



Gymnasts win home opener

GSL downs Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted

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City orders plans, specs for Baxter Avenue project

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The McLeod County

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December 21, 2016

Trailblazer board tables WCAT withdrawal plans until January meeting

By Lori Copler
Editor

The Trailblazer Transit Joint Powers Board on Thursday tabled action on a possible withdrawal by WCAT (Wright County Area Transportation) until January, hoping that a change in board membership will bring “fresh eyes” to the situation.

In November, WCAT announced its intention to withdraw from the Trailblazer Transit joint powers agreement because of lingering issues surrounding a workplace environmental study and a letter of reprimand that had been issued to Trailblazer Executive Director Gary Ludwig.

Thursday’s meeting was the last for McLeod County Commissioner Sheldon Nies and WCAT member Jack Russek, a member of the Delano City Council, both of whom chose not to seek re-election this year.

That means there will be at least two new faces on the board in January, as new delegates will be chosen at reorganizational meetings for McLeod County and WCAT in January.

Sibley County Commissioner Jim Swanson reported that the Sibley County Board voted to accept the WCAT letter announcing its in-

tent to withdraw from Trailblazer Transit.

Swanson, who said he still feels that issues regarding the workplace study and letter of reprimand need to be addressed, noted that the board makeup may change significantly in January.

“Maybe with a fresh set of eyes ... some of these issues will go away,” said Swanson. “I just don’t know.”

McLeod County Commissioner Doug Krueger said he feels much the same way as Swanson.

“We should work hard to keep something intact, but maybe we need to leave that to the next board,” said Krueger.

McLeod County Commissioner Ron Shimanski, who chairs the Trailblazer board, said he was uncomfortable with leaving the issue open-ended to the restructured board to contend with.

He suggested the board come up with two or three ideas for the new board to consider to address WCAT’s issues.

“The clock is ticking,” said Shimanski, noting that WCAT had proposed a one-year time frame to withdraw from Trailblazer and put

Trailblazer Transit
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Chronicle photos by Lori Copler

Silver Lake Winter Festival

Frigid weather Saturday and snow the previous night didn’t prevent a good turnout for Silver Lake’s annual Winter Festival Saturday, which included food, kids’ activities, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, live holiday music, and horse-drawn wagon rides (below). Above,

members of the Silver Lake Pola-Czesky Days Royalty visited with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Legion. From left to right are Dini Schweikert, Abby Dressen, Faith Rekow, Marissa Luchsinger and Jazmine Hankins.



House fire displaces rural Glencoe family

By Lori Copler
Editor

Charlie and Linda Becker were displaced from their rural Glencoe home as the result of a fire Wednesday, Dec. 14.

Glencoe Fire Chief Ron Grack said his department, as well as the New Auburn Fire Department, were dispatched to the home at 41670 170th Street, Sibley County, in the early morning hours Wednesday.

Grack said the fire appeared to have started near the stove in the kitchen.

“I thought we had a pretty good knockdown on it,” said Grack, and the fire departments left the scene within a couple of hours.

However, the fire had apparently spread to the ceiling, and subsequently to the roof of the rambler-

style home.

“Apparently, it had been smoldering up there,” said Grack.

The departments were called back out at about 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, and remained on the scene until about 4:30 p.m. Grack said the wind picked up as the fire spread to the roof, and that contributed to the spread.

The departments also had to contend with below-zero temperatures.

Between fire, smoke and water damage, the house and its contents are considered a total loss, said Grack.

Grack said the departments poured about 10,000 gallons of water on the fire.

The Red Cross is assisting the family with housing and other needs, Grack added.

Council hears report on central storm water improvements

By Karin Ramige
Publisher

The Glencoe City Council heard the initial feasibility report on the central storm 2018 proposed sewer project at its meeting on Monday, Dec. 19.

The council had ordered the reported in August to look at addressing localized flooding issues within the city.

Chris Knutson and John Rodeberg with Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc., (SEH) presented the feasibility report.

The proposed project would include full street and utility recon-

struction of 12th Street from Henepin Avenue to the City Center parking lot, 15th Street from Judd to Knight avenues, Judd Avenue from 13th to 16th streets, Knight Avenue from 15th to 16th streets; pavement reclamation and drain tile on 12th Street from the City Center parking lot to Knight Avenue; pavement reclamation, drain tile and storm sewer on 16th Street from Judd to Loudon avenues; pavement, curb and gutter removal, and turf restoration on Ives Avenue from 12th Street to the railroad; and storm sewer realignment from Ninth to 13th streets.

With the project, the plan would be to increase the current 30- or 36-inch storm sewer pipes with 48- or 60-inch pipes.

SEH analyzed the use of 72-inch pipe, but the modeling didn’t support the benefits versus the costs.

Knutson informed the council that increasing a pipe from 36 inches to 48 inches doubles the capacity.

The project also proposes additional ponds that could potentially be located around Ninth Street and Knight Avenue, 13th Street and Ives Avenue and/or 18th Street between Knight and Loudon avenues.

Council Member Alan Robeck

asked if the city should wait until it receives the results of the petition submitted to the Buffalo Creek Watershed District (BCWS).

Rodeberg explained that SEH is working with BCWS on the project, but the petition is to address the water that comes into the city from the north; this project addresses water issues within the city limits.

Robeck also asked if the ponds at the north end of the city could be enlarged, about the addition of pumps near the creamery and potential Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding.

Rodeberg and Knutson explained

that the ponds are usually high at the north end of town and capture the water coming into the city; larger ponds there wouldn’t necessarily provide the benefit needed further down the system, a pump system could be a possibility but is very costly for the benefit, and that it would be unlikely that FEMA funding would be available.

The city did not qualify for any FEMA funding in the last flooding.

SEH noted that it is impossible to eliminate all street flooding.

Storm water
Turn to page 2

Weather

 Wed., 12-21 H: 33°, L: -17°	 Thur., 12-22 H: 30°, L: 21°	 Fri., 12-23 H: 30°, L: 14°	 Sat., 12-24 H: 25° L: 21°	 Sun., 12-25 H: 33°, L: 24°
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Looking back: Sub-zero temps and another blast of snow lingered into the week-end.

Date	Hi	Lo	Snow
Dec. 13	8	-14	0.00
Dec. 14	5	-6	Trace

Dec. 15	1	-16	0.20
Dec. 16	12	-1	3.00
Dec. 17	7	-20	3.00
Dec. 18	-5	-26	0.00
Dec. 19	24	-8	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.

Happenings

Living Nativity rescheduled

Glencoe's Living Nativity, originally set for Dec. 17, was postponed because of the weather to Friday, Dec. 23, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This is a drive-through production featuring six scenes depicting Jesus' birth. Live animals, crafted scenery, biblical characters, and music will provide a memorable Christmas experience for the entire family. Enter Oak Leaf Park from the south road and turn left at Vollmer Field. Admission is free; however, feel free to bring a food or monetary donation for the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf.

Blood drives set around area

The American Red Cross has set several blood drives in McLeod County in the late part of December and early January. There will be two blood drives in Hutchinson Wednesday, Dec. 28, both from noon to 6 p.m. They will be at Vineyard United Methodist Church, 1395 South Grade Road, and Hutchinson Health, 3 Century Ave. SE. The bloodmobile will be at the Silver Lake American Legion Tuesday, Jan. 3, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., and at Cactus Jack's II, Stewart, on Tuesday, Jan. 3, from noon to 6 p.m. There will be a drive on Tuesday, Jan. 10, from noon to 6 p.m., at Peace Lutheran Church, 400 Franklin St. SW, Hutchinson.

Plato Lions to host dinner

The Plato Lions Club is hosting a pork chop dinner Sunday, Jan. 1, serving from 11 a.m. until the pork chops are gone. The menu includes pork chops, potatoes, green beans, rolls and dessert. A kids' meal also will be offered, with macaroni and cheese, hot dog and a cookie. There is a cost for the meal. Music by Doug Stuedemann will start at 2 p.m.

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 320-510-1551 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.

Tim Orth Foundation seeks applications for 19th annual Jamboree

The Tim Orth Memorial Foundation is a nonprofit organization designed to help children who are ill and need assistance in paying for their medical treatment. The foundation has a board made of non-paid volunteers who examine the applications from area families. The foundation also has many volunteers who invest countless hours organizing, preparing, soliciting and conducting fundraisers for these youth

and their families. On Saturday, April 1, 2017, the Foundation will stage its 19th annual benefit to raise funds for children with medical needs. Applications for the fundraiser will be accepted until Jan. 2, 2017. Persons in the area who know of a child with medical needs can obtain an application by calling Ralph Johnson at 320-587-6733 or Don Tangen at 320-864-6010.

