



Cagers win 5th straight

Defense shuts down New Life Academy

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The McLeod County

Chronicle

\$1.00

Glencoe, Minnesota Vol. 117, No. 51

www.glencoenews.com

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

Trailblazer expansion saves money for counties

By Lori Copley
Editor

Trailblazer Transit's expansion of service into Wright County has turned out to be good news for residents in McLeod and Sibley counties — the local bill is going to be much less.

The "local share" of the cost of running Trailblazer — the cost that is above and beyond what is reimbursed by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) — will be much less in 2015 for two reasons: first, it will be split among three entities instead of two; and, second, increasing ridership in Wright County means increased revenue in the fare box and through

contracted services.

The 2015 local share will be split three ways, with McLeod County bearing 50 percent of the local share, a projected \$38,675, and Sibley County and Wright County Area Transit (WCAT, a coalition of Wright County cities and townships) will each pay 25 percent, or about \$19,338 each.

"Sibley and McLeod counties were used to sharing up to \$650,000 a year," said Gary Ludwig, executive director. "So that is great news for them."

For 2014, the local share for McLeod County had been projected to be nearly \$300,000, while Sibley's was projected at about

\$150,000.

With WCAT coming in mid-year, the final estimated 2014 local share will be McLeod County, \$245,944; Sibley County, \$122,971; and WCAT, \$78,885.

Ludwig also said that MnDOT approved Trailblazer's requested budget of \$3.549 million.

MnDOT will pay 85 percent of the approved budget, and Trailblazer must pay for the remainder through its fare box and service contract revenues, and contributions from Sibley and McLeod counties and WCAT.

MnDOT also has approved four new buses for 2015, of which it pays 80 percent.

With the addition of service in

Wright County, Trailblazer is anticipating providing about 270,000 rides in 2015, Ludwig said.

"In Trailblazer's first year, it did 15,000 rides," said Ludwig. "This is phenomenal." Trailblazer started about 10 years ago.

Ludwig said that so far, "Trailblazer has at least matched the service that River Rider had done, if not more."

River Rider provided service in Wright and Sherburne counties, but dissolved last July, which is when MnDOT asked Trailblazer to step in and provide service.

But while Trailblazer has been making progress in its expansion into Wright County, the road has not

always been smooth, said Ludwig.

"We've had some stress fractures," he said. "In fact, our dispatch manager resigned within the past week."

Ludwig said the dispatchers and office personnel get the brunt of any complaints about the transition into service into Wright County. Trailblazer is struggling to maintain office and dispatch staff, he said, but hopes that will smooth out as Trailblazer is able to put more service on the road in Wright County to meet the demands.



Chronicle photos by Jessica Grams

Living Nativity draws good crowd

Churches in the Glencoe area combined efforts to present a "living nativity" display at Oak Leaf Park Saturday evening. Pictured above is Julie (Hanson) Becker as Mary, riding a donkey to Bethlehem. At the right are shepherds guiding their sheep, as portrayed by Phillip Kramer and Connor Johnson. Along with the display, donations were collected for the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf. Nearly 700 pounds of food were collected.



School Board, architect talk building options

No action taken at workshop

By Jessica Grams
Staff Writer

What does a 21st century classroom look like? School districts across Minnesota are evolving. Is Glencoe-Silver Lake next on the list?

The School Board met for a work session with architect Paul Youngquist on Tuesday night, Dec. 16, to discuss these questions, as well as the future of Helen Baker School.

Youngquist gave a long list of examples of schools he had remodeled or built for surrounding Minnesota districts, explaining the trends that were showing great results with those students.

"What kinds of tools do teachers need in their classrooms?" Youngquist asked. "What are teachers trying to do with kids in a given week?"

Throughout his research in those other districts, teachers were asked what kinds of classroom features would benefit their students the most — and they had plenty of answers.

Teachers said that they wished there was more of an open space to do art or science projects, for example. They also said they'd love if there were a quiet reading area for their students.

A school Youngquist is working on now is in Stewartville, and has these features. It has an oversized project room, a space for lectures and a reading area, as well as study areas with tables and computers.

Youngquist presented two potential plans to bring the K-2 students over to the Lincoln Junior High/High School campus, showing modifications to accommodate the needs of the curriculum, enrollment and conditions of the learning environment with an estimated cost of roughly \$22 million.

The Board agreed that the likelihood of keeping a student in the school system and begin their life-long love of learning has to be established in the earliest years of their education.

Board Member Donna VonBerge said, "When you catch the kids early and get them motivated and energized about school, you basically have them hooked."

In the upcoming weeks, Superintendent Chris Sonju will be reaching out to the teachers in the GSL district to see what their wishes would be for their classrooms. Their feedback will help the board when they begin planning for the future of its kindergarten through second-grade students.

County to reschedule ditch redetermination hearing

By Lori Copley
Editor

McLeod County will hold a new hearing on the redetermination of benefits for County Ditch 20 and County Ditch 22, both of which are in the county's 5th District.

Fifth District Commissioner Jon Christensen raised the issue at the County Board's Dec. 16 meeting, saying that some notices sent to property owners for the original hearing, held Nov. 20, had a start time of 9 p.m. rather than 9 a.m.

"Apparently, there were a few people standing around outside the North Complex at 9 p.m.," said Christensen.

Although the Nov. 20 hearing was

well attended (held at 9 a.m.), Christensen said he was afraid there may be repercussions because of the wrong start time on the notices.

"I just don't have a good feeling about this," said Christensen.

County Attorney Mike Junge said that if Christensen was uncomfortable, the hearing should be held again with proper notice.

Junge said the new meeting date and time will have to be coordinated with the county auditor and the county's ditch redetermination consultant.

In other business, the County Board:

- Heard that the county will receive \$41,512.31 reimbursement

from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for pumping water from 86th Circle near Glencoe and Baldwin Court near Lester Prairie during last summer's flooding.

"We are very, very fortunate," said Commissioner Sheldon Nies about the reimbursement.

County Environmentalist Roger Berggren said the county also submitted repairs to 30 ditches — either for culverts washing out or ditch banks sluffing off — to FEMA for reimbursement on repairs.

Berggren said not all of the damaged ditches have been repaired, but the county has 18 months to make the repairs.

"A couple were done this year, and the rest will be done next year," said Berggren.

Berggren said that the county had a very short period of time to identify damage to ditches.

"I'm sure that there were some out there that weren't ID'd, but I think we got most of them," said Berggren.

- Heard from Nies that the solid waste department is trying to put together an informational campaign to educate the public on how one-sort recycling works. The county is currently retrofitting its materials recovery facility (MRF) to accommodate a switch to one-sort recycling from the current five-sort method.

- Heard that fiber-optic contractors "have been pulling fiber into the buildings" and should be done Dec. 19, according to information technology director Vince Traver.

The project is providing fiber-optic service that will connect with a "ring" in Carver County, and will supply fiber-optic Internet service to the courthouse and other buildings in Glencoe, and county facilities in Hutchinson.

The fiber-optic also will connect court services with St. Paul, and Traver said the agreement with the state for its participation in costs

Ditch hearing
Turn to page 2

Weather



Wed., 12-24
H: 34°, L: 26°



Thur., 12-25
H: 36° L: 27°



Fri., 12-26
H: 30°, L: 12°



Sat., 12-27
H: 16°, L: 8°



Sun., 12-28
H: 19°, L: 15°

Looking Back: Dreary and damp with traces of rain.

Date	Hi	Lo	Precip
Dec. 16	24	.....5	.....0.00
Dec. 17	22	.....10	.....0.00
Dec. 18	21	.....10	.....0.00

Dec. 19	29	.....18	.....0.00
Dec. 20	30	.....28	.....Trace
Dec. 21	34	.....31	.....Trace
Dec. 22	37	.....32	..0.21/rain

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.



Santa Claus visits Coborn's

Santa Claus was at Coborn's in Glencoe on Thursday, Dec. 11, as part of Glencoe's Holly Days celebration. In the left photo, sisters Yocelin and Lindsey Juarez



Chronicle photos by Jessica Grams

hold their twin brothers, Sayuri and Salvador, as they pile on to Santa's lap. At top right, Kathryn Amaya sits perfectly still as she gets her face painted.

County Planning Commission attaches conditions to meat-processing CUP

By Lori Copley
Editor

A proposed custom-processing business on a goat farm in Hale Township got the approval of the McLeod County Planning Advisory Commission on Wednesday, Dec. 17 — but with a long list of conditions designed to address concerns of neighbors.

Mohamed Gaabane, an immigrant, approached the planning commission at its November meeting seeking a conditional use permit to allow him to custom butcher goats raised on his farm.

Gaabane is proposing a direct-to-customer business in which customers pick out their goats, and either have Gaabane butcher them, or take the goats home to butcher themselves.

Because the commission had questions about how the business would be regulated — it is licensed and permitted by the Minnesota Department

of Agriculture — the commission tabled the request until December, inviting staff from the Department of Agriculture to its meeting.

