veterans Day program at Sibley East Schools in Arlington was attended by Phyllis Schwanke, Wilbert Hahn, Tony and Alice Deno and James Ringo.

Phyllis Schwanke took 9½ dozen cookies to the Gaylord Nursing Home on Veterans Day.

On Nov. 8, Phyllis Schwanke and Bernice Polzin attended the Weeping Willows 4-H meeting and gave prizes of pencils and cash for the coloring contest. Winners included, kindergarten through second grade: Grady Schuft, Brody Brinkman and Beth Wendinger; third through fifth grades: Lauren Brinkman, Austin Cohrs and Owen Schauer; and sixth through eighth grades: Mariah Kranz, Christian Cohrs and Maggie Schuft.

Donations were made to: Ronald McDonald House, \$50; Marcella Arnold Scholarship, \$5; and Food For Kidz, \$25.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 6:30 p.m., at the New Auburn City Hall for the Christmas party.



The Plato Lions Club collaborated with other clubs within the Glencoe-Silver Lake School District to donate dictionaries to third graders on Nov. 11, just one of many activities the Plato Lions

support. Pictured above with the dictionaries are, from left, Plato Lions Darlene Lilienthal, Doris Schrupp, Kari Graupmann and Stacy Sohns.

Submitted photo

Plato Lions support community projects, seek new members

In recent weeks, the Plato Lions Club has served the community with some important projects.

Oktoberfest, held at the King Pin banquet room on Oct. 3, raised funds and the club was able to donate \$1,000 to the Plato Fire Department. It was a fun event with live music and a German meal that were enjoyed by all who attended.

On Oct. 27, a blood drive hosted by the American Red Cross and the Plato Lions

collected 53 units of blood.

On Nov. 11, the Plato Lions, along with other Lions clubs in the Glencoe-Silver Lake School District, donated dictionaries to all third graders.

Other recipients of donations from the Plato Lions this past month were GSL After Prom Party, McLeod Alliance for Victims of Domestic Violence, GSL Close-Up program and Certificates for Gifts of Learning for Plato-area students.

Many more projects and events are being planned for the future. The Plato Lions appreciate everyone who attends and supports their events.

The Lions are also always looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming a member, or in learning more about the Lions, contact Lion Myra Franke at 320-238-2370 or Lion Kari Graupmann at 320-238-2414 (the membership committee), or any Plato Lion.



Submitted photo

Silver Lake GFWC serves tea at Lakeside

Silver Lake GFWC Women's Club members served hot apple cider and treats to staff at Glencoe-Silver Lake's Lakeside Elementary School in honor of American Education Week on Wednesday, Nov. 18. Pictured in front is Susie Horejsi; and in

the back, from left, are Margaret Benz, Rose Meehl, Jan Wanous, Mary Jaskowiak, Kay Nowak and Laura Kaczmarek. The club also presented a check for \$200 to the school to be used for library books.

Crop management input seminar

Farmers and agricultural professionals are invited to attend the 10th annual Crop Management Input Seminar on Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Hutchinson Event Center, 1005 Hwy S Plaza 15.

The seminar is coordinated by the University of Minnesota Extension with registration starting at 9 a.m. There is a registration cost at the door without a ticket and registration includes information from speakers and lunch. No pre-registration required.

Following is a list of topics and speakers for the seminar:

- Minnesota Buffer Update by Ryan Freitag, program director, McLeod County Soil & Water Conservation District.
- Soybean IDC and In-Furrow Application of Fertilizers by Dan Kaiser, University of Minnesota Extension soil scientist, soil and plant nutrient management.
- Waterhemp and Giant Ragweed Management in Corn and Soybean, What is Working and What Tactics to Avoid by Jeff Gunsolus, Uni-



Farm Notes

By Nathan Winter

versity of Minnesota Extension agronomist, weed science.

- Updates on the Risks and Management of the Soybean Diseases Sudden Death Syndrome and White Mold by Dean Malvick, plant pathologist, University of Minnesota Extension.
- Leadership and Planning for a Profitable Tomorrow by Dr. Bob Milligan, Cornell professor emeritus and senior consultant.

Contact the University of Minnesota Extension Office in McLeod County at 320-484-4303 for additional information regarding the 2016 Crop Management Input Seminar. The brochure can be found at the following link: <http://z.umn.edu/cropseminar>.