Carver man charged with firing gun within city limits

A Carver man has been charged with disorderly conduct and unlawful discharge of a firearm in city limits without justification. According to a news release from the Carver County Sheriff's Office, deputies were called Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 12:30 a.m., to a residential area in the city of Carver on a report of shots being fired. At the scene, the deputies learned that a male, later identified as Kyle Arthur Jensen, 34, of Carver, had fired three pistol shots outdoors at about 11:30 p.m., when he saw strangers climbing on the roof of his shed. Deputies learned that a group of juvenile males, ages 15 to 16, had been sledding

in the area when one of the boys threw a hat belonging to another boy on top of the shed. A 16-year-old had climbed over a fence and onto the roof to retrieve the hat when the shots were heard. Jensen said he was home with family when he became aware of strangers climbing on the shed roof on his property. He was concerned that his home was being burglarized, got his hand gun and came outside, called out to the strangers, and fired three shots into the ground. No one was injured and Jensen was subsequently arrested. He made his first court appearance on Dec. 15.

Scholarship applications open to seniors on Jan. 2

On Monday, Jan. 2, local scholarship applications will become available to Glencoe-Silver Lake High School seniors. More than \$125,000 was awarded to the class of 2016. The 2017 scholarships will be awarded at the senior banquet Sunday, May 7. Monies for these scholarships come from local organizations, businesses and families, and are awarded to seniors who will

be attending a post-secondary school during the 2017-18 school year. Scholarship information and applications can be found under the "High School" section of the school website, www.gsl.k12.mn.us. Seniors are asked to give these applications the time they deserve. The deadline is Tuesday, Feb. 14, at 7:50 a.m. No exceptions.



Submitted photo

Students donate to McLeod County Christmas Project

Glencoe-Silver Lake (GSL) Elementary Schools held a toy drive for the McLeod County Christmas Project. They were very proud to deliver 241 toys and \$152.52 to the Trailblazer Transit drop-off site on Dec. 13. Students and staff pictured are, front row from left, Emily Zerwas, Jenna Trippel, Hailey Thoele, Landon Gilson, Lydia Freitag, Keegan Sauter and Bradlee Nordby; second row, Alicia Hernandez, Jaileen Alvarado, Natalie Davis, Marissa Brinkmann, Brayden Gildea, Ean

Yurek, Lucia Beste Zehnder and Gracey Templin; third row, Allison Willcox, Ella Kornilova, Grace Lipke, Hannah Graf, Claire Verdeck, Mike Schrupp, Wyatt Greiner, Courtney Hatlestad, Eli Ehrke, Logan Christensen and Mrs. Carrie Chap; and, back row, Jaxin Anderson, Ross Jerabek, Madison Witte, Ellie Sonju, Finley Sturges, Aaron Higgins, Jesse Dahlke, Mrs. Lisa Thomsen, Mrs. Kelly Johnson and Bus Driver Ron Posusta.

Trailblazer Transit Continued from page 1

a new plan in place. "We're going to have new members that need to be brought up to speed," said Shimanski. "That could take months. We should at least give some direction going into the future." Swanson asked Tom Gottfried of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's transit division for input. "It's a local call," said Gottfried. A motion to defer the matter to January was passed on a split vote. Nies urged the board to work on reconciliation. "We could have something here that would be the envy of any of the transit systems in the state," said Nies. "It's working great ... outside of

these meetings." Scott Enter, a representative of WCAT, said he doesn't feel that issues will be resolved. "Let's just call it what it is ... a divorce," said Enter. "WCAT is going to move on this." WCAT had proposed some options, including that WCAT starts its own operation after withdrawing from Trailblazer Transit; that governance of Trailblazer is transferred entirely to WCAT; that the existing board is restructured to give more weight to WCAT; or that WCAT and Trailblazer both find different partners. All of those were tabled to January. The next meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 26, at 9 a.m.

Storm water Continued from page 1

The cost of the project is estimated at \$4.678 million. Financing options could include the issuance of bonds, utility funds and neighborhood assessments. The council adopted a resolution to receive the report and order a public hearing to be held Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 7:15 p.m. The council also heard the report on the next phase of its capital improvement and pavement management plan (CIP) that was ordered in September. The area SEH looked at was the north central part of the city from Hennepin Avenue west to Pryor Avenue and Highway 212 north to the northern city limits. Within the report, SEH

identified seven potential projects from seal coating to total street and utility reconstruction. The total cost of the seven projects is estimated at nearly \$25 million. The proposed central storm water project is included in the seven projects, and was given the top priority. The remaining six projects were not prioritized as part of the report. The council will use the CIP plan as it plans improvements over the coming years. The first phase of the CIP plan identified the 2014 street improvement project, 2015 Lincoln Park project and the 2016 Baxter Avenue project.

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Glencoe Police

TUESDAY, DEC. 13
1:03 a.m. — An officer responded to an animal complaint on Judd Avenue N.
5:43 a.m. — An officer responded to the City Center parking lot on 11th Street E on a report of a vehicle that was hit by a front-end loader.
1:10 p.m. — An administrative citation was issued for school disorderly conduct on 16th Street E.
1:56 p.m. — Keys were found in a door at a building on 13th Street E. The owner was contacted.
10:56 p.m. — Officers assisted McLeod County Jail personnel with an inmate.
11:20 p.m. — Officers responded to a verbal disagreement on 13th Street E.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14
Two citations were issued for violations of the winter parking ordinance.
1:15 a.m. — Officers assisted at the McLeod County Jail with transporting an inmate.
4:57 a.m. — An officer and the ambulance responded to Sumac Lane for a person who fell.
10:54 a.m. — Officers responded to 15th Street W for a possible domestic; it was a verbal dispute.
11:34 a.m. — An officer responded to a child protection issue on 15th Street E.
10:29 p.m. — An officer responded to a report of possible threats on Ford Avenue N, and determined it was a civil issue. The officer spoke to both parties and advised them of their options.
11:25 p.m. — An officer assisted in finding an adult on 10th Street E.
THURSDAY, DEC. 15
8:09 a.m. — Officers checked on a motorist in the area of Highway 212 and Chandler Avenue. The vehicle had a flat tire, which was changed.
11:06 a.m. — Officers assisted the ambulance with a medical on 15th Street E for a person who was disoriented.
2:38 p.m. — An officer responded to a report of a theft on 13th Street E.
8:14 p.m. — Officers served a warrant at a residence on Russell Avenue. Some drug paraphernalia was seized.
FRIDAY, DEC. 16

2:41 a.m. — Officers responded to a vehicle in a ditch in the area of Union Avenue N and 16th Street E.
5:19 a.m. — A citation for not having a Minnesota driver's license was issued at a traffic stop in the area of 13th Street W and Glen Knoll Avenue.
7:58 a.m. — An unknown vehicle hit a power pole on Eighth Street W. There was about \$3,000 damage to the pole.
12:46 p.m. — A two-vehicle accident, with no injuries, was reported on Armstrong Avenue N. Involved were a 1997 GMC Sierra driven by Jennifer Mae Wise of Glencoe and a 2015 Hyundai Tucson, driven by Ane Marie Paumen, also of Glencoe.
3:13 p.m. — An officer responded to suspicious activity on Ninth Street E.
9:38 p.m. — An administrative citation for a dog at large was issued on 16th Street E.
SATURDAY, DEC. 17
1:32 a.m. — Officers assisted an intoxicated male in the area of Hennepin Avenue N and 13th Street E. He was taken home.
Five citations for violations of the winter parking ordinance were issued between 6:04 a.m. and 6:15 a.m.
7:49 a.m. — A parking ticket was issued and a vehicle towed from the city lot behind the police department on Greeley Avenue N.
8:42 a.m. — A vehicle got stuck in a snow bank at the intersection of First Street E and Edgewood Drive. The police chief happened to be passing by and assisted in getting the vehicle out.
10:08 a.m. — An officer assisted a corrections officer with a person at the hospital.
12:15 p.m. — An officer assisted the ambulance with a medical on Newton Avenue N.
2:20 p.m. — An officer checked on a dog on Greeley Avenue N after a person expressed concern about it.
3:41 p.m. — An officer responded to a property damage report on Ninth Street E.
7:42 p.m. — Officers conducted a welfare check on 15th Street W. Everything was fine.
9:57 p.m. — An officer checked on an occupied vehicle on DeSoto Avenue S. The driver was sleeping and everything was fine.
11:39 p.m. — An officer

checked on activity behind Unhinged! Pizza on Ninth Street E. Some employees were helping get a stuck vehicle out.
SUNDAY, DEC. 18
Three citations were issued for violations of the winter parking ordinance.
2:19 p.m. — An officer assisted the ambulance with a medical on Morningside Drive.
4:14 p.m. — A water main burst on Baxter Avenue N. Officers stood by until city utility employees arrived.
11:33 p.m. — Officers provided a lift assist for a person who had fallen out of a chair on 20th Street W.
MONDAY, DEC. 19
2:39 a.m. — An officer assisted the ambulance with a medical on Newton Avenue. The patient was taken by ambulance to the hospital.
8:45 a.m. — Officers assisted the ambulance with a medical on 18th Street W.
5:30 p.m. — Officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the area of 16th Street W and Cedar Avenue N. No one was hurt, and the parties exchanged insurance information.
8:18 p.m. — A citation for driving after suspension was issued at a traffic stop in the area of Hennepin Avenue N and 12th Street E.