Also at the November meeting, neighbors had raised concerns about the existing goats not being adequately penned, the potential that a compost pile for the carcasses would attract coyotes and rodents, potential smell and an increase in traffic in the area.

At Wednesday's meeting, Jennifer Stepes, meat inspection supervisor for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, explained that Gaabane's business would be direct sales to customers, not to wholesalers or stores.

"It's kind of like your old-fashioned meat shops where you brought in your cow to be slaughtered," said Stepes. Customers can either bring in their own animal, or pick out one of Gaabane's.

The butchering area would be inspected four times a year

by the state, Stepes said. She said the county should add hours of operation as one of its conditions on the permit, because the state will make its inspections during regular operating hours.

"These are surprise inspections," said Stepes. "We don't call up and make an appointment."

Residents had concerns that Gaabane's current herd of goats is getting out and wandering onto neighbors' properties, even into their sheds.

Stepes said those kinds of complaints would have to be handled through the sheriff's office.

"The state oversees and enforces the slaughter area, and that's where our authority ends," she said.

Commission Member Larry Phillips asked about the composting of animal remains, and was told if it was done properly, there should be no smell to attract coyotes or other pests. The state officials indicated that they will work with Gaabane on proper composting procedures.

Stepes also said that along with the Department of Agriculture, the State Board of Animal Health and the Department of Health also may get involved in monitoring both the health of the goats and the sanitation of the processing area and monitoring of wells.

Bill Hard, chair of the planning commission, said he wanted to "grant a permit, because I believe in farming, but how do we address these concerns?"

County Zoning Administrator Larry Gasow said that is why conditions are placed on conditional use permits — to try to prevent future problems.

He suggested that one condition be that Gaabane has to install adequate fencing to keep his goats home, "and set a date as to when it has to be done."

The commission agreed to add that the fence must be upgraded by the end of June, that Gaabane must have a waste-hauling contract or a

state-approved compost site for the offal, and that business hours will be Wednesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Another condition is that if Gaabane does not obtain and maintain his state licenses and permits, the conditional use permit will come back to the planning commission for possible revocation.

The planning commission will visit Gaabane's farm before its June meeting to see the progress at the farm.

Denny's Barber Shop
Will be **CLOSED**
Dec. 26-27
and
Jan. 6-7
1218 Greeley Ave.
864-4634

THIN ICE
The Swan Lake Aeration system is tentatively set to begin in January 2015, weather permitting.
Location: Swan Lake, McLeod County, 117 township, Range 28, Sec. 28-31
Stay clear of marked areas, and watch for future notices.

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Panther Field House and the McLeod County Chronicle present
"Biggest LOSERS" Competition
Dates: January 13–February 24, 2015
Teams of 4 (minimum of 10 teams)
Cost: \$25 per person, includes unlimited access to the Panther Field House during competition. \$10 per person if already a member of the Panther Field House.
Deadline to register is Jan. 6, 2015.
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 Panther Field House, also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/McLeodCountyChronicle. No individual weights or percentages will be posted.
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Happenings

Blood drive in Hutch Dec. 30
There will be a Red Cross blood drive Tuesday, Dec. 30, from noon to 6 p.m., at Vineyard United Methodist Church, 1395 S Grade Rd., Hutchinson.

Medallion hunt continues
The Glencoe Area Chamber of Commerce and Sno-Pros' Holly Days medallion hunt is still under way. Clues are released each Friday at 3 p.m. (until the medallion is found) at www.glencoeMN.org. The first clue was "cars drive by me." The second clue was "we'll leave the light on for you," and the third clue was "people come here for help." The fourth clue will be released Friday, Dec. 26.

Sportsmen Club to meet
The Glencoe Sportsmen Club will meet Monday, Jan. 5, at 7:30 p.m., at the VFW meeting room.

County HHW facility closed
The McLeod County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility will be closed from now through Jan. 2. The HHW Facility will reopen Monday, Jan. 5, to start off the new year. Certified technicians will not be available to accept hazardous waste during this closure. Therefore, no exceptions will be made during this time frame to maintain program safety. The McLeod County Solid Waste Department apologizes for any inconveniences this may cause.

Scouts 'thank you' breakfast
The local Boy Scouts troop will host a "thank you" breakfast on Saturday, Jan. 3, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., at First Lutheran Church in Glencoe.

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.

Legion Auxiliary makes donations

The Glencoe American Legion Auxiliary Unit 95 recently approved the following contributions, totaling \$1,050, to the following veterans' programs: Veterans Rehabilitation, Brain Science Foundation, Minnesota Fisher Houses, ALA Hospital programs, Armed Forces Service Center, \$5 Bill Shower, Forgotten Children and Operation Military Kids.

A \$300 donation also was given to the McLeod County Veterans Emergency Fund.

Members meet the third Monday of each month at the Glencoe Fire Hall. The next meeting is Monday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m.

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
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806 10th St., Suite 101
Glencoe • 320-864-4877

Ditch hearing Continued from page 1
will be considered at the County Board's Dec. 30 meeting.
• Purchased a 2015 Caterpillar loader for the solid waste facility for \$113,317, the state bid cost. The loader will be paid for from the solid waste abatement fund.

Gruenhagen announces committee assignments

State Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen, R-Glencoe, recently announced his committee assignments for the 2015-2016 legislative session.

Gruenhagen, who will begin his third term in January, will serve on four House committees: Agriculture Finance, Health and Human Services Finance, Higher Education policy and Finance, and the Civil Law and Data Practices Committee. Committee assignments were chosen by Speaker-designate Kurt Daudt, R-Crown.

"I'm looking forward to bringing my years of experience in health care and other areas to the committees I will serve on next session," Gruenhagen said. "Greater Minnesota will have a strong voice at the Capitol next year, and I plan to do my part to ensure equal focus on all parts of the state, not just Minneapolis and St. Paul."

Gruenhagen is a small business owner and insurance agent, and a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. He also served for 16 years on the Glencoe-Silver Lake School Board. District 18B includes Sibley County and most of McLeod County. Gruenhagen lives in Glencoe with his wife, Emily. They have three daughters and five grandchildren.

Phosphorous management workshop set

The University of Minnesota Extension Service, in conjunction with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, is presenting a workshop on managing phosphorus in livestock manure. This workshop will be held in the Sibley Room of the Sibley County Service Center on Friday, Jan. 9.

Rising commercial fertilizer prices have made livestock manure an increasingly valuable asset. Livestock manure contributes nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, trace minerals, and organic matter, all for the crop's benefit. However, repeated application of manure at a rate that supplies all of the nitrogen needs of corn has created some soils with elevated phosphorus levels. This has made the creation and implementation of manure management plans for many livestock farms very challenging.

At this workshop, Extension Educator Randy Pepin will present management strategies available to land-limited Minnesota dairy farms and beef feedlots to prevent excessive build-up of soil phosphorus while still maintaining a profitable livestock enterprise. Examples in the discussion will be dairy farms and beef feedlots; however, any livestock enterprise or person working with livestock farmers would benefit from this workshop.

Following Pepin's presentation, District Conservationist April Sullivan with the NRCS will discuss programs and options the NRCS can offer to help livestock farmers in the area deal with manure management or storage issues.

The schedule for the day includes: 9:30 a.m., registration; 10, a.m., Randy Pepin, Strategies to Manage Phosphorus; noon, lunch; 12:30 p.m., April Sullivan, NRCS programs and opportunities.

Pre-registration is requested to help with meal count, but not required. For registration or further information, please call the Sibley County Extension Office at 507-237-4100, or e-mail bentz002@umn.edu.



Chronicle photos by Lori Copley

Wee Friends enjoy holidays

Wee Friends Preschool, hosted at First Congregational Church of Christ in Glencoe, had a couple of programs this past week to allow its children to enjoy a visit with Santa Claus and participate in holiday activities and crafts with their parents, grandparents and special friends. Above, Brody Wendolek shared his Christmas wishes with Santa Claus. At the right, Jed Keenan decorated a Christmas cookie with some assistance from his dad, Brad Keenan. The children also performed a few holiday songs for their visitors.



Record

Glencoe Police

TUESDAY, DEC. 16

7:11 a.m. — A vehicle went into a ditch near Al's Auto on Highway 22, west of Glencoe. There were no injuries. The Minnesota State Patrol handled the incident.

5:32 p.m. — An officer assisted with a child custody issue on 16th Street W.

7:43 p.m. — A minor two-vehicle accident was reported in the area of Pryor Avenue N and 14th Street E. There was damage to one vehicle, and the owner said they would fix it themselves.

8:26 p.m. — A driver was cited for driving after suspension and no current proof of insurance at a traffic stop in the area of Highway 212 and Diamond Avenue.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17

7:26 a.m. — An officer and the Glencoe Ambulance responded to a medical emergency on Ford Avenue.