Upcoming events:

- Dec. 10, Dairy Series, Gaylord.
- Dec. 10, What is a Fair Farmland Rental Agreement Workshop, Litchfield.
- Jan. 14, Dairy Series, Hutchinson.
- Jan. 19, Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Training, Paynesville.
- Jan. 26, Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Training, Cologne.
- Feb. 11, Forages For "U" Workshop, Hutchinson.
- Feb. 11, Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification, Hutchinson.
- March 3, Dairy Series, Glencoe.
- March 31, Dairy Series, Gaylord.



Weather Corner

By Jake Yurek

Whew!! That should be everyone's reaction to our near-miss snow event this past Friday. Some areas from South Dakota to Chicago picked up over 12 inches of snow; luckily, we only saw a few stray flakes.

This week, the forecast was looking a lot more shaky than a couple days ago, but recent computer trends have pushed most of the trouble to the south. We could have to deal with a little drizzle/freezing drizzle and a snow flake or two Wednesday night into early Thursday, but that should be about it in terms of precipitation this week (careful when traveling Thursday as there could be some slick spots). The main storm will produce rain and perhaps a narrow band of snow from Iowa into Wisconsin again.

As the storm moves away, cold air will settle in for the weekend and keep temperatures about where they should be for the end of November. Highs will range from the upper 20s to 30s with lows mainly in the teens. The next large system will exit the Rocky Mountains around the late Sunday-Tuesday time frame. There is a lot of disagreement about where it goes from there, but the potential will be there for a decent storm for someone in the Midwest. The main Thanksgiving travel trouble spots will be to our south and east, like I mentioned, and the west coast as that next storm comes ashore. Have a great week, everyone: gobble, gobble!

Ma dobry weekendem

Mit dobry vikend

Wednesday night — Lows 30-36; clouds, maybe some drizzle or a snow shower.

Thursday — Highs 28-35, lows 19-25; clouds with a chance of flurries.

Friday — Highs 27-33, lows 14-20; clear.

Saturday — Highs 28-35, lows 17-23; clear.

Sunday — Highs 30-36; clear.

Weather Quiz: What are some of December's weather extremes?

Answer to last week's question (Why does it seem like winter storms were more severe in the past?): Winter storms still pack a punch, but it seemed like they were worse due to the lack of items we have today to cope with them. Snow removal and infrastructure have increased to be able to more effectively "get us through" large snow events. Historically speaking, though, there are a larger number of severe winter storms from the 1980s and earlier than there has been recently.

Remember: I make the forecast, not the weather!

12th-annual Silver Lake Thanksgiving meal set

The Silver Lake Auditorium will be the site for the 12th-annual Silver Lake Thanksgiving Dinner. This free dinner, hosted by the city and friends, will be open to anyone in the Silver Lake area who would like to enjoy a delicious, home-cooked meal and spend some time with others on this holiday.

The meal, provided completely through donations, will include turkey, ham, dressing and all the fixings. Of course, there will be a dessert or two. As always, no money will be accepted the day of the meal.

The meal is intended for, but not limited to those who are alone, elderly, shut-ins, unable to afford a good meal, or maybe those that just want to spend the day making others feel good. People of all ages are encouraged to attend.

Food will be served promptly at noon on Thursday, Nov. 26. Organizers are trying to get an idea of how many people to serve, so please call 320-327-2412 or 320-327-3157, or stop by the City Hall if you are interested in joining the meal.

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Community Calendar

Thurs., Nov. 26 — THANKSGIVING; AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.

Fri., Nov. 27 — Red Cross blood drive, Neisen's Bar & Grill, Biscay, 12-6 p.m.

Mon., Nov. 30 — Tops Weigh-In mtg., 5-5:30 p.m.; Brownton Senior Citizens Club, Brownton Community Center, 1 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 1 — Brownton City Council, 7 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 3 — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.



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Glencoe VFW Aux. has Nov. meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Glencoe VFW Post 5102 Auxiliary was called to order on Nov. 9 by President Angela Johnson with 17 members in attendance. Opening ceremony was held and roll call was taken. Secretary's minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report was approved and filed subject to audit. Bills were presented.

General orders and communications were read. Chairman reports were given.

Unfinished business

The Christmas party will be held Dec. 14. It was decided to order 150 pieces of chicken for the party. Members are to bring items for the food shelf, veterans' gifts for the Vets Home in Hastings, and a life membership or equivalent will be given at the Christmas party. Items for the Christmas party prizes are encouraged to be brought to the party.