Building Permits

The following building permits were approved by the Glencoe City Council Monday, Dec. 19:

- Glencoe Regional Health Services, fire sprinklers.
- TC&W Railroad, storage tank.
- Ron Donnay, 1523 McLeod Ave. N, radon mitigation.
- Park Place Apartments, re-roof.
- Scott Rae, 1427 Greeley Ave. N, re-roof, re-side.
- Dan Hansen, 1107 Abbott Ave. N, window replacement.
- Christine Davis, 210 Pleasant Ave. N., window and entry door replacement.
- Jen Dahlke, 1519 Knight Ave. N, mechanical.
- Oscar Rivera, 707 15th St. W, mechanical.
- Cary Behrendt, 1614 Hennepin Ave. N, re-roof.



Chronicle photos by Tom Carothers

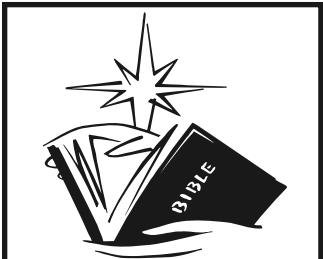
‘Sounds of the Season’ at GSL

The Glencoe-Silver Lake High School choirs regaled concert-goers in the “Sounds of the Season” on Monday, Dec. 19. Pictured above, the Madrigal Singers performed “Ding-A Ding-A Ding.” Pictured below, Lily Kirchoff jingled the bells as the SA Singers performed “Sleigh Ride.”



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Trailblazer looking for fresh start

Our view: Maybe it's OK to kick the can down the road once more

Except for a few moments, Thursday's Trailblazer Transit Joint Powers Board meeting was a much calmer, more productive and much friendlier meeting than the prior two meetings.

There were still problems, including an overly long discussion regarding previous meeting minutes and a series of split votes.

But, aside from being stuck on the problems that has plagued it the past several months, the board managed to accomplish quite a bit: it adopted its 2017 service plan, came to a compromise on wage increases and took care of the routine business of running a transit system with professionalism and common sense.

But the issue of Wright County Area Transit (WCAT) proposing to leave the local Trailblazer system remained unresolved. In fact, board members, on a split vote, decided to push the issue to its January agenda.

The board has been accused in the past of kicking the can down the road, but this time it may be justified.

If board members have not been able to address the issues it differs on in the past several meetings — most notably the workplace environment study and a letter of reprimand issued

to its executive director — it most likely will not be able to resolve them in the future. Since the board members cannot even agree if these issues are legitimate or not, there will never be any resolution to them.

The membership of the board will change in January, and perhaps it is time for "fresh eyes" to bring a new perspective to the table.

As departing McLeod County Commissioner Sheldon Nies pointed out, Thursday's meeting went quite well for the most part, except when it came to discussion of the workplace study and letter of reprimand.

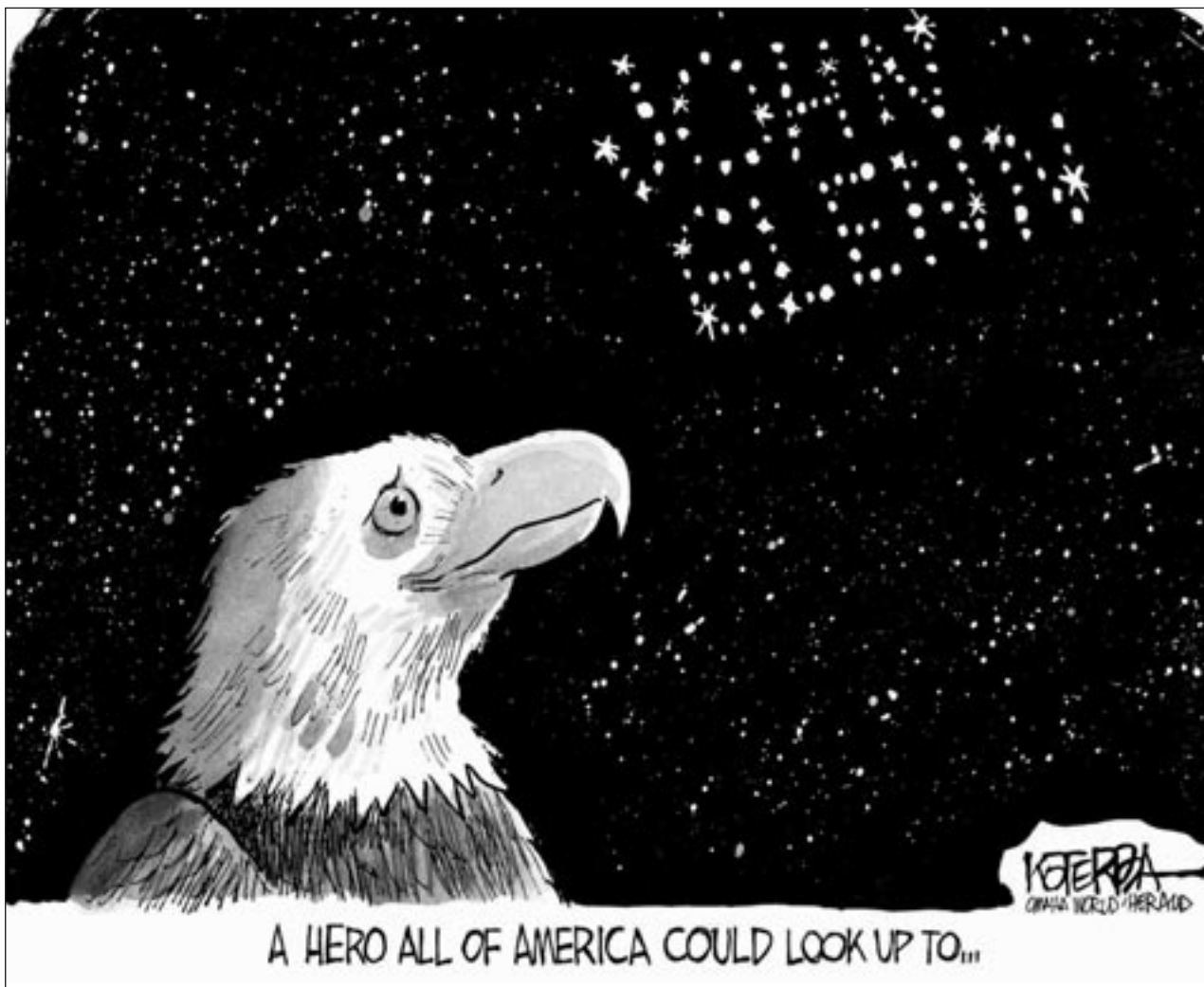
"We won't get that resolution, and that's too bad," Nies told his fellow board members.

And, he said, Trailblazer "is working quite well outside of these meetings."

He's right. For the most part, it is working pretty well, although it still has problems as it tries to accommodate growth into Wright County.

Here's hoping that a new year, new faces and "fresh eyes" bring a new perspective to the Trailblazer board, and that it can reconcile its membership and move on with a focus on providing quality transportation to its clients.

— L.C.



Things to puzzle about on winter walks

When I was a young parent, many times I would dress the kids and then we'd all go frolic in the snow and cold of northern Minnesota.

It was a time-consuming ritual involving snow pants, boots, sweaters, jackets, stocking caps and finally a scarf. About the only thing left exposed was a patch for the eyes.

And then I would hear from the muffled little face. "I've got to pee." Argh!

It was frustrating at the time. Now I chuckle at it.

Fast forward to now and not much has changed. Except I'm the one bundling up ready for the cold outdoors only to be stopped in my tracks by an overactive bladder. It is that same area of the brain that also whispers: "Did I lock the door when I left?" when you're 50 miles down the road.

My mother, bless her heart, was the master of the "whispers" and nearly drove me crazy. Now I'm just like my mother.

So before I head out on my morning walks, I run through the mental check list: keys, hat, mitts, boots, fluorescent orange vest and, finally, one more trip to the bathroom.

Properly prepared, I'm on my way. The point of this column is



Rich Glennie

what I see on my daily trips around town, like:

— Is there not a sump pump ordinance in this town? Some people did not shut off or redirect their sump hoses this fall and the results are predictable ... icy sidewalks, curbs, roadways and yards. Slippery in other words.