7:54 p.m. — The Glencoe Ambulance and an officer responded to a possible stroke on Ninth Street E. The patient was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

THURSDAY, DEC. 18

2:28 a.m. — An officer assisted a woman in finding the hospital as she had a sick child in her vehicle.

8:47 a.m. — An officer assisted the Glencoe Ambulance with a medical emergency on Ninth Street E.

1:22 p.m. — A person wanted to report harassment that occurred in Prior Lake. The person was advised to report the incident to the Prior Lake Police Department and to get a restraining order.

3:15 p.m. — Officers responded to a verbal argument between siblings on 16th Street E.

4:36 p.m. — A resident reported a phone scam in which some-

one claiming to be from the IRS wanted the resident to get a green card from Family Dollar. The resident was advised that this is a scam, and to call the police department again if there were future calls.

8:33 p.m. — A vehicle was stopped for littering and expired plates on Highway 212, and a passenger was arrested on a Scott County warrant.

8:55 p.m. — An officer and the Glencoe Ambulance responded to a medical on Prairie Avenue. A woman was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

9:44 p.m. — A driver was cited for not having a valid Minnesota license and given a verbal warning for failing to stop at a stop sign.

9:58 p.m. — A driver was arrested for driving after revocation and fifth-degree drugs, and a passenger was cited for possession of drug paraphernalia, at a traffic stop on Highway 212 near Dairy Avenue.

FRIDAY, DEC. 19

12:31 a.m. — Officers responded to a verbal domestic on Baldwin Avenue.

12:37 a.m. — Another verbal domestic was reported on Newton Avenue. The situation was mediated, but there was a citation issued for possession of drug paraphernalia.

5:23 a.m. — A driver received an administrative citation for speeding in the area of Highway 212 and Morningside Drive.

3:35 p.m. — A gas drive-off was reported from a station on 13th Street E, but there was no vehicle description nor license plate, so officers were unable to pursue the matter.

6:02 p.m. — A business owner on 11th Street asked for extra patrol in the area because of comments a customer was making to an employee.

6:13 p.m. — A report of a pos-

sible fight turned out to be some Christmas carolers meeting to go into Millie Beneke Manor.

8:58 p.m. — Three citations were issued for minor consumption at a school dance on 16th Street E.

11:37 p.m. — A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Morningside Drive. The person was waiting for a friend.

SATURDAY, DEC. 20

3:35 a.m. — Possible drug activity was reported on 13th Street E; baggies were found outside an entrance by a garbage can.

9 a.m. — Officers responded to a report of an out-of-control youth on Chestnut Avenue W. The youth had calmed down before officers arrived.

9:17 a.m. — A person on 17th Street W found a dead deer in the bed of his pickup, which had a bow and a Christmas wreath on it. The person had no idea who would have done it. The deer appeared to have been dead a day or two, and the reporting party said he would dispose of it on his farm.

2:34 p.m. — An officer assisted the Glencoe Ambulance with a medical emergency on Prairie Avenue.

SUNDAY, DEC. 21

Several winter parking citations were issued.

MONDAY, DEC. 22

2:30 p.m. — A driver was cited for no Minnesota driver's license and no insurance at a traffic stop in the area of Highway 212 and Chandler Avenue. The driver and a child were taken to a motel, and the vehicle was towed there as well. The driver was informed she could get the vehicle back after she provided proof of insurance and had a valid driver.

5:54 p.m. — Someone reported the loss of an envelope with cash in the area of Bumps within the past couple of days.

Park shelter reservations to open Jan. 2

All McLeod County park shelters will be available on a reservation basis for 2015.

McLeod County Parks will begin taking 2015 reservations on Jan. 2 at 8 a.m. To guarantee a shelter for a certain date and time, call the McLeod County Park Office at 320-484-4334 or 1-800-587-0770. The parks office is located on the McLeod County Fairgrounds, 840 Century

Ave., Hutchinson. A \$35 fee is required to guarantee a reservation.

The picnic shelters are located at the following parks: Buffalo Creek Park, Glencoe; Swan Lake Park, Silver Lake; William May Park, Winsted; Stahl's Lake Park, Hutchinson; two shelters at Lake Marion Park, Brownton; and two shelters at Piepenburg Park, Belle Lake, Hutchinson.

Those interested in camping at Lake Marion or Piepenburg county parks are encouraged to make reservations. The caretakers will begin taking reservation on Wed., April 1, 2015. To make reservations at Lake Marion Park call 320-328-4479; at Piepenburg Park call 320-587-2082.

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SHOWTIMES GOOD FROM 12/25-1/1/15

UNBROKEN No Passes! PG-13
Daily 1:10 4:00 6:50 9:40

THE GAMBLER No Passes! R
Daily 1:30 4:30 7:15 9:40

HOBBIT: Battle Of Five Armies(2D)
No Passes! PG-13
Daily 12:45 3:45 6:45 9:45

HOBBIT: Battle Of Five Armies(3D)
Sorry, No Passes Or Discount Tickets!
3D Surcharge Applies! Daily 6:50 9:50 PG-13

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 3 PG
Daily 12:55 3:05 5:15 7:25 9:35 No Passes!

ANNIE PG No Passes!
Daily 1:15 4:15 7:00 9:30

EXODUS: Gods & Kings PG-13
Daily 12:45 3:45 6:45

HORRIBLE BOSSES 2 R Daily 9:45

PENGUINS PG Daily 1:20 4:20

MOCKINGJAY Part 1 PG-13
Daily 1:30 4:30 7:10 9:45

DUMB & DUMBER TO PG-13
Daily 7:10 9:35

BIG HERO 6 PG Daily 1:20 4:20
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MAZE RUNNER PG13
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GONE GIRL Everyday 7:45 R

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Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb PG
12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00 & 9:00

Penguins of Madagascar PG
12:25 & 2:35

Exodus: God & Kings PG-13
5:50 & 8:35

Hunger Games: Mockingjay PG-13
11:45, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10 & 9:40

Annie PG
12:20, 2:40, 4:55, 7:05 & 9:10

Unbroken PG-13
12:20, 3:05, 6:35 & 9:20

Hobbit: Battle of 5 Armies PG-13
12:25, 3:15, 6:10 & 8:55

New Year's Eve Specials
Wednesday, Dec. 31
Your Choice of:
Butterfly Shrimp • Prime Rib • Lobster • Crab Legs
Steak & Lobster • Chicken • Chicken Kiev w/Wild Rice
Dinner includes choice of Potato, Soup, Salad, & Breadstick.
Reservations Requested 320-328-4111

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Specials Wed., Dec. 31 • 5-9 p.m.
Prime Rib: King \$23.95, Queen \$21.95, Princess \$19.95
Sirloin Steak (6 oz.) w/3 Breadcrumbs or Garlic Butter Shrimp \$16.95
King Crab Legs (1-1/2 lb.) \$26.95
All meals include choice of potato, salad bar & hot fudge brownie for dessert.

Bring In New Year's with music by The Rhythm Kings
Wed., Dec. 31 • 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

FRIDAYS - Meat Raffle - 6 p.m. -??
BINGO Every Sunday at 1:30 pm Top Prize \$599 until goes out

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Violence disturbing during season of peace

Our view: Our country seems to be on cusp of violent decade

Crime, sex and money. Those three news topics, poll after poll and survey after survey tell us, are what people want to read about in the print media, see on TV and hear about on the radio.

Unfortunately, that seems to be all too true. Just look at the recent coverage of the shooting of a black man by a white police officer, the subsequent looting and riots, and demonstrations that have turned ugly — even one right next door at the Mall of America in Bloomington.

It is starting to feel like we are on the cusp of another decade like the mid-'60s to early '70s, the decade of civil rights demonstrations and anti-war protests, many of which turned violent.

Those hoping to attract media attention to their civil and social issues often turn to violence, because that's what brings the news teams to town. The media know that a confrontation between helmeted police officers and demonstrators will draw more viewers and readers than a peaceful sit-in or parade.

There is no doubt that the media helped fuel the civil unrest of the '60s and early '70s. That was the era when television was a relatively new media. The live coverage that is the rule today was the exception then,

the first time that viewers could watch events on their TVs as they actually unfolded across the country or even across the world.

In our current decade, social media has furthered the immediacy of news, often at the expense of accuracy and fairness. One cannot open Facebook or Twitter without encountering commentary on the recent events involving the protests and the recent slayings of police officers in New York and Florida.

We, of course, do not feel that violence is a solution to any issue, nor should it be used to draw attention to deeper social and civil issues.

And we find it particularly troubling that these violent episodes are erupting during a season that traditionally promotes the concept of peace for all mankind.

We don't know how to stop the violence, but here's a thought: on Christmas day, the day of the birth of the man who brought about the radical concept of peace and forgiveness over that of "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth," let's shut off social media, the television and close up the newspapers and magazines, and concentrate on the real reason for the season. Maybe we'll find a little peace for ourselves.

— L.C.



Operation Minnesota Nice is appreciated

When I was a kid — actually, even until I was well into my 40s — my mother would intersperse necessities into our "fun" gifts each Christmas. I could usually count on opening a box to find underwear and socks.