Virginia Adams and Jean Schmidt volunteered to attend the elementary schools on Wednesday, Nov. 11, Veterans Day, to teach 372 children the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business

Darlene Godel will no longer be taking the pop tabs to Mankato. Members were asked to meet at the VFW on Saturday at 9:45 a.m. to attend Evelyn Schrupp's funeral in Norwood Young America. The VFW Health Check-Up was discussed. Discussion was held on the changes from the Ladies Auxiliary to the Auxiliary and allowing other family members to join. Barb Scharpe has "Support Veterans" pins for sale.

Lunch committee for Jan. 11, 2016, will be Clara Wittus, Yvonne Schuette, Dorothy Voigt and Jan Benefeld.

The meeting was adjourned until the Dec. 14, Auxiliary Christmas Party.



Chronicle photo by Rebecca Mariscal

Larson speaks to GSL students

Glencoe-Silver Lake Lincoln Junior High hosted the second career day speaker for the year on Nov. 20 in the high school auditorium. Glencoe City Administrator

Mark Larson, pictured above, spoke to about 80 junior high students about the different job opportunities with the city of Glencoe.



Chronicle photo by Rebecca Mariscal

GIS specialist visits GSL

Geographical Information System (GIS) specialist Joel Crawford, of the McLeod County Highway Department's GIS division, pictured above, visited Glencoe-Silver Lake High School's ninth-grade science classes on Nov. 18 to give demonstrations on the system. The visit was a part of National GIS Day. Students in Richard Smith's and Emily Koehler's

classes had the opportunity to use the system online at http://mcleod.houstoneng.com/all_layers. Smith said GIS encompasses every department, from social studies to English. He said it's important to teach because many people don't know about it or know there are jobs in the sector.

People

Baby girl for Trocke family

Brady Trocke, 19 months, along with parents Jay and Angie (Hviding) Trocke of Apple Valley, announce the birth of Abigail Marie Trocke, born Nov. 4, 2015, at Fairview Hospital in Burnsville. Grandparents are Dan and Connie Hviding of Apple Valley and Al and Pat Trocke of Glencoe. Abby is also welcomed by her aunt Brittany Hviding of Phoenix, Arizona, and aunt Kim, uncle Matt and cousins Carter, Brody and Aiden Rushmeier of Glencoe.

Son born to Berry, Dostal

Krystal Berry and Dazz Dostal of Winsted announce the birth of their son, Jax Richard Dostal-Berry, born Nov. 15, 2015, at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Jax weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 19½ inches long. He is welcomed by sister Olivia Kennard. Grandparents are Karen Bergemann of Staples, Kelly Berry and Richard and Teresa Dostal of Glencoe.

Baby boy for Rosenlunds

Nicole and Tyler Rosenlund of Glencoe announce the birth of their son, Emmett Martin Rosenlund, born Nov. 17, 2015, at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Emmett weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 20½ inches long. He joins siblings Tanner, 10; Cooper, 8; Connor, 6; Aaden, 4 and Sadiee, 3. Grandparents are John and Karen Franceschelli of Farmington and Tim and Linda Rosenlund of Yacolt, Washington.

Boy born to Zavala, Soto

Stephanie Zavala and Bashier Soto of Hutchinson announce the birth of their son, Geovanni Dante Soto, born Nov. 19, 2015, at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Geovanni weighed 6 pounds, 5.8 ounces, and was 19 inches long.

Kuphal is in Marketing Club

Ashley Kuphal of Glencoe is a member of the Marketing Club at Southwest Minnesota State University for the 2015-2016 academic year. Kuphal is a junior majoring in marketing.

GSL robotics takes 10th in Prior Lake

The Glencoe-Silver Lake (GSL) Robotics Team 4665 competed with two robots at the Mini Minne Regional event at Prior Lake High School on Nov. 21.

Eighteen students from the GSL team attended the event.

Martin Mallak drove the first robot with his programmer Isaac Swift. Mallak learned to drive the robot Friday night before the event.

Despite the small amount of training time, Mallak and Swift improved from 34th place to 10th before the final selections.

Ethan Wolf drove the second robot with programmer Erik Villnow. This second robot was constructed the morning of the event to fill an open spot. Wolf and Villnow took 31st place.



Library News

By Jackee Fountain

Sinfonia Orchestra to visit

The Minnesota Sinfonia Orchestra will present its Holiday on Tour concert on Sunday, Nov. 29, at 2 p.m., at the Glencoe City Center. Maria Jaffe is the featured soprano and local choirs will be invited to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" of Mendel's "Messiah" for the finale. Jay Fishman is the director.