— And what is with all these roofing jobs being done in December? Don't those asphalt shingles need heat to properly bond to each other? Isn't that why they are done in the heat of summer? Not much warmth when the temperatures are below freezing with howling winds.

— And who was the genius who invented the rubber mats used at the handicapped ramps on local side-

walks. You might as well have sprayed them with water and frozen them. They are slippery and dangerous, as are the rubber mats used along the railroad crossings. Walkers beware.

— Another puzzling sight is all vehicles driving without headlights before dawn and at dusk. I see it every morning as the dawn starts to lighten the sky, but it is still dark. I was walking along 14th Street near Pryor Avenue when I saw a blinking light at Union Avenue. It was so dark I couldn't make out what it was, but I soon realized it was a car blinker but no headlights. I wanted to shout "Turn on your lights!"

The same thing happens at dusk. Not sure how these drivers can see without lights, but I know oncoming traffic has a tough time seeing them.

— Finally, I pass by the "Street to Nowhere" (Judd Avenue between 10th and 11th streets) each morning to check on progress. It remains the street to nowhere ... now snow covered.

Maybe it will open up next spring.

Rich Glennie was the editor of The Chronicle for 23 years. He retired Aug. 1, 2014, but still plans to submit an occasional column.

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Question of the week

How do you feel about President-Elect Donald Trump's choices for his cabinet members?

- 1) He is making good, solid picks.
- 2) Some are good, some not so good.
- 3) His choices are terrible.
- 4) I'm not sure.

Results for most recent question:

Do you agree with the decision to award the Nobel Prize for literature to Bob Dylan, the only musician ever to win the prize?

- 1) Yes — 32%
- 2) No — 49%
- 3) I don't know — 19%

47 votes. New question runs Dec. 21-Dec. 27

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Letters to the Editor

Christmas spirit is alive and well in Glencoe

To the Editor:

The Christmas spirit was alive last Sunday, Dec. 11, in Glencoe.

I had gone to church after it had snowed six inches or more the night before. When I came home, I tried to drive into my driveway and became stuck at the base of my driveway. Forgetting my age, I thought I could

shovel my way out of my difficulties. I could not and fell on my back. As I floundered on top of the snow, someone from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church stopped to pull me out of the snow. As I was standing on the roadway, two police cars pulled up. Someone had called 9-1-1. After I had gotten out of the am-

balance, I saw six people shoveling out my driveway.

I have many people to thank for their kindness that Sunday. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

**Carol Carver
Glencoe**

Excited to start a new year at GSL Schools

To the Editor:

Happy Holidays to all of you from all of us at Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools I hope this letter finds you enjoying the holiday season and that it allows you to take time with family and friends.

It's hard to believe that we are about to start a new year. While we say goodbye and reflect on what a great year 2016 was, we can't be more excited about what will come in 2017. Later on in 2017, our building project will be completed and

we will open our new addition. With all the new learning spaces, we are eagerly waiting and watching the process happening each day. This serves as a reminder that if you are interested in checking the progress out, please go to www.gsl.k12.mn.us and on the right hand side of the website you can subscribe to "GSL's Youtube" channel. Here you can see updates and photos of the project.

As the end of the year comes, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all of us at GSL to say

thank you for a wonderful 2016. We are very fortunate to have the high level of support from all of you. It is great to see and witness the many success stories our students have both in and outside of the classroom. At GSL, we have a great school because of our families, community, students and staff. Thank you, and here's to a great 2017!

**Christopher Sonju
GSL Superintendent**

The McLeod County

Chronicle

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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.

Council orders improvements, plans for Baxter Avenue project

By Karin Ramige
Publisher

The Glencoe City Council passed a resolution ordering improvement and preparation of plans for the Baxter Avenue improvement project slated for 2017.

The project is to include full street and utility reconstruction on Eighth and Ninth Streets from Armstrong to Chandler avenues, 10th Street from Baxter to Chandler avenues, 11th Street from Armstrong to Chandler avenues, 12th Street from Baxter to Ford avenues, Baxter Avenue from Seventh to 12th streets, Chandler Avenue from 10th Street to the railroad tracks, and Elliott Avenue from 10th to 12th streets.

It also will include storm sewer replacement on 12th Street from Ford to Greeley avenues, and pavement replacement on Fairway Drive and Fairway Circle and Sixth Street from Baxter to Chandler avenues.

The council held a public hearing after making a change to the project at the Nov. 21 council meeting. The change removed 11th Street from Elliot to Ford avenues,

and Elliot Avenue from 11th to 12th streets, and adding 11th Street from Armstrong to Chandler avenues to replace a four-inch water main.

The change reduces the cost of the project nearly \$100,000, bringing the total cost to \$5.48 million.

Council Member Alan Robeck asked if he and Council Member Kevin Dietz could vote on the project since both own property within the project area.

Mayor Randy Wilson said that since there is not a personal financial benefit to the council members, they could vote.

Both Dietz and Robeck could be assessed as part of the project.

Robeck voted against the resolution. In other business, the council:

- Approved the 2017 budget and tax levy. The budget reflects \$11.07 million in revenues and \$11.79 million in expenses.

Larson explained the difference in revenue and expenses come from nearly \$1 million that will still be paid to finish the 2015 Lincoln

Avenue and 2016 Armstrong Avenue projects. The revenue for those expenses was captured in prior years.

The 2017 tax levy was approved at \$2.27 million as presented in the truth-in-taxation hearing on Dec. 5. There was no change in the levy amount from 2016.

- Decertified the tax increment district created in 2008 for the development of Grand Meadows Senior Living.

The district was scheduled to be decertified in 2034, but the \$382,000 tax increment financing bond has been paid, allowing the city to decertify the district 18 years early.

- Approved a quote from Industrial Hygiene Services for \$3,600 to conduct a pre-demolition inspection of 1128 Hennepin Ave., contingent upon a judge's order for repair.

Robeck said he felt the city should get more than one quote. Larson informed the council that this is the company that the city has used for many projects, including the Economart, Denny's Barber Shop and creamery buildings.

Robeck voted against the motion.

Horse team to offer online courses

The University of Minnesota Extension Horse Team will be offering two online certificate courses starting in January 2017. The first course focuses on pasture establishment and management, while the second course focuses on growing and feeding horse hay.

The pasture establishment and management course will cover the following topics: pasture layout and design, pasture establishment, pasture management, estimating pasture intake, managing diseased horses on pasture, and pasture research updates and available resources. The growing and feeding horse hay course will cover the following topics: hay field establishment and management, harvesting and storing high quality hay, submitting and interpreting an equine hay analysis, hay options for diseased horses, hay feeding and estimating hay needs, and tips on buying and selling hay.

Both courses are semi-paced and are six weeks in duration. To earn a certificate, participants must earn at least 70 percent on three 10-point multiple choice quizzes and participate in three online discussions per course.

The course is recommended for adult learners, but is open to everyone. The courses will not result in college credit. There is a cost for each course, and registration is required by Jan. 8.

For more information and to register, please visit www.extension.umn.edu/horse. Please direct questions related to course content to Kris-hona Martinson at 612-625-6776 or kris-hona@umn.edu.

Barn ventilation

Source: Dan Martens, Extension educator, Stearns, Benton and Morrison counties.

Let's start today with information provided by Extension educator Emily Wilmes, working in Stearns, Benton and Morrison counties with a focus on Livestock Production. Emily's desk is at the Stearns County Extension Office.

Having good and adequate ventilation for your calves is crucial for overall health and prevention of respiratory disease. With fall turning to winter, it's a good idea to review your ventilation now so you can avoid problems down the



Farm Notes

By Karen Johnson

road.

A component of ventilation that is sometimes overlooked is the stocking density of your calf pens. Just like cows, calves of all ages have space requirements that need to be met in order to keep them comfortable and healthy. Simply measure your pens and calculate total square footage, then divide by the number of animals in the pen. Do your numbers match up with the following suggestions?

According to the Dairy Housing and Equipment Handbook, baby calves aged 0-2 months need a minimum of 30 square feet per animal. Weaned calves aged 2-4 month also need about 30 square feet. Heifers aged 4-8 months require 40 square feet of space per head, and heifers aged 8-12 months require 50 square feet. These square footage measurements are for a bedded pen or pack area, and do not include a feeding area. For weaned calves, feeding area requirements are 18 inches with slant bar dividers. For 4-8-month-old heifers, it's 15 inches per animal and for 8-12-month-old heifers it is 17 inches per animal.

Another important component of ventilation and the one we probably think of the most often is ventilating rates. Ventilating rates vary based on the age of the animal and the current weather conditions. The following rates are given in CFMs, which is cubic feet per minute, and measures the velocity of air flow. This information can also be found in the Dairy Housing and Equipment Handbook.