And, of course, we all had to display our gifts to the rest of the family. I learned not to open the package of underwear the Christmas I pulled out a pair of panties and my brother commented, "Oh, you got pillow cases?"

Most of us receive these gifts with something less than enthusiasm, bordering on disappointment.

But not everybody is as unappreciative as I am.

Linda Krueger, organizer of the local Operation Minnesota Nice effort, stopped in Friday to let me know that her group of volunteers has shipped off over 160 packages to overseas military personnel.

And she recently got an overseas phone call from one soldier who expressed great appreciation for, of all things, white socks.

Apparently, the soldier had been using the same pair of socks for a couple of months. Linda said the soldier is in a remote location, and has very little access to the necessities of life.



Lori Copler

"He told me, 'you ladies hit the nail on the head with your package,'" Linda related. The items we take for granted — socks, toothpaste, etc. — are scarce for many of our service people.

Linda asked him if he had also received the Christmas items packed in the box. And, indeed, he had. He had his lights and other items on display.

But what he really, really appreciated were the white socks.

Linda also forwarded me a letter from another soldier, which says, in part:

"Most of the people in my unit have received packages from the Minnesota Nice Foundation, and we are all extremely happy when one

comes in. When each person opens one, we all watch like it's Christmas morning."

Those kinds of responses to the gift boxes assure us that the items Linda and her crew collect are greatly appreciated by those who receive them.

And Linda is quick to point out that it isn't her effort alone. Recently, the Waconia Lions Club paid the postage for a shipment of boxes. And, of course, her volunteers — Colleen and LaDonna and more — greatly appreciate the gifts of items and cash from individuals and organizations that make Operation Minnesota Nice happen.

Linda said her group is taking a short hiatus for Christmas, but will be back at work soon packaging up more boxes to send off to service men and women.

Kudos to Minnesota Operation Nice and all its volunteers.

The letter writer summed it up nicely:

"It means a lot that you would take time out of your busy schedule to help someone you barely know. It gives me hope that there are still people out there who are selfless; that there are people out there who support us."

Letter to the Editor

Winterfest was a huge success

To the Editor:

On behalf of the city of Silver Lake and the GFWC Women's Club of Silver Lake, I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who came and made our Winterfest a great day for all. Santa was there with his reindeer, the horse-drawn rides made their annual appearance and the food was excellent as usual.

We would like to recognize and express our gratitude to all the businesses and organizations, as well as the individuals, that donated all the prizes for the drawings. We especially want to recognize those who donated the funds that are used for paying for the reindeer and the horse-drawn rides.

Without everyone's help and generosity, this fun day would not be possible for kids. To see the smiles and feel the excitement from all the kid's made the day all worthwhile! And it was amazing to see what kids as young as 4 years old can do in a coloring contest. Unbelievable!

Also, the winners this year for the lighting contest were — first place: Gary and Joyce Jerabek, second place: Craig and Emily Zoulek, and third place: Keith and Stacy Anderson. Please stop by the City Offices and pick up your winnings.

Again, thank you to all and Happy Holidays!

Mayor Bruce Bebo
Silver Lake

School's needs the same, but cost rises

I have a real strong urge to say "I told you so!" But I will refrain.

However, after sitting in (as a private citizen) on the last Glencoe-Silver Lake (GSL) School Board meeting and last week's four-hour workshop session, I wondered why are we even going through this again? Why should we even have to run another building bond referendum?

If either of the 2011 bond referendums had passed, we would now have a new addition onto the Lincoln Junior High, which would be nicely tied into the high school complex. Helen Baker would be closed, and most of GSL's space needs would have been addressed for the next 20 years.

Instead, we now have seen the bond for a smaller project skyrocket to nearly \$24 million from the \$18.6 million three years ago. We now see the GSL School Board, its administration and architect looking for ways to trim the size of the project further, yet still try to meet most of its needs in order to take a third run at passing a building bond. Why are we making this so difficult?

So what's changed as far as GSL space needs? Nothing.



Rich Glennie

First off, the Helen Baker Elementary School, opened in 1953, is crammed to capacity and now is experiencing expensive maintenance issues as reported in The Chronicle recently. In 2011, estimates to bring the Helen Baker school up to snuff was about \$4 million (windows, utilities, boiler system, etc.). Today that estimate is \$6 million.

Even if the School Board sinks \$6 million into that school building, it still has not gained an extra inch of space. Folks, space, overcrowding and makeshift classrooms are the big issues with Helen Baker. If you don't believe me, go see for your-

self. I have seen the space problems. Elementary Principal Bill Butler will gladly show you around.

School referendums are different and difficult. The city and county do not have to run the gauntlet that the school district must when spending for operations and capital improvements. Why should school districts be different?

While we think referendums, especially on major capital projects, are fine, we must remind ourselves that we are a republican form of government, not a democracy. We elect people to represent us; we do not operate by plebiscite, except for the school district.

There is another major disadvantage involving school referendums: A building bond requires the district to tax farmers or land owners on their entire property, unlike an operating levy referendum, which takes the house, garage and one acre of ag land. That is established by state statute. It is unfair. And there is nothing that will change that except another legislative bill.

Glennie
Turn to page 5

You can
vote
online at www.glencoenews.com

Question of the week

What is your favorite holiday movie?

- 1) "It's a Wonderful Life"
- 3) "A Christmas Story"
- 4) "Elf"
- 5) "A White Christmas"
- 6) Other

Results for most recent question:
Some citizens at the McLeod County's tax hearing asked the board to repeal its wheelage tax. Should it repeal the tax?

- 1) Yes — 68%
- 2) No — 32%

44 votes. New question runs Dec. 24-30

The McLeod County Chronicle

Founded in 1898 as The Lester Prairie News. Postmaster send address changes to: McLeod Publishing, Inc. 716 E. 10th St., P.O. Box 188, Glencoe, MN 55336. Phone 320-864-5518 FAX 320-864-5510. Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Entered as Periodicals postal matter at Glencoe, MN post office. Postage paid at Glencoe, USPS No. 310-560. Subscription Rates: McLeod County (and New Auburn) — \$39.00 per year. Elsewhere in the state of Minnesota — \$45.00 per year. Outside of state — \$51.00. Nine-month student subscription mailed anywhere in the U.S. — \$39.00.

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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. Should differences continue, readers are encouraged to take their grievances to the Minnesota News Council, an organization dedicated to protecting the public from press inaccuracy and unfairness. The News Council can be contacted at 12 South Sixth St., Suite 940, Minneapolis, MN 55402, or (612) 341-9357.

Press Freedom Freedom of the press is guaranteed under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press..." Ben Franklin wrote in the Pennsylvania Gazette in 1731: "If printers were determined not to print anything till they were sure it would offend nobody there would be very little printed."



Deadline for The 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.



Chronicle photo by Jessica Grams

Voice of Democracy essay winner

The Veterans of Foreign War's (VFW) "Voice of Democracy" scholarship contest is an annual nationwide audio essay competition designed to give students in ninth through 12th grades the opportunity to voice their opinion on their responsibility to their country. Mariah Guldemann Chiariello is this year's local recipient of the scholar-

ship. She will be attending Southwest Minnesota State University next fall and hopes to move East to attend Villanova or Temple University for graduate school. Pictured here with Guldeman Chiariello, center, are Sharon Gutknecht, Glencoe VFW Ladies Auxiliary, and Will Freberg, VFW Post 5102 commander.



Chronicle photo by Jessica Grams

Patriot Pen winner

The Patriot's Pen is the VFW's essay competition for students in sixth through eighth grades. This year's theme is, "Why I appreciate America's Veterans." This year's recipient is

Maren Warner, eighth grade. Pictured with Warner are Sharon Gutknecht, VFW Ladies Auxiliary and Will Freberg, VFW Post 5102 commander.

Take a quick dip (to the party)

Like mine, every family has holiday traditions. As time goes on, those traditions change.

One thing that has always been present at our family gatherings is pickle roll-ups. At one time, they were nicely sliced, but later we just left the whole pickle. My sister made the tradition a bit easier by making it into a dip. It was fantastic. The dish was cleaned out pretty quickly.



My Turn Now

By Karin Ramige Cornwell

Brownie Batter Dip

8 ounces cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup butter, softened
2-1/2 cups powdered sugar
5 tablespoons all-purpose flour
5 tablespoons cocoa powder
3 tablespoons brown sugar
2-3 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon sea salt
1 cup mini chocolate chips

Beat together the cream cheese and the butter until smooth.

Add the brown sugar, cocoa powder, flour, vanilla, salt, and 1 tablespoon milk. Mix until mostly smooth.

Add the powdered sugar and another tablespoon of milk. Beat until smooth. Add another tablespoon of milk if the dip is too thick for your liking, but I usually stop at 2 tablespoons.

Mix in the chocolate chips. Serve with dippers. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator until serving.

Serve with graham crackers, pretzels, strawberries or marshmallows.