This is a free family event sponsored by the Minnesota Arts Board and Pioneerland Library System (of which the Glencoe Library is a member) with Legacy Funds from the Minnesota Arts and Heritage Amendment. The Friends of the Glencoe Library will serve cookies and coffee. Begin your holiday with beautiful music on a Sunday afternoon.

The Glencoe Public Library's December calendar of activities and programs will delight patrons. Dec. 1 is the monthly Lego League session at 6 p.m. for ages 6 years and older.

Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., is the annual Elf Workshop. Children will enjoy stories, games, activities, songs, gift wrapping, and a snack. Children should bring a new toy to wrap and give it to the toy collection for McLeod County children in need. This is a free activity and sponsored by the Friends of the Glencoe Library.

During the school Christmas vacation days, the Glencoe Library will have fun activities for the students. Dec. 28, at 2:30 p.m., is Movie Monday; Tuesday, Dec. 29, at

2:30 p.m., is Craft Day; Wednesday, Dec. 30, starting at 1 p.m., is Game Day; and Thursday, Dec. 31, at 2:30 p.m., is Craft Day. Come and spend a vacation day with friends, be busy, and enjoy the library.

Monthly activities continue in December with the Luncheon Book Club meeting on Dec. 18 at 11:30 a.m. to discuss "Dashing Through the Snow" by Debbie Macomber. On Saturday, Dec. 19, at 1:30 p.m., the Teen Program begins. Tech Tuesday is the last Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m., when library staff provide assistance with devices and computer questions. If patrons know they are coming for an appointment is best. Help time is usually about a half hour. The Glencoe Library has laptop computers and iPads to check out and use in the library. Your valid Pioneerland Library System card is necessary. Talk with a librarian if interested.

Remember the Glencoe Library is closed Dec. 24 and 25 for Christmas; at 5 p.m. on Dec. 31; and closed on Jan. 1, 2016, for New Year's Day.

Visit the Glencoe Public Library for some holiday cheer, Christmas stories and view the Christmas tree collection themed "Christmas Around the World." All programs and information can be found on the Glencoe Library's website: www.glencoe.lib.mn.us.

NA VFW Post met on Nov. 11

The New Auburn VFW Post 7266 meeting was called to order by Commander Willard Grack on Nov. 11.

Wilbert Hahn, Tony Deno and James Ringo participated in the Veterans Day program at Sibley East Schools in Arlington on Nov. 11.

Donations were made to: Hastings Veterans Home, \$100; and St. Cloud Veterans Home, \$100.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 6:30 p.m., at the New Auburn City Hall. It will be the Christmas potluck.

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LaDonna Stuber, Colleen Benjamin and Linda Krueger show off the pile of packages they had prepared for overseas soldiers at a recent packaging session at Krueger's home.

Chronicle photos by Lori Cople

Minnesota Nice continues to brighten lives of overseas soldiers

By Lori Cople
Editor

Linda Krueger's basement looks more like a warehouse for a department store than a family room these days.

A utility room is packed full of merchandise, while the family room resembles a shipping area. In fact, that is what it is ... a space to pack up goodies to send to overseas servicemen and women.

Krueger and two of her compatriots, Colleen Benjamin and LaDonna Stuber, comprise a three-person team that has steadily been shipping items to overseas servicemen the past few months. About 50 Christmas packages were sent out Saturday.

Minnesota Nice collects donations from residents and organizations. Donated goods are stockpiled in Krueger's basement; cash donations are used to buy needed shipping supplies, postage and even more goodies.

These three women are aces in at least two areas — finding the best bargains on items desired by service people, and on filling each square millimeter of a carton.

Krueger said the McLeod County Republicans once collected and shipped items for soldiers. Krueger began collecting items for their efforts. Later, she began gathering and shipping items to family and friends. Eventually, her operation grew, and moved from an upstairs banquet table to her basement.

Benjamin, who steadily sent care packages to her son during two deployments, asked to join Krueger.

"I was used to it," said Benjamin. "I sent at least one package a month to my son."

And Benjamin developed some mad packing skills.

"She really knows how to fill a box," Krueger laughed. Benjamin also could offer insight into what kind of items soldiers were looking for.

Stuber pitches in, as well. And it's not as simple as just putting items in a box. The women tape caps on any bottles of liquids, and other items get sealed in plastic bags to prevent spilling.

Boxes are packed as tight as can be, with several layers of tape to keep them from accidentally opening during shipment. Recipients sometimes have to work pretty hard to get at the contents of their care packages.