For baby calves aged 0-2 months, the CFM requirements are 15 in cold weather, 30 in mild weather, 65 in warm weather, and 100 in hot weather. Note that these requirements are per calf, so if you have 15 calves in your barn at this age during cold weather, they would require 225 CFM all together. For calves and heifers aged 2-12 months, CFM requirements are 20 in cold weather, 40 in

mild weather, 90 in warm weather, and 130 in hot weather. So if you have 15 older calves in hot weather, their CFM requirement is 1,950 CFM.

Calf ventilation plays an important role in keeping your calves healthy, and knowing what your calves' space and ventilation requirements are, are the first steps in making sure ventilation is adequate.

Ventilation and space needs are equally important for older animals, too. Aim for uniform distribution of air to reduce drafts or pockets of stale air. Condensation in livestock facilities and a noticeable ammonia smell can indicate that ventilation is not adequate. This also points to the need to maintain adequate and dry bedding. This helps to keep animals dry, warm and comfortable as well as reducing moisture and ammonia in the air. Getting wet bedding out of pens when the weather allows also gets moisture out of buildings.

As the weather turns cold, it's also important to remember that livestock of all ages and sizes need more energy. Young calves need 1 percent more energy for every degree colder than 50 degrees in their hutch or shed. For calves primarily on milk or milk replacer, that means 30 percent more when they are in an environment at 20 degrees compared to 50 degrees. Calves use 25 to 35 percent of their energy for immune system function – their defense mechanism against health issues.

Pen space also means having room at the feed bunk. Cattle that are shy or smaller and crowded at the bunk will start to drop behind the bunch, especially with colder weather. Hunched-up cattle with rough hair coats can be headed for more serious problems, and not growing efficiently. Check waterers frequently.

Karen Johnson is the agriculture and horticulture Extension educator for McLeod and Meeker counties.



Chronicle photos by Tom Carothers

'The Names of Our Savior' at St. Pius X

Students at St. Pius X Catholic School performed the Christmas Concert, "The Names of Our Savior," on Monday, Dec. 19. Pictured above, actors and singers perform "Let's Go, Let's Go," during

the concert's third scene. Pictured below, members of the Angel Choir sang songs throughout the evening's performance.



Though it's cold outside,
it's cozy in here,

As we gather with friends
from far and near.

No matter where you may travel
or what people may say,

There's no place like home for
the holiday!

May Good Tidings Knock on Your Door This Holiday.

Best wishes to you and your family, as you welcome the peace and joy of the Christmas season into your home. We hope your holiday is filled with comfort and joy and the warmth of good friends.

We look forward to serving you
in the new year.

Brian, Jan & Matt

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The Professional Directory is provided each week for quick reference to professionals in the Glencoe area — their locations, phone numbers and office hours. Call the McLeod County Chronicle office for details on how you can be included in this directory, **320-864-5518**.

GSL High School announces first-trimester honor roll

Glencoe-Silver Lake High School has announced its first-trimester honor roll.

“A” Honor Roll

Ninth grade — Alexa Alberts, Ethan Bernstein, Kalie Butcher, Daniel Cross, Dylan Dahlke, Madelynn Emery, Alexis Fronk, Grace Garoutte, Abby Gronlund, Taylor Hatlestad, William Higgins, Race Hutchins, Taylor Kaczmarek, Anthony LaPlante, Mia LaPlante, Bennett Lepel, Sydney Lepel, Zachary Mohr, Kathryn Nowak, Kaitlyn Popp, Courtney Richer, Brittney Richter, Riley Ruzicka, Adam Schauer, Derek Trippel, Gia Venier, Morgan Verdeck, Alexis Winfrey and Claire Witte.

10th grade — Madison Ahlbrecht, Gage Alsleben, Brett Baumgarten, Leah Bettcher, Hayley Bolland, Madelynn Brown, Bethany Cross, Morgan Dahlke, Hattie Dreier-Schultz, Destiney Exsted, Annamarie Falcon, Megan Fehrenbach, Justine Helmbrecht, Rhyann Herrmann, Haley Kirchoff, Ethan Knudten, Grace Kosek, Joshua Kuehn, Madalyn Lemke, Olivia Lemke, Spencer Lilienthal, Jared Lokensgard, Haley Lukes, Kristine Major, Abigail Maunu, Luke Ness, Lillian Nikkel, Carlee Oberlin, Elise Petersen, Jaelynn Pinske, Jacob Reichow, Isaac Swift, Emily Thalmann, Kaitlyn Uecker, Charles Urban, Jordan Wildey, Sacha Willhite, Andrew Wraspir and Brianna Wraspir.

11th grade — Jessica Alsleben, Morgan Bernstein, Ariel Brelje, Aaron Castillo, Kyle Christensen, Zoe Christensen, Mackenzie Davis, Mickalyn Frahm, Peter Gepson, Aubrey Giesen, Alexandra Hansch, Allie Harpel, Karsen Howard, Madelynn Kjenstad, Mariah Koester, Paul Lemke, Paige Litzau, Miltiza Medina, Regina Moosbrugger, Austin Pinske, Laura Popelka, Cody

Raduenz, Taryn Reichow, Jakob Rusten, Ellie Schmidt, Carsen Streich, Ashley Teubert, Sierra Trebesch and Mackenzie Wendolek.

12th grade — Paige Ackerson, Tyler Ehrke, Jacob Fehrenbach, Miranda Grack, Jordan Kaczmarek, Austin Keck, Dalton Kosek, Hannah Kunkel, Ashley Lawrence, isabell Mallak, Brittney Medina, Madison Monahan, Maggie Petersen, Kole Polzin, Rachael Popp, Faith Rakow, Rachel Reichow, Nicholas Schmidt, Dini Schweikert, Ashlyn Stuewe, Robin Swift, Joseph Torgerson, Katherine Twiss and Kendra Ziebarth.

“B” Honor Roll

Ninth grade — Holly Bandemer, Mikayla Beneke, Hannah Boesche, Tess Chap, Kaitlyn Decker, Jadon Dreier-Schultz, Cole Ehrke, Isabelle Elias, Nathan Fehrenbach, Junior Flores Romero, Ashanthi Guardado, Ashley Jasken, Mackenzie Kantack, Lily Kirchoff, Katelyn Ober, Jennifer Ramos, Rylan Rosenlund, Kayla Salmela, Lydia Schmieg, Lily Schmitt, Alec Schrupp, Reece Schwirtz, Megan Siewert, Preston Sturges, Breana Templin, Kaleb Templin, Lexis Werner and Mckenzie Wuehrich.

10th grade — Rebecca Ackerson, Madilynn Anderson, Savannah Ardolf, Chelsea Bandas, Austin Barrett, Kasidy Cacka, Ty Christensen, Kayla Deyonge, Rebecca Forcier, Kaitlyn Doolittle, Di Fieck, Madison Franck, Adam Garoutte, Emily Graupmann, Molly Green, Sarah Huitt, Erin Jaskowiak, Joseph Knudten, Wyatt Konen, Kimberley Kuenzel, Jackson Lemke, Nathan Litzau, Katila Lopez, Troy Lueck, Kira Mattson, Amanda Overman, Bryanna Paul, Cody Rae, Alysse Rhode, Jaret Rodriguez, Gabe Roepke, Kenady Rosckes, Kaleigh Rumrill, Samantha Sanchez, Dane Schwirtz, Jacob Siewert, Mackenzie

Stradtman, Olivia Streich, Yekaterina Tkachenko, Adrian Trevino, Maren Warner, Dusty Wendinger, Eric Wheeler and Grace Witte.

11th grade — Abisai Anderson Sanchez, Brooke Chastek, Katelyn Dammann, Grace Draeger, Dallas Durbin, Alyssa Ebert, Tony Fischer, Jaecub Fondurulia, Zackary Herout, Alex Ide, Emmi Jerabek, Connor Kantack, Jamie Koski, Isaac Krueger, Colbie Kuras, Spencer Lepel, Tarin Michaelis, Will Mickolich, Mckenna Monahan, Kylie Ness, Blake Ortloff, Cassondra Perschau, Dylan Richter, Alexis Sanchez, Rylie Schafer, Taylor Schauer, Abigail Schmieg, Theresa Siers, Tyler Siewert, Morgan Stoeckman, Kambri Tessmer, Adam Thalmann, Veronika Tkachenko and Nathan Welch.