Merry Christmas!

Area News

Judge rules in favor of school

ARLINGTON — A district court judge dismissed a lawsuit against the Sibley East School District, filed by Nathan Kranz, who alleged the school district did not follow mandated publication rules regarding notices for the district's \$43 million building bond referendum. According to the Arlington Enterprise, the judge ruled that while the district did not follow the requirements exactly, that the lawsuit did not prove that voters were "confused by the lack of evidence or did not vote on the bond issue of they wished to do so." The judge also said the state department of education needs to clarify its requirements, and the school district needs to do a better job of training its personnel in regards to notification requirements.

Glennie Continued from page 4

But the local debate really boils down to how voters feel about educating their children, grandchildren and neighbors' children. As a voter, ask yourself: Is education important?

Our great-grandparents, grandparents and parents thought that education was so important that the Henry Hill school was built during the depths of the Great Depression in the 1930s. Helen Baker was built as the Korean War was raging and Ameri-

cans were finally emerging from the depression years after World War II. Lincoln Junior High was built in 1963 to handle the crush of Baby Boomers, and so was the high school in 1969-70, at the height of the Vietnam War and its tumultuous anti-war protests.

Our forebearers felt educating their young was a duty of being Americans; it was a basic foundation for the rest of their children's lives.

What will our legacy be in

the years to come? That we refused to pass a school bond referendum because it costs too much? I suspect that same argument raged prior to our current school buildings being constructed. But they built them anyway.

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

Sibley 4-H day camp set Dec. 30

Sibley County 4-H Ambassadors will be hosting a 4-H Day Camp on Tuesday, Dec. 30 from 9 a.m. until noon.

The theme for this event will be "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?" It will be held in the Sibley County Service Center in Gaylord. Come and enjoy a morning of fun educational activities.

Participants do not have to be a 4-H'er to attend. Register by calling the Sibley County Extension Service at 507-237-4100 or e-mail rettm001@umn.edu. Register early — space will be limited.

New clerk for Cokato

COKATO — The city of Cokato has a new clerk-treasurer, according to the Enterprise-Dispatch. The city has hired Drew Carlson, who is

currently the deputy clerk at Dassel. He is expected to start his new position in Cokato in early January.

Community Calendar

Thurs., Dec. 25 — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.

Mon., Dec. 29 — Tops Weigh-In mtg., 5-5:30 p.m.; Brownton Senior Citizens Club, Brownton Community Center, 1 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 30 — Narcotics Anonymous, Brownton Community Center, 7 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 1 — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.



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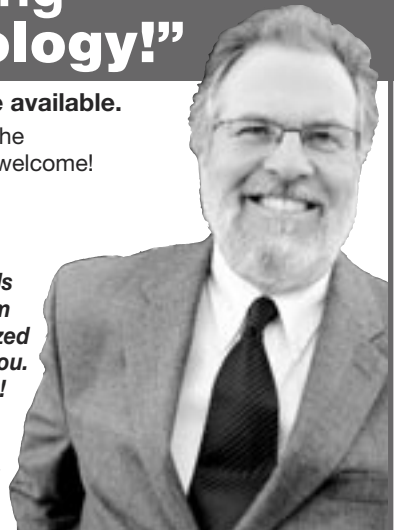
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Area News
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The Professional Directory is provided each week for quick reference to professionals in the Glencoe area — their locations, phone numbers and office hours. Call the McLeod County Chronicle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



Weather Corner

By Jake Yurek

Another very warm late December start to the week will give way to much cooler air as we head into the weekend.

I can't believe it's already Christmas and the last full week of 2014! We actually started the week out with rain, which I'm guessing changed over to a little snow (as I write this it hasn't happened yet). This was a part of a very large storm system that really snarled up travel in the central part of the country and points east, which needless to say came at a very poor time for Christmas travelers. Roads may still be tricky around the area depending on when and how much liquid precipitation froze on them after the thaw, so be careful when traveling!

Christmas Day weather should be relatively nice with clouds and a high right around freezing. Snow showers will try to push in ahead of a surge of cold air late Thursday into early Friday with little in the way of accumulations expected (but once again any amount could make roads tricky).

Friday, the cold front will make its way through, dropping temperatures throughout the day. Saturday and Sunday we shouldn't have to worry about any storms, but highs will only make it to the teens, so bundle up.

Looking at next week the cold push will continue early in the week with perhaps a couple clipper-type systems. The models are having a tough time with anything past about five days now, so I can only say cold should hang on with a couple chances of light snow. Have a great holiday week, everyone; be safe and Merry Christmas!

Ma dobry weekendem

Mit dobry vikend

Wednesday night — Lows 18 to 24; clouds.

Christmas Day — Highs 28 to 34, lows 18 to 24; night snow shower.

Friday — Highs 22 to 28, falling temperatures with lows 2 to 8; snow shower early/clouds.

Saturday — Highs 13 to 19, lows 0 to 6; partly cloudy.

Sunday — Highs 13 to 19; partly cloudy.

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

Answer to last week's question (What weather feature gives us the high temperatures and fog we recently encountered?): Our recent above-normal temperatures, clouds and fog are all associated with a temperature inversion. This happens when a warm layer of air gets trapped over a certain area. Normally the atmosphere cools as you go higher, but in these instances there's a warmer layer above us. This warm layer is thin and fairly close to the ground, but it pretty much doesn't let anything out, trapping warm air and pollutants and bringing air quality down.

18 Brownton seniors met Monday

Eighteen Brownton senior citizens met Monday at the Brownton Community Center.

Cards were played in the afternoon with the following winners: 500, Jerome Ewert, first, and Gladys Rickert, second; pinochle, Ordella Schmidt, first, and Phyllis

Mahnke, second; and sheep-head, Lowell Brelje, first, and Elmer Maass, second.

Harriett Bergs won the door prize, and Ordella Schmidt served refreshments.

The next meeting will be Monday, Dec. 29, at 1 p.m. All area seniors are welcome.



Submitted photo

Knowledge Bowlers win meet

One team of Glencoe-Silver Lake (GSL) seventh- to ninth-grade students won the 33-team Region 6 "Junior High" meet in Marshall with 126.5 points on Friday, Dec. 19. (They were 21.5 points ahead of the second-place team from Hutchinson.) GSL's other teams placed 10th, 12th and 16th, so all four teams move on to the Region 6 and 8 meet on Friday, Jan. 9. The winning team members are, left to right, Jack Gepson, Kalie Butcher, Isaac Swift, Jacob Reichow and Adrian Trevino.

People

Graf family announces birth

A son, Leo Wayne Graf, was born Friday, Dec. 12, 2014, to Matt and Jackie Graff of Glencoe, at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Leo weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 19 inches long. His sibling is Ruby. Grandparents are Michael and Nancy Cox and Wendy Graf, all of Glencoe, and the late David Graf.

Girl for Glencoe couple

Xavier Strong and Adam Rindal of Glencoe announce the arrival of a daughter, Calliope LaRae, who was born Friday, Dec. 5, 2014, at Hutchinson Health. Calliope weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 20 inches long. She joins siblings Brighton, Hayden, Tavia and Lillian. Grandparents are Wayne and Kim Strong of Glencoe and Ken and Linda Rindal of Eleva, Wis.

Daughter born to Koseks

Gary and Larisa Kosek of Silver Lake announce the arrival of a daughter, Greta Clare, born Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2014, at Hutchinson Health. Greta weighed 6 pounds, 9½ ounces, and was 19 inches long. She is welcomed home by siblings Avril and Mavrik. Grandparents are Clarence and Doris Kosek of Silver Lake and Alan and Lori Dahlman of Stewart.



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County Chronicle**

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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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Merry Christmas

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Happy Holidays



In Loving Memory of
David Micholichuk
who passed away Dec. 27, 2009

Our lives go on without you
and nothing is the same.
We have to hide our heartaches
When someone speaks your name.
Sad are the hearts that love you.
Silent are the tears that fall.
Living our lives without you
Is the hardest part of all.
You did so many things for us
Your heart was kind and true.
And when we needed someone
We could always count on you.
You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide,
And though we cannot see you
You are always by our side.
Our family chain is broken,
But as God calls us one by one
The chain will link again.

Deeply missed by his family,
Gerry, John & Colleen & family
Mary & John & family
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Silver Lake Sportsmen's Club



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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Chronicle photos by Lori Copley

Silver Lake Winterfest

Silver Lake's 13th-annual Winterfest celebration had a little something for everyone Saturday afternoon. Above, Aleisha, Brenden and Garrett Teubert of Glencoe checked out the live reindeer. At right, Aaliyah Hofmeister, daughter of Silver Lake Police Officer Robert "RJ" Cripps, was thrilled to get a chance to visit with Santa Claus at the American Legion. Below, horse-drawn wagon rides around town were offered to old and young alike. And there was more to participate in: the GFWC Women's Club of Silver Lake served lunch in the auditorium, where children also had the opportunity to participate in a coloring contest.