But they are usually delighted with what they find,



Colleen Benjamin and Linda Krueger pick out items to include in packages for overseas soldiers from the donations they have collected and stored in Krueger's basement.

and Minnesota Nice is deluged with thank you's:

"I'd like to personally thank you all, for your tremendous support and amazing generosity to us soldiers deployed overseas," wrote Spc. Osvaldo Rivera Jr. "It means so much to me and my buddies to receive such thoughtful care packages from Minnesota Nice. We shared this box with our fellow soldiers and all felt a little bit of home, especially now that we are getting closer to the holiday season and will be away from our families."

"As you know, we are coming up on the holiday season," wrote Spc. Jessica McLean. "Not only does that bring the cold weather, but it is a time when we truly appreciate our family and loved ones! Being able to share your letters and care packages really brightens the days of the soldiers."

Krueger, Benjamin and Stuber work hard to pack each carton not only with necessities — such as coffee, mittens and personal care items — but with fun items, such as Christmas decorations are games and books. Each carton is topped off

with a letter, either from Minnesota Nice, or a handwritten note from one of the local school or church children.

The three ladies spend several evenings a week in Krueger's basement, as well as being out and about collecting goods.

And in the end, when they receive a heartfelt thank you from a soldier, all the hard work seems more than worth it.

Krueger said that although the Christmas packages have been shipped in order to make it to their destinations before Christmas, they are still packing cartons and plan to do so the next few weeks.

Bonding tour Continued from page 1

would allow truck traffic from Hutchinson to continue east past the high school, connect to Morningside, and then head south to Highway 212 on the east edge of Glencoe. That would eliminate heavy trucks from having to navigate through the Glencoe downtown area.

State Sen. Scott Newman, R-Hutchinson, said that manufacturers from Hutchinson and the northeastern part of the county filter their truck traffic south to Glencoe to connect with Highway 212, a major east-west corridor.

Brunkhorst said the final phase of Morningside would not only help with traffic, but could help with easing drainage issues in Glencoe and with railroad track switching issues.

But the half-mile project comes with a rather steep cost at \$4.7 million. Of that estimated cost, the city and the county will each kick in \$1.025 million, while federal funding would be available for the railroad crossing at about \$300,000. The bonding request is for \$2.35 million.

Newman said he is particularly impressed that the coun-

ty and city were willing to foot half the cost of the project.

"That attests to the importance of this project — the 50-50 match that the local governments are throwing in," said Newman.

Highway 212

Lyndon Robjent, Carver County Public Works engineer, said a Highway 212 coalition is seeking bonding to complete two sections of Highway 212 in Carver County into four lanes. The estimated cost is \$63 million.

Most of the 212 corridor between Glencoe and the Twin Cities is four-lane, with the exception of these two spots.

And Robjent said that Highway 212, which runs all the way across the state from the South Dakota border to the Twin Cities, has been named a high-priority corridor.

"But it's the only in the state that's a high priority but still has two lanes," Robjent said.

Part of the problem, Robjent said, is that the segment of 212 in Carver County "is

really in no-man's land" because it has to compete for funding with the Twin Cities area, which is under the heavy influence of the Met Council. The Met Council favors projects within the Twin Cities.

Robjent said Highway 212 is used heavily both by trucks moving goods to the Twin Cities, and by workers commuting to the downtown area.

Unfortunately, he said, that can sometimes be a bad mix on the two-lane segments.

"When you have high volumes of trucks and cars on what is essentially a rural two-lane road with narrow shoulders — you have issues," said Robjent. He added that rural two-lanes are the most dangerous roads in terms of safety.

In addition, the two two-lane segments "bottleneck" traffic.

"It's stifling economic growth, particularly in eastern Carver County," said Robjent. "What we're looking for is a four-lane expressway from Cologne to Norwood Young America."



Chronicle photo by Lori Cople

Chamber awards

The Glencoe Area Chamber of Commerce had its annual meeting and dinner Wednesday, Nov. 18, at the Glencoe City Center. A highlight of the program was the volunteer awards. Barbara Jenneke, left, was named the 2015 Community Volunteer of the Year for her numerous volunteer efforts in the community. Victor Ramirez Garcia of Lake Country Insurance Services, right, received the 2015 Mike Popelka Chamber

Volunteer of the Year Award. Garcia, a relatively new member of the Chamber, has contributed in a number of capacities. Three new members were elected to the Chamber's board of directors: Ben Beckman, First Minnesota Bank; Kathy Kalenberg, Aveyron Homes; and Ellen Felmler, Security Bank & Trust. Outgoing board members are Adam Lindeman, Kelly Rach and Michelle Sander.

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