12th grade — Sarah Bandas, Ashley Bandemer, Mitchell Boesche, Deanna Bondhus, Jordan Breidenbach, Molli Cacka, Cameron Chap, Tanner Chmielewski, Blake Dahlke, Luis Duenas, Tatum Engelke, Darla Fegley, Luke Frahm, Hunter Glaeser, Shawna Goettl, Elsie Graupmann, Erica Hecksel, Matthew Heineman, Bobbi Hernandez, Christian Higgins, Catherine Holtz, Abril Iracheta, Marissa Kirchoff, Jayden Lachermeier, Aryana Lasley-Winkelman, Jacob Litzau, Leah Litzau, Marisa Luchsinger, Morgan Mathews, Cassandra Medina, Michael Meyer, Jacob Mohr, Michaela Neyers, Chelsea Petersen, Brandi Pikal, Madison Posusta, Roxanna Sanchez, Sarah Schmieg, Austin Schroepfer, Axel Schulz, Jacob Simons, Destiny Talbot-Senn, Mason Trippel, Alexander Troška, Jacob Vasek, Eric Villnow, Ashley Voelz, Samantha Voigt, Kyle Wanous and Alexis Wildey.



Submitted photo

Freshman, sophomore students of the month

Named as the November freshman and sophomore students of the month at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School were, front row from left, Madelynn Emery, Courtney Richer, Derek Trippel and

Grace Garoutte; and, back row, Elise Petersen, Megan Ferhenbach and Abigail Maunu. Not pictured: Dusty Wendinger.



Submitted photo

Junior, senior students of the month

Named as the November junior and senior students of the month at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School were, front row from left, Paige Litzau, Lexi Han-

sch, Cody Raduenz and Emmi Jerabek; and, back row, Maggie Petersen, Bobbi Jo Hernandez, Cassandra Medina, Dini Schweikert and Madison Monahan.

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When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshiped him... —Matthew 2:10-11

At Christmas and always, may your heart and faith in God lead you down the road to peace, joy and contentment. We feel blessed to be a part of this community, and we thank you for your friendship and support.

Merry Christmas!

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Weather Corner

By Jake Yurek

Enough of that cold junk; this week we will warm up to normal and even above-normal temperatures again.

Temperatures Sunday morning bottomed out in the -20s with -30 in a couple locations near by. Add in the wind and some wind chills were well into the -40s, so I think I speak for everyone in saying, good riddance!

This week, highs will be in the 20s to lower 30s if everything pans out like it should. Along with the cold, we added another 4-6 inches of snow to the snowpack Friday into Saturday. This week, we'll have a weak chance of snow showers Wednesday, but it won't amount to much here (dusting); best chance of accumulating snow will be up north.

The big story will be a potential Christmas Day winter storm rolling through the upper Midwest. As I write this, we're almost a week out, so the forecast is likely to change a lot ... keep posted to more up-to-date forecasts! Right now, the track of the storm looks a little farther north than the last two, so that would drape the highest snowfall totals across northern Minnesota (whoever gets the heavy snow band could easily see a foot). This storm also will have more moisture and warm weather to play with, so on the south side of the storm people may have to deal with a mix (and all rain as you continue south into Iowa). Storm track will be the key to this one; if it moves south, we'll see more snow, if it moves north we'll get less snow and more mix. It's about the worst timing possible with people traveling, so please watch forecasts as we get closer. As always be safe when traveling!

I won't venture a guess at the extended seeing as the models are all over the place with this storm, but indications point to another batch of cold air, but not as bad as we just had.

Have a great week, everyone; Merry Christmas!

Ma dobry weekendem

Mit dobry vikend

Wednesday night — Lows 15-21; flurries.

Thursday — Highs 23-29, lows 15-21, mostly clear.

Friday — Highs 26-32, lows 13-19; partly cloudy.

Saturday — Highs 19-25, lows 4-10; cloudy.

Sunday — Highs 20-30, snow or mix.

Weather Quiz: What are some of January's weather extremes? (Yep, it's almost 2017!)

Answer to last week's question (How fast does the ice get thicker on lakes in winter?): There's a pretty good chart out there that shows this, but early on if you get cold fast ice will form very quickly. In general you'll get 1-2 inches of ice per day when temperatures are around 0 degrees. The thicker the ice, the slower the growth, though, so once ice gets to 16+ inches the growth rate slows quite a bit. Thick snow cover on the lake can also slow growth a tad.

Remember: I make the forecast, not the weather!

People

Daughter born to Klassens

Troy and Alexis Klassen of St. Charles announce the birth of a daughter, Jorie Cecelia, born Dec. 12, 2016, at Olmsted Medical Center in Rochester. Jorie weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 20 inches long. She joins siblings Avery, Chase and Ellie. Grandparents are Duran and Annette Koester of Glencoe and Toby and Gail Klassen of St. Charles. Great-grandparents are Loretta Ide of Glencoe and Enid Sande of Thief River Falls.

Celebrate the magic!
We DO believe in Christmas - and in the goodness of people like you!

Merry Christmas & many thanks
from your friends at the legion.

Thanks for your support.

 **Silver Lake American Legion**
Post 141

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MEAT RAFFLES every 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 5:30 p.m.



Submitted photo

Community caroling

Carolers from First Evangelical Lutheran and Good Shepherd churches in Glencoe delivered Christmas cheer on Sunday, Dec. 18. They visited Millie Beneke

Manor, Orchard Estates, long-term care, Grand Meadows and area shut-ins.

Red Cross blood drive set for Jan. 3

The Red Cross Bloodmobile Blood Drive will be in Silver Lake Tuesday, Jan. 3, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Legion club.

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. Individuals who are

17 and older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and are in good health are eligible to donate.

Blood donors can save time at their donation by using RapidPass to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire

online on the day of their donation, prior to arriving at the blood drive. Visit redcross-blood.org/RapidPass and follow the instructions on the site.

All presenting donors will receive a free, long-sleeve T-

shirt.

Volunteers will be calling you to set up an appointment, or call Margaret Benz at 320-327-2249 for an appointment.

32 Silver Lake senior citizens met on Dec. 12

The Silver Lake Senior Citizens Club met Monday, Dec. 12, at 1 p.m., at the Silver Lake Auditorium. There were 32 members present.

Celebrating December birthdays are Joanne Victorian, Betty Vejrosta, Dallas Ehrke, Tina Dolezal, Yvonne Nowak and Mercedes

Nowak.

Card games were scheduled at Cedar Crest for Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 1 :30 p.m.

Dues for 2017 will remain the same as for 2016.

Prizes were donated by Joanne Victorian, Tina Dolezal, Mercedes Nowak,

Dallas Ehrke and Yvonne Nowak.

Cards were played after the meeting. 500 winners were Gary Kaczmarek, Joanne Victorian, Yvonne Nowak, Hubert Schermann, Leroy Penas, Gerry Mickolich, Margaret Schermann, Mary Jaskowiak and Roger Lhotka; 31 win-

ners were Doris Wraspir and Luanne Mickolich.

THIN ICE

The 2017 Swan Lake Aeration system is set to begin soon, weather permitting.

Location:
Swan Lake,
McLeod County,
117 township,
Range 28, Sec. 28-31

Stay clear of marked areas, and watch for future notices.

F50-1Ct



With Tidings of Comfort & Joy

Wishing you and the ones you love, the blessings of peace, love, and contentment at this special time of year. We've enjoyed the time we've spent with you, and look forward to your continued friendship!

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'TIS THE SEASON
to say,
Thanks!

-And wish you all the trimmings of a very merry and festive season.



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Merry Christmas

Thank you for the gift of your generous support.

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Hope Your Holiday Dazzles

May your days be merry, bright and magical at this fabulous time of year!

Thanks for making us feel so at home here. We hope our appreciation for customers like you shines through in everything we do.

Best Wishes to You & Yours!

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Joy To The World

We're carrying a message of gratitude to all of the people who have helped make this past year a joyful one for us, and hope the coming holiday season brings lots of glad tidings your way. Merry Christmas!

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Community Calendar

Thurs., Dec. 22 — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.

Sun., Dec. 25 — **MERRY CHRISTMAS**


Mon., Dec. 26 — Tops Weigh-In mtg., 5-5:30 p.m.; Brownston Senior Citizens Club, Brownston Community Center, 1 p.m.


Wed., Dec. 28 — Two blood drives in Hutchinson both from noon to 6 p.m. They will be at Vineyard United Methodist Church, 1395 South Grade Road, and Hutchinson Health, 3 Century Ave. SE.

Thurs., Dec. 29 — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.


Sat., Dec. 31 — New Year's Eve

Sun., Jan. 1 — New Year's Day



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History

From the Brownton Bulletin archives

100 Years Ago

Dec. 21, 1916
O.C. Conrad, Editor
A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hoffman on Sunday, Dec. 16.

The Leap Year Dance given by the ladies of Brownton Friday evening was one of the most pleasant functions held in this village for some time. The musical program was supplied by the six-piece Crystal Orchestra of Glencoe.

A son was born to the Rev. and Mrs. Henry Weerts on Tuesday, Dec. 19.

75 Years Ago

Dec. 18, 1941
Milton D. Hakel, Editor
A 1942 Oldsmobile owned by Paul Tadsen was stolen from main street in Brownton sometime between 9 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. Saturday evening. Although an alarm was quickly broadcast over the police radio, no trace of the car has been found.