Thinking of You at Christmas

At this special time of year,
We wish you contentment,
joy and cheer;
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measure of gratitude, too
For good friends and
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Tracing Roots

By Ron Pulkrabek



Where is Koniska? (Part 2)

May 19, 1879: "Dam Gone" states the headlines.

Due to high water during the spring, swirling water destroyed the apron and dug a deep hole under the dam. It appeared OK in the evening but the following morning much destruction had taken place. A temporary dam will be put in place. The old dam cost over \$2,000 three years ago.

Sept. 23, 1880: Fred Ludwig of Koniska has his new grist mill in first-rate working order and is turning out a fine grade of flour. Fred has a pretty good knowledge of the milling business, and solemnly avows that no man shall go away from his mill dissatisfied.

Spring 1881: After another "Dam Bust" the mill is beyond repair and will be torn down, never to be rebuilt again.

"The First Steamboat on the Crow River." In 1859, a Mr. Johnson, a somewhat dubious character, convinced several Hutchinson citizens to invest in a steamboat that would transport supplies and passengers from Hutchinson to Minneapolis and back again. The 10 by 40 foot boat was launched and after two days (10 miles by land, 20 by river) reached Koniska and got hung up. They spent two days chopping trees and stumps and were on their way again. The only food the crew had was cornmeal mush and they were getting sick of it. One day they killed several pigeons and had a real feast.

They were leaving the prairie and entering the woodland area and many log jams had to be cleared. They reached Lester Prairie in a few days. While Mr. Johnson

was away enjoying himself with the locals, the crew found a cache of good food Mr. Johnson had hidden. They helped themselves and threw the rest overboard and hiked back to Hutchinson where they could get decent work for 25 cents a day.

Mr. Johnson did make it to Minneapolis; sold his boat, took the cash, took off for Ohio, never to return, leaving everybody "high and dry!" That was the first and last steamboat on the Crow River!

The dam can still be seen from the new bridge on County Road 11, although somewhat covered by small trees. It is truly amazing that this 10-foot high by 20-foot wide by 200-foot long earthen dam could be constructed using only horses and one-fourth yard walk behind scrappers. It created a three-acre mill pond with a sluiceway box affair for the water wheel.

After the mill was abandoned, the 300-pound, 5-inch diameter by 10-foot long water wheel shaft was used for a granary step at a nearby farm for 100 years. It is now at the McLeod County Museum.

The picturesque Old Koniska Bridge, built in 1900, was bypassed by the new bridge in 1969. It stands tough and strong in the background like a silent sentinel over the trickle stream in the summer and flooded conditions in the spring.

During the flood in 1965, the road was closed briefly and the bridge was completely surrounded by water. The 100-year-old concrete abutments are as strong as the day they were put in. Unfortu-

nately, the wooden floor has been burned in several places by vandals with little success.

This state-of-the-art bridge covering a 100-foot span must have been built very strong to carry heavy, gigantic steam and gas threshing tractors. I'm sure the tractor driver held his breath while crossing; it vibrated a bit but never gave an inch. Two cars could meet with two inches of clearance.

It is on the McLeod County Historical Site list. The Koniska Bridge was a general meeting place for many years. The old timers say many a romance started on — or under — this bridge. If you look closely, you may still find some love notes from years ago.

Eventually, the railroad came through Glencoe and also Silver Lake, leaving Koniska stranded. Its biggest business was a creamery (a skimming station), in which the cream was taken out of the milk and shipped to Glencoe. The farmers would take the skim milk back home and feed it to hogs and calves. The creamery closed in 1941.

Only one house remains and the creamery building burned down in 1974. It had been used as a chicken house, a pallet factory and a car repair business. Families who lived in the house since 1930 were Hanson, Karsten, Pulkrabek, Reimer, and Posusta. There are reports of other businesses and houses which I cannot confirm. The only real lasting part of Koniska is the Koniska Cemetery where 87 Czech souls lay resting peacefully on the hill. That will be another story.

History

From the Brownton Bulletin archives

100 Years Ago

Dec. 25, 1914

O.C. Conrad, Editor

At a special meeting of the village council Monday, Gottlieb Gorr was again elected to act as the village marshal. Mr. G. has been off duty for nearly a year, and our citizens generally approve of the council's actions in this matter.

On Tuesday afternoon, T.C. Arnold died at his home in this village after being confined to his house for about two weeks, although he had been failing gradually the past six months.

75 Years Ago

Dec. 21, 1939

Milton D. Hakel, Editor

Bonnie Bartels, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bartels, was baptized last Sunday.

"Every penny counts," was the slogan of Walter Koester, who came into the Bulletin office and plunked 200 pennies down on the counter to pay for his subscription.

50 Years Ago

Dec. 24, 1964

Charles H. Warner, Editor

Adolph W. Radke, 80, died of a heart attack last Wednesday as

he stopped to go into the Post Office. Mr. Radke was born in Mayville, Wis., and moved with his family to Amboy as a child, and later to Crookston, where he married Carla Doerr. The family moved to the Brownton community in 1912, where Mr. Radke was engaged in farming four miles southeast of the village. He is survived by his son, Walter Radke of Brownton, and daughter, Mrs. Edwin Ponath of Glencoe.

A young deer jumped in front of a car Tuesday afternoon on Highway 15 near the Wes Katzenmeyer farm. The car hit the deer, and the hood flew up, blocking the vision of the driver. The car then clipped an Oldsmobile driven by Mrs. A.M. Jensen of Brownton. There were no injuries to the drivers.

20 Years Ago

Dec. 21, 1994

Lori Copler, Editor

The Brownton Co-op Ag Center showed a net operating margin of \$161,253 for its 1993-94 fiscal year, which ended Sept 30, patrons heard at the annual meeting Thursday.

The DeLoyd Dreier home won first prize in the holiday lighting contest sponsored by the Stewart Improvement Association. Sec-

ond place went to the Brad Woller home, and tying for third were Kevin Maiers, Leonard Krulikovsky and Virgil Moritz.

McLeod West's Angie Klockmann drained 43 points against Minnesota Valley Lutheran, and is on the verge of tallying her 1,000th rebound, just nine shy of the mark as the Falcons go into a tilt with Buffalo Lake-Hector. Klockmann, the Falcons' senior center, scored her 1,000th career point during last season's sub-regional tournament.

10 Years Ago

Dec. 22, 2004

Lori Copler, Editor

Kary Opitz of Brownton has been in the recycling business for years, but something always seemed to be missing — the ability to clean up scrap metal from tight spaces. Opitz therefore invented the Kwik-Mag Magnet, which can be attached to a skid loader, to use magnetic power to draw scrap metal out of hard-to-reach places. Opitz had his invention patented.

Elizabeth Driessen was the first-place winner of the Voice of Democracy essay contest, sponsored each year at McLeod West High School by the New Auburn VFW and its Auxiliary.

From the Chronicle archives

30 Years Ago

Dec. 26, 1984

Bill Ramige, Editor

Gasoline prices in Glencoe, for self-serve, ranged from \$1.139 per gallon for regular to \$1.159. The price of unleaded gas was consistent at \$1.199 per gallon. Diesel fuel prices in Glencoe ranged from \$1.209 to \$1.249. The full-service price was \$1.329 to \$1.389 for regular and unleaded respectively, and includes a car wash.

Zephyr Lines will discontinue bus service on Jan. 2 and from Franklin, Fairfax, Gibbon, Winthrop, Waconia, Victoria and Hutchinson. The decision was based on a lack of ridership.

20 Years Ago

Dec. 28, 1994

Rich Glennie, Editor

Glencoe-Silver Lake girls' basketball starting center Robyn Ruschmeier was named the Star Tribune's Metro Athlete of the Week. Ruschmeier, a third-year starter for the Panthers, scored a school record of 34 points against Norwood Young America.

Henry Hill Intermediate School December students of the month were Devon Buckley, Helen Koktan, Jennifer Neid, Rory Hansch, Marshall Dammann, Matthew Godel, Neal Lucy, Nathan Schimelpfenig, Amanda Schade, Daniel Busse, Jamie Storms, Jennifer Schrempp, Robert Glieden, Nathan Wilkens, Tiffany Swanke and Amber Ramige.

Glencoe's Dennis Rosium was named to the Minnesota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame this summer. Rosium has been the head coach of the Glencoe Eagles' baseball team for 12 years and has been coaching at the high school level for 25 years.

10 Years Ago

Dec. 29, 2004

Rich Glennie, Editor

Raymond and Norma Albrecht of McLeod County received the honorary life membership award at the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting awards banquet.

Ronald Maresh was the recipient of this year's community service award sponsored by the Holy Family Catholic Aid Council.

Born at the Glencoe Hospital to Matt and Amy Varpness a son, Dawson Fynn, on Dec. 12. To Matthew and Angela Nelson a daughter, Ashley Veronica, on Dec. 15, and to Todd and Jennifer Sturges a daughter, Finley Adella, on Dec. 15.

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Obituaries

Evan Denney, 82, of Glencoe

Evan Denney, 82, of Glencoe, formerly of Missoula, Mont., died Sunday, Dec. 21, 2014, at the Birchwood House in Hutchinson.

A memorial service with military honors will be held Saturday, Dec. 27, at 10:30 a.m., at Johnson-McBride Funeral Chapel in Glencoe.



Evan Denney

Evan Denney was born Jan. 9, 1932, in Tacoma, Wash., to Evangelos Pangis and Margaret Still O'Connor. He attended elementary schools in Sumner, Wash., and Seward Grade School in Seattle, Wash., and Lincoln High School in Seattle.

In 1951, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and attended U.S. Army signal school, and was active duty from 1950 to 1952; he was discharged in August 1953. He received his bachelor of arts, master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from the University of Washington in Seattle, majoring in geography with specialties in Latin America and China. He served in the U.S. Merchant Marines from 1953 to 1956. During his merchant marine and university days,

he traveled extensively in Latin America (Amazon Basin and Orinoco Region), Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

On March 24, 1961, he married Terri Pike in Seattle, Wash., and they made their home there until fall 1969, when they moved to Missoula, Mont. Their daughter, Krista Kelly, was born in 1966 in Seattle, and their son, Jason Scott, was born in 1970 in Montana.

Mr. Denney began his teaching career in geography at the University of Montana in 1969. In addition to teaching courses in China, he initiated a master of science program in rural, town and regional planning. During his tenure there, he also served as the chairman of the geography department, faculty representative to the NCAA, exchange scholar to Hangzhou University and Shanghai International Studies University, People's Republic of China; served as chairman of the Missoula Planning Board; president of the Five Valleys River Park Association, and was a director of the University of Montana Federal Credit Union.

Mr. Denney authored and co-authored many publications dealing with land use and resource planning. He retired as professor emeritus

from the University of Montana in June 2000. He was an avid supporter of University of Montana Grizzly athletics — an attachment that never left despite the miles between Minnesota and Montana.

In 2011, Mr. Denney and his wife moved to Glencoe to be near family. He attended Living Rock church in Norwood and was an avid supporter of youth sports in the Glencoe area, where he especially enjoyed watching the participation of his grandchildren in baseball, softball, basketball and football.

He is survived by his wife, Terri Denney of Glencoe; children, Krista (Bryan) Petersen and grandchildren, Morgan, Teddy, Elise and Audrey of Young America, and Jason (Sarah) Denney and grandchildren, Randol and Rachel of Anchorage, Alaska; sister, Stella Loveless of California; stepbrother, Bill Brennan of Washington; and nieces and nephews in Washington and California.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Helen Pangis Law.

Arrangements were with the Johnson-McBride Funeral Chapel of Glencoe. Online obituaries and guest book are available at www.hantge.com.

Roger 'Fuzz' Luehrs, Harlingen, Texas

Roger "Fuzz" Luehrs was born on April Fool's Day, 1940, and kept the world laughing for 74 years. All who met and knew him loved him.

He left us on Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, in hospice care at Retama Manor Nursing Home in Harlingen, Texas. He joins his son Jay, sister Betty, his parents, in-laws, family and many friends who were waiting for him.



Roger Luehrs

Missing him greatly will be his wife of 50 years, Sue; daughter Christina and her five children; brothers, Tom and Virgil; brother-in-law Lee, sister-in-law Jane, fishing buddy Mike and wife Lana, and all the guys he served with as a volunteer fireman for 20 years, colleagues in his 33 years at 3M, neighbors up north, nieces, nephews, cousins and all the great people in his condo complex. He has moved on to do his mischief elsewhere. We know angels have a sense of humor.

Many thanks to all the neighbors at Golf Crest, the care givers at Retama Manor and all our friends and rela-

tives for your support, prayers and love.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are preferred. Suggestions are the Salvation Army, 119 E Monroe Ave., Harlingen, TX 78550; Ely Relay For Life in Ely, Minn., (American Cancer Society), or any medical research. Please, no memorials to the family.

No service is planned at this time. Mr. Luehrs will be cremated and his ashes will join his son in White Iron Lake in Ely.

A guest book is available at www.buckashcraft.com. Arrangements are with the Buck Ashcraft Funeral Home in Harlingen, Texas.

Gregory Stimpert, 74, of Hutchinson

Gregory Stimpert, 74, of Hutchinson, died Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014, at Hutchinson Health.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, Dec. 17, at St. Anastasia Catholic Church in Hutchinson with the Rev. Jerry Meidl officiating. Bev Wangerin was the organist. The song leader was Lucy Newcomb. Congregational hymns were "St. Francis Prayer," "Here I Am, Lord," "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Little Brown Church."

Gared Stimpert was the urn bearer. Honorary urn bearers were Mr. Stimpert's grandchildren, Gared Stimpert, Jordan Stimpert, Jerica Stimpert, Vanessa Stimpert, LeeAnn Stimpert, Melissa Matter, Michael Matter, Rhonda Rasmussen, Andrew Matter and Amber Matter.

Gregory Paul Stimpert was born March 2, 1940, in Sleepy Eye, the son of Charles and Bertha (Kyar) Stimpert. He was baptized as an infant and later confirmed in his faith as an adult, both at St. Mary's Catholic Church in New Ulm. He received his GED at Mankato East High School.

On May 17, 1960, he was united in marriage to Jean Kapoczynski at the Queen of Peace Church in Mesa, Ariz. After their marriage, the couple resided in New Ulm, where Mr. Stimpert was the assistant department supervisor in the electrical department for the city of New Ulm. He retired in April 1998. In 1998, they moved to Arizona and, in 2009, they moved to Hutchinson. The couple was blessed with four children and shared 54 years of marriage.

Mr. Stimpert was a member of St. Anastasia Catholic Church in Hutchinson. He also was a member of the Camping Club, president of the Senior Center, Cub Master and Boy Scout leader.

He enjoyed playing and calling Bingo, golfing, football, camping, traveling, gambling, history and cruises. He loved the Grand Tetons, working at the state fair, watching the South Pacific plays and John Wayne movies. He especially loved spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Jean, of Hutchinson; sons, Douglas (Marnette) Stimpert

of Garden City, Paul (Rose) Stimpert of Oklahoma and Patrick (Lynda) Stimpert of Illinois; daughter, Ann (Vernon) Matter of Hector; grandchildren, Gared Stimpert and Maxine Johnson, Jordan Stimpert, Jerica Stimpert, Vanessa Stimpert, LeeAnn Stimpert, Michael Matter, Rhonda Rasmussen (significant other Sebastian) and Andrew (Amber) Matter; great-grandchildren, Evelyn Stimpert, David Rasmussen and Joseph Bautista; siblings, James (Rose) Stimpert of Sleepy Eye, John (Ruth) Stimpert of North Dakota, Judith (Dennis) Holweger of North Dakota, and Phyllis Stimpert (significant other Deborah Wall) of Wyoming; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Bertha Stimpert, granddaughter, Melissa Matter; sister and brother-in-law, Betty and John Garland; and brother, Terry Stimpert.

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

Omar Peterson, 84, rural Hutchinson

Omar Lowell Peterson, 84, of rural Hutchinson, died Thursday, Dec. 11, 2014, at Cedar Crest Estate in Hutchinson.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 15, at Faith Lutheran Church in Hutchinson with the Rev. Paulus Pilgrim and the Rev. Dave Wollan officiating. Sharon Barton was the organist. Congregational hymns were "Joy to the World," "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" and "Silent Night." Special music was "The Old Rugged Cross."

Pallbearers were Loree Winstanley, GR Winstanley, Barry Holst, Tiffany McGlocklin, Cayla Konicek, Tony Konicek, Travis Peterson, Reba Peterson, Levi Greenwalt and Kelsie Nord. Honorary pallbearers were Dustin Hoffman, Jerry VonBerge and Jon Phinney. Interment was in the Oakland Cemetery in Hutchinson.

Omar Lowell Peterson was born Jan. 6, 1930, in rural Hutchinson, Lynn Township, McLeod County. He was the son of Elmer and Agnes (Jan-

neke) Peterson. He was baptized as an infant on Jan. 26, 1930, in Lynn Township, and was confirmed in his faith as a youth on April 2, 1944, at Main Street Lutheran Church (known today as Faith Lutheran Church) in Hutchinson. He received his education in Hutchinson and was a graduate of the Hutchinson High School class of 1948.

On April 28, 1956, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Edith Holm at Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cokato. Their marriage was blessed with five children, Kathryn, Connie, Pamela, Susan and Naomi. Omar and Edith Peterson resided in the rural Hutchinson area and later moved to rural Biscay. They shared 55 years of marriage before Mrs. Peterson's death on Sept. 21, 2011.

Mr. Peterson was a dairy farmer all his life. He retired in 1995. He was a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Hutchinson, where he was active on the church council. He also was a member of the McLeod County Holstein Association and the Minnesota Holstein Association.