From the Stewart Tribune archives

100 Years Ago

Dec. 22, 1916
Lester Koepfen, Editor
The Royal Neighbors held their election of officers last week and officers elect are as follows: Mrs. Carrie Donaldson, oracle; Mrs. Carrie Swan, vice oracle; Mrs. Minnie Dunlap, chancellor; Miss Etta Dunlap, recorder; Mrs. Edith Sugden, receiver; Mrs. Nellie Schmitt, marshal; Mrs. Mary Magnold, inner sentinel, Mrs. Sarah Headley, outer sentinel; and Dr. Tinker, camp physician.

Alcott Gilhousen on Tuesday of this week, while working on a telephone pole in Hutchinson, was caught by a wire that snapped and which pulled him down off the pole in such a way as to fracture his wrist and hurt his hip. The fracture was set and at present he is doing nicely.

75 Years Ago

Dec. 18, 1941
Harry Koepfen, Editor
Ervin Dettmann is the top rabbit hunter for 1941 among 22 members who competed from the Stewart Rod and Gun Club. Dettmann had 12 jackrabbits for a total of 120 points. Lenhart Dettmann was second and Ervin Piehl was third.
A quiet, simple wedding cere-

mony was performed Monday evening at the Louis Larson residence when Ralph Larson of Stewart and Miss Grace Cox of Hutchinson were united in marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Larson was the only attendants.

A radiogram received here Sunday allayed fears that Major Oscar Kowalske might have been among those hit in air raids over the Philippine Islands. His message was necessarily brief and merely said, "I am safe." He has been stationed at Nichols Field, just south of Manila, and the field has been subject to some heavy bombing.

50 Years Ago

Dec. 22, 1966
Charles H. Warner, Editor
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hedtke announce the birth of a daughter,

Deborah Kay, Dec. 10, at the Glencoe hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. James Duehn announce the birth of Amy Jo, born Dec. 1 at the Glencoe hospital.

Clem Mackenthun of Brown-ton was elected president of the McLeod County Holstein Association at the group's annual meeting Tuesday, Dec. 13.

20 Years Ago

Dec. 18, 1996
Lori Copler, Editor
Nathan Bipes, 189-pound wrestler for Buffalo Lake-Hector/McLeod West, may well have set a state record for fastest pin his weight class as he pinned Josh Hugg's shoulder to the mat in 4 seconds in a triangular meet Thursday night.
Altha M. Roepke, 89, of Stewart, died Friday, Dec. 13, 1996, at Hutchinson Community Hospital. She had held employment in the Home Bakery in Stewart for about 20 years.

75 Years Ago

Dec. 20, 1941
Delbert Merrill, Publisher
Last Sunday was a day to be remembered by Silver Lake and neighboring communities as it was the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. George Kasper of Silver Lake. All of the children with the exception of Lt. Raymond Kasper, who is at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and all the grandchildren, were there. Over 100 people came from Silver Lake, Hutchinson, Glencoe, Winsted, Bird Island, Mankato, Minneapolis and St. Paul to wish the golden couple health and happiness throughout the sunset of their lives.

The funeral of Michael Waldoch, 94, was held Thursday morning, Dec. 11, at the Church of St. Adalbert. A native of Poland, he came to the United States in 1876 and was wed to Victoria Kielpinski. They settled on the farm now operated by Adolph Klima near Pleasant Hill. They had 12 children, three of whom are deceased and two of whom died in infancy. Besides the children, he is survived by 46 grandchildren and 50

great-grandchildren.

50 Years Ago

Dec. 15, 1966
Wilbert Merrill, Publisher
A Hector woman, 56-year-old Mrs. Robert Melberg, was killed in an accident on Highway 7 Tuesday night, in which three cars and six semis were involved. The crash occurred on the fog-shrouded highway, with a peat fire contributing to the poor visibility. All of the vehicles were westbound, and a chain-reaction crash occurred when an auto slowed for a truck in front of it. Two other people were hospitalized, and another five were treated for injuries and released.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Shamla (Barbara Moody) of Silver Lake, a girl Geri Lynn, on Dec. 12, at St. Mary's Hospital, Winsted.

25 Years Ago

Dec. 19, 1991
Ken and Dorothy Merrill, Publishers
Greg Koktan, 34, of Silver

Lake, was pronounced dead at the scene of a car-truck accident, which was reported at 1:26 a.m. Friday morning on Highway 7 and Grove Street, Silver Lake. Koktan's southbound 1980 Chevrolet was struck by an International semi-truck driven by a Marshal, Wisconsin, man. Koktan is survived by his wife, Sandy, and two children, Amy, 7, and Aaron, 4.

Kevin Johnson, Silver Lake patrol officer, has been promoted to police chief by the Silver Lake City Council. A patrol officer will be hired to fill Johnson's previous position.

10 Years Ago

Dec. 21, 2006
Ken and Dorothy Merrill, Publishers
Thursday, Dec. 14, Pat's Homestyle Cafe & Pub closed for the last time as Pat and Tom "TC" Chalupsky, owners of the downtown business, have sold the building and business to Barb Dolezal. Currently closed, the business will reopen after remodeling as Books & Beans.

From the Chronicle archives

30 Years Ago

Dec. 24, 1986
Bill Ramige, Editor
The board of directors of Glencoe Mills, Inc., rejected an offer from International Multifoods of Minneapolis to purchase assets of the Glencoe-based feed manufacturer.

The Glencoe and Brown-ton fire departments and the county sheriff's department responded to a shed fire at Don Brelje's residence in rural Glencoe Thursday at 2:10 a.m. Approximately \$30,000 of hay bales, straw and various pieces of farm equipment were damaged.

Virgil Dahlke, formerly of Glencoe, received an Exceptional Contributions Award and check for \$1,000 from Pillsbury-Green Giant. The award recognizes employees who go beyond the normal scope of their job duties to accelerate the company's progress. Dahlke developed a computer program that constantly monitors temperature and automatically adjusts the speed of corn moving through the freezer tunnels.

20 Years Ago

Dec. 25, 1996
Rich Glennie, Editor
Many in Glencoe were shoveling as another half foot or more of the white stuff that dropped on the area to add to the over five inches we had last week. Snowplows struggled to keep the roads clean. Roads around the area became plugged when plows were pulled because workers had already been plowing much of the night. Both the city of Glencoe and McLeod County only have one shift to do the plowing.
Lou Iacona of Brainerd and Pete Jones and Dave Clusian, owners of Hibbing Chrysler Center, bought Glencoe Ford-Mercury from Haukos Bros. They took over the dealership on Dec. 15.

10 Years Ago

Dec. 27, 2006
Rich Glennie, Editor
The McLeod County Board of Commissioners recognized Sheriff Wayne Vinkemeier for his nearly 28 years of working for

In loving memory of
OMER LENTSCH
who passed away 6 years ago
on Dec. 25, 2010

We think of you in silence,
And often speak your name.
But all we have are memories,
And pictures in a frame.

We found the strength to face this,
And courage to bear the blow.
But what it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

They say time heals all sorrows,
And helps one to forget.
So far, time has only proved,
How much we miss you yet.

To some you may be forgotten,
To others a part of the past.
But to us who loved and lost you,
Your memory will always last.

Your memory is our keepsake,
With that we will never part.
God has you in His keeping,
And we have you in our hearts.

Sadly missed by
Lillian Lentsch & family

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“Biggest LOSERS” Competition

Dates: January 10–February 21, 2017
Teams of 4 (minimum of 10 teams)

Cost: \$20 per person, includes unlimited access to the Panther Field House during competition. \$5 per person if already a member of the Panther Field House.

Deadline to register is Jan. 6, 2017.

PRIZES: 1st place-\$50 cash per team member.
2nd place-\$20 gift certificate to PFH per team member.
3rd place-3-month subscription to the McLeod County Chronicle.

****For the Top Male & Female Individual Losers – 1 set of Chanhassen Dinner Theatre Tickets.**

Team Results
will be posted weekly in the Glencoe Advertiser, at the Panther Field House, online at www.gsl.k12.mn.us, click on Comm Ed/ECFE, then Community Ed, also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/McLeodCountyChronicle. No individual weights or percentages will be posted.

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Obituaries

Jill Elizabeth Knick, 61, of Brownton

Jill Elizabeth Knick, 61, of Brownton, died Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016, at her home.

Funeral services were held Friday, Dec. 16, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Brownton, with the Rev. R. Allan Reed officiating. Dawn Wolter was the organist. Congregational hymns were "Borning Cry," "On Eagle's Wings" and "How Great Thou Art." The prelude music was "Daisy a Day" by Jud Strunk.

Casket bearers were Keith Larson, Justin Olson, Jon Postusta, Greg Keiser, Paul Keiser and John Keiser.