Mr. Peterson enjoyed farming, cow shows, bird watching and playing checkers. He was an avid fan of the Minnesota Twins, Vikings, North Stars and the Wild hockey team. He especially enjoyed

spending time with his family, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends.

He is survived by his children, Kathryn (James) Stueber of Cosmos, Pamela (Steven) Greenwalt of Glencoe, Susan Peterson of Hutchinson and Naomi (Erik) Nord of Mayer; grandchildren, Loree (GR) Winstanley of Minneapolis, Barry Holst of Mankato, Tiffany McGlocklin of Cosmos, Cayla (Tony) Konicek of Mankato, Travis Peterson of Gaylord, Reba Peterson of Hutchinson, Levi Greenwalt of Glencoe and Kelsie Nord of Mayer; great-grandchildren; brothers, Duane (Marcella) Peterson of Cokato and Lowell (Barb) Peterson of Hutchinson; sisters, LaVonne Kaufmann of Hutchinson, Muriel (Harold) VonBerge of Plato and Lois (Gary) Hoffman of Hutchinson; nieces, nephews, many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Agnes Peterson; wife, Edith (Holm) Peterson; daughter, Connie Holst; and brother, Lloyd Peterson.

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



Chronicle photo by Jessica Grams

ECCE holiday program

On Thursday, the students at Glencoe-Silver Lake's ECCE program presented some very animated holiday songs. Pictured are, from left, Rayna Gatson,

Ben Conklin, Cora Theimann, Sergio Vasquez, Noah Seemann and McKenna Lindahl.

Deaths

Oda 'Odie' Connick, 94, of Glencoe

Oda "Odie" Connick, 94, of Glencoe, died Saturday, Dec. 20, 2014, at Glencoe Regional Health Services.

The funeral service will be Friday, Dec. 26, at 11 a.m., at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glencoe, with interment following in the church cemetery.

Visitation will be Friday, Dec. 26, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., two hours prior to the service at the church.

Arrangements are with the Johnson-McBride Funeral Chapel in Glencoe. An online guest book is available at www.hantge.com.

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In Memory of
Melvin Miller
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in December 2008

If we could have a lifetime wish and one dream that could come true, we would pray to God with all our hearts, just to see and speak to you. A thousand words won't bring you back, we know because we tried; and neither will a million tears, we know because we've cried.

Sadly missed by the families of
Melvin Miller

In Memory of our loved one, Dale 'Buford' Mackenthun, whom our Lord took home a year ago on Dec. 28, 2013.

Time cannot steal the treasures that we carry in our hearts. Nor ever di the shining thoughts our cherished past impacts. For the memories that you've left us still cast a gentle glow, to grace out days and light our paths, wherever we may go.

Day by day we cherish the special place in our hearts that will always be reserved for you. We miss you smile and your laughter, but we thank God for your love that we feel in our hearts and the gift your living brought to each of us.

With unending love until we meet again... your family.

In Memory of
Omer Lentsch
who passed away 4 years ago Christmas Day

◆◆ **Memories of the Heart** ◆◆

Feel no guilt in laughter. He knows how much you care. Feel no sorrow in a smile That he's not there to share. You cannot grieve forever. He would not want you to. He'd hope that you would carry on the way you always do. So talk about the good times And the ways you showed you cared. The days you spent together, All the happiness you shared. Let the memories surround you. A word someone may say Will suddenly recapture A time, an hour, a day. That brings him back as clearly As though he were still here. And fills you with the feelings That he is always near. For if you keep those memories You will never be apart And he will live forever Locked safe within your heart.

by Author Unknown

Sadly missed by Lillian Lentsch & family

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Car stolen, crashed in rural Gaylord area

On Saturday, Dec. 20, at 6:53 a.m., the Sibley County's Sheriff's Office received a report of a one-vehicle rollover four miles southeast of Gaylord on 320th Street, near 431st Avenue.

The driver had fled the scene before first responders arrived. Involved was a 1996

Toyota Camry, which had been reported stolen by its owner to the LeSueur Police Department.

The crash and vehicle theft are under investigation. Anyone with any information is asked to contact the Sibley County Sheriff's Office at 507-237-4330.

3 people, including Stewart woman, hurt in accident

Three people were injured in a two-vehicle head-on accident west of Olivia on Highway 71 Monday. The accident was reported at about 2:30 p.m.

According to the Minnesota State Patrol, Dee Lothert 58, of Renville, was westbound on Highway 71 in a 1998 Dodge Ram pickup when the pickup crossed over the center line and hit a 2001 Toyota Sienna driven by Samoane Wagner, 25, of Stewart.

Lothert was unconscious at the accident scene and taken to Renville County Hospital in Olivia with serious injuries. She was not wearing a seat belt.

Wagner and her passenger, Arland C. Johnson, 82, of Hector, were both taken to Renville County Hospital with minor injuries. Both were wearing seat belts, and the air bags were deployed.

Road conditions were wet at the time of the accident.

Responding to the accident were the Renville County Sheriff's Office, Olivia Police Department, North Memorial

Ambulance Service, Olivia Ambulance and Olivia Fire and rescue. The incident was investigated by the Minnesota State Patrol.

Another accident occurred Monday on Highway 71, this one in Kandiyohi County near 37th Avenue, just after 10 p.m.

According to the State Patrol, both vehicles were northbound when the accident occurred.

A 2009 Chrysler Sebring, driving by Jayme Harlander, 19, of Hutchinson, was northbound when it attempted to make a left-hand turn in front of a 2005 Pontiac Grand Prix, driving by Savannah Miller, 19, of Willmar, which was northbound in the left lane.

The resulting sideswipe accident injured both drivers and two passengers in the Harlander vehicle, Shanel M. Goranowski 18, and Madeline E. Squier, 18, both of Hutchinson. All four people had non-life-threatening injuries and were taken to Rice Hospital in Willmar for treatment. All were belted, according to the State Patrol.



Chronicle photos by Lori Copler

Parade winners announced

The Glencoe Area Chamber of Commerce last week announced the winning participants of its Holly Days parade, which was held Saturday, Dec. 13. The winning float, shown above, was "Pop-A-Top" by the Goff family. The second-place entry, below left, was "A Christmas Story," entered by Unhinged! Pizza; and

the third-place entry was by the Glencoe Woodworking Club, below right. Bump's Family Restaurant received honorable mention. Prizes were \$250 in Glencoe Bucks for first place, \$150 in Glencoe Bucks for second place, \$100 in Glencoe Bucks for third place, and \$50 in Glencoe Bucks for honorable mention.



FILL IT UP WITH CHEER!

We thank you for choosing us and wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

1320 Pryor Ave. N.,
Glencoe
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We're all revved up to wish you a Merry Christmas. THANK YOU to all of our valued customers for your patronage over the years.

Please see Scott or John at SJS Performance in the future for your auto needs from diagnostics to engine rebuilding. We offer a full line of tires and tire repair. Pickup and delivery service available.

SJS PERFORMANCE INC. 8276 Acorn Ave. Plato, MN 320-238-1000

10% off Parts & Labor on service repair bills over \$100⁰⁰ from now thru 3-31-15 with this ad. Happy Holidays!

Glad Tidings

Merry Christmas and many thanks, everyone!

Gavin, Winters, Twiss, Thiemann & Long Ltd.
Attorneys at Law
1017 Hennepin Ave. N., Glencoe 864-5142

With Warm Regards

We may provide the heat for your home, but nothing warms our hearts more than thoughts of the many good folks we've had the privilege to serve this past year. Happy Holidays!

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Home For The Holidays

There's no place we'd rather be, Than here in this community — To celebrate from beginning to end The holiday season with all of our friends! Merry Christmas and many thanks.

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It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year!

Here's hoping that your holiday, Will go smoothly all the way ... With enough good times, good friends, good cheer To warm your heart throughout the year!

Happy Holidays and many thanks for your support.

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Merry Christmas

May the holiday spirit flourish in your heart at Christmastime and all year.

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HOLIDAY EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the holidays, ads for the **Jan. 1 Arlington Enterprise** are needed by **Noon on MONDAY, DEC. 29**, ads for the **Jan. 4 Glencoe Advertiser, Sibley Shopper & the Jan. 7 Golden Galaxy** are needed by **Noon on TUESDAY, DEC. 30**.

The **GLENCOE** office will be closing at **2:00 p.m.** on Dec. 24 and closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.
The **ARLINGTON** office will be closing at **NOON** on Dec. 24 & 31 and closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

McLeod Publishing
INCORPORATED
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The Galaxy • The Sibley Shopper • The Arlington ENTERPRISE
online at www.glencoenews.com

Yuletide Greetings

Beautiful, peaceful, full of happiness too, is the holiday season we wish for you. May it find you surrounded by family and friends, good cheer and good times, from beginning to end.

With appreciation for your friendship and patronage, we wish you a warm and wonderful season. Customers like you have really made our year special. Thanks, and Happy Holidays!

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