Jill Elizabeth Knick was born Feb. 13, 1955, in Minneapolis, the daughter of Vern and Ann (Power) Olson. She was baptized as an infant in Minneapolis, and was re-baptized in Glencoe when she was in the sixth grade. She received her education in Brownton and was a graduate of the Brownton High School class of 1973. She furthered her education by attending

the technical college in Granite Falls.

On June 22, 1974, she was united in marriage to Ronald Knick at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Brownton. Their marriage was blessed with three children, Jacob, Melanie and Kaitlyn. The couple lived in Brownton, where they shared 42 years of marriage.

Mrs. Knick was a loving day-care provider. She loved and cared for many children over the years. She also held employment at the First State Bank of Brownton (now Security Bank and Trust Co.), Plato Woodwork, Inc., and, most recently, at 3M in Hutchinson. She was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Brownton. She was a committed volunteer, serving on various Brownton planning committees, including Cabin Fever Days. She also was involved with many McLeod West school activities.

She enjoyed camping, biking and, as much as it may have seemed a chore at times, she enjoyed gardening and canning. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Most importantly, she had an unconditional love for her

children and grandchildren. She tried to make to every event that her children, and now grandchildren, may have had. She enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren, family and friends.

She is survived by her husband, Ronald Knick of Brownton; children and their spouses, Jacob and Jennifer Knick, Melanie and Jason Lindeman, and Kaitlyn Knick, all of Brownton; grandchildren, Jasmine Knick, Cadance Knick, Caleb Lindeman, Aubrey Lindeman and Josie Lindeman; sisters, AnnMarie (Dale) Smith of Fort Worth, Texas, Karen Page of Hutchinson, Lynn (John) Otteson of Silver Lake and Judy Berke of Hugo; brother and sister-in-law, Tim and Julie Olson of Brownton; sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, many other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Vern and Ann Olson; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Ellsworth and Mildred Knick; and brother, Mike Olson.

Arrangements were with the Hantge Funeral Chapel in Hutchinson. Online obituaries and guest book are available at www.hantge.com.



Submitted photo

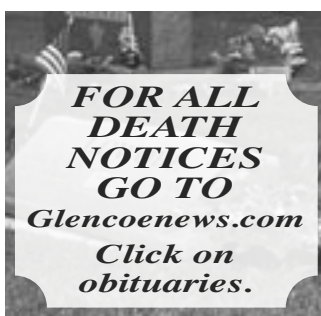
Renville County Deputy Jeff Nelson, right, was named the Minnesota deputy sheriff of the year by the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association. At left is Renville County Sheriff Scott Hable.

Renville deputy named state deputy of the year

A Renville County deputy sheriff has received the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association's "Deputy Sheriff of the Year" award.

Renville County Sheriff Scott Hable announced that Deputy Jeff Nelson received the prestigious award for 2016. Nelson, Renville County deputy sheriff since 2012, received the commendation Dec. 12 during an awards banquet at Arrowwood Conference Center in Alexandria.

The Minnesota Sheriffs' Association's "Deputy Sheriff of the Year" award is presented to the Minnesota deputy sheriff who has been nominated by his sheriff for actions and/or performance over a sustained period of time that is significantly above the average expected performance and contributes to the betterment of the sheriff's office and community.



Deaths

Mary Monahan, 97, Hutchinson

Mary Monahan, 97, of Hutchinson, died Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2016, at Harmony River Living Center in Hutchinson.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 11 a.m., at St. Anastasia Catholic Church in Hutchinson with interment following in the church cemetery.

Visitation was held Tuesday, Dec. 20, and continues today (Wednesday) for one hour prior to the service at the church.

Arrangements are with the Dobratz-Hantge Chapel in Hutchinson.

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FBI-59C-92-106

Duane E. Rognli, 64, of Silver Lake

Duane E. Rognli, 64, of Silver Lake, died Monday, Dec. 12, 2016, at the Glencoe hospital.

A memorial service was held Thursday, Dec. 15, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake, with interment in the Holy Family Cemetery in Silver Lake.

Duane Rognli was born Dec. 27, 1951, in Moorhead, to Erling and Iris (Bowers)

Rognli. He graduated from Silver Lake High School in 1970. He worked for Lester's Builders and Orin Thompson in construction. He married Margaret Novak on Aug. 2, 1975, at St. Joseph's Church. He worked at 3M for 30 years as a mechanic, retiring in February 2012. He enjoyed watching sports and spending time with family and friends at the lake. He and his wife enjoyed traveling together throughout the United States.

He is survived by his wife, Marge Rognli; mother, Iris Rognli; children, Brian (friend Maureen Flynn)

Rognli, Amanda (friend Todd Orduno) Rognli and Angie (DJ) Karnik; grandchildren, Lucas Rognli, Cassie Zumhofe, Hannah Stuewe, Brooke Karnik, Kellen Zumhofe and Payton Zumhofe; brother, Roger (Jacquie) Rognli; and sisters, Ann (Jim) Andre and Judy (Mike Hoyt) Rognli.

He was preceded in death by his father, Erling Rognli, in 2012.

Arrangements were with the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake.

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Happy Holidays

With deep gratitude for your loyal support, we wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season.

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Thanks and Merry Christmas!

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Christmas Kids Coloring Contest 2016 Winner

Sabrina Lewandowski
Glencoe, Age 9

The winner will receive their prize by mail. Thank you to everyone that participated. You may pick up your pictures if you would like to keep them. Winner picked at random.

Christmas Adult Coloring Contest 2016 Winner

Annie Frey
Glencoe

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Peace on Earth

Wishing you and your family much peace, love and joy this holiday season and beyond.

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Hope it delivers every **delight!**
Wishing you and yours endless happiness and good fortune at the holidays.

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Chronicle photo by Lori Copler

Letters for Santa

Students from Faith Preschool in Silver Lake visited the Post Office Monday afternoon, where they personally handed Postmaster Rick Zillmer their letters to

Santa Claus, and had a tour of the facility. Zillmer promised the children that their letters would reach Santa at the North Pole the following day.

Trailblazer Transit Board approves wage increases, health insurance

By Lori Copler
Editor

The Trailblazer Transit Joint Powers Board approved a 2 percent step increase and a 2 percent cost of living increase, although “it’s still higher than what I expected,” he said.

Latzig said she appreciated Nies’ input regarding other entities.

Also on the table was employee health insurance. Latzig said that premiums had increased 12 percent, and suggested that Trailblazer split the cost of the increase with employees, rather than Trailblazer funding the entire increase.

The board agreed to a 2 percent step increase, 2 percent cost of living increase, and splitting the health insurance premium 50-50 with the employees.

Latzig also noted that the transit service runs on some holidays that other government employees have off, and suggested offering holiday pay to the employees who have to work on those holidays.

Bev Herfindahl of the Minnesota Department of Transportation’s transit division said she is currently gathering information on wages and benefits from other transit systems, and said she will have information by the January meeting so that the board could make comparisons with other transit systems.

It was noted that the salary scale had not been adjusted for about 18 months.

In light of the 18-month time period, Nies said he

could support a 2 percent step increase and a 2 percent cost of living increase, although “it’s still higher than what I expected,” he said.

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Bev Herfindahl of the Minnesota Department of Transportation’s transit division said she is currently gathering information on wages and benefits from other transit systems, and said she will have information by the January meeting so that the board could make comparisons with other transit systems.

The board agreed to take the issue up again in January.

In other business, the board:

- Approved its 2017 transit plan, which is the same as the 2016 plan. Executive Director Gary Ludwig said the Trailblazer system is still working to put its full 29 bus schedules on the road. Currently, 23 schedules are on the road.

- Had a long discussion regarding its grievance procedure. Attorney Frank Madden said the current policy needs to be revamped to make the procedure clearer, in particular to what role the board plays in it.

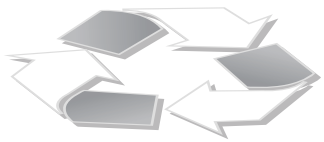
- Spent nearly a half hour reviewing minutes from the previous two meetings, with McLeod County Commissioner Doug Krueger and Sibley County Commissioner Bill Swanson questioning several items. Approval of the minutes was tabled until January on a split vote.

- Renewed its contract with Adult Training and Habilitation Center (ATHC) to provide rides for clients. Ludwig said ATHC will be charged \$3.85 per ride, an increase of 10 cents per ride from the previous rate of \$3.75 per ride.

Wishing you peace, harmony and joy at this magical time of year.

**silent night
holy night**

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Ads for the **JAN. 4 The McLeod County Chronicle**
are needed by Noon on **FRIDAY, DEC. 30.**

Our **GLENCOE** office will be closing
at 12:00 P.m. on Fridays, Dec. 23 & 30
and will be closed on
Mondays, Dec. 26 & Jan. 2.

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