



Winter’s End

GSL boys, girls fall in section semifinals

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Knowledge Bowl is going to State

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The McLeod County

Chronicle

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March 15, 2017

School Board shortens student year by 1 day, adds ‘packing day’

By Lori Copler
Editor

The Glencoe-Silver Lake School Board shortened the student school year by one day at its Wednesday, March 8, meeting. Instead, teachers will be given a “packing day” at the end of the year to prepare to move from current classrooms into the new building additions.

Superintendent Chris Sonju said the other option to create a packing day would be to extend the teachers’ contract by one day, which would have cost the district money. Sonju said the teachers and the board came to an agreement on the packing day in a meet-and-confer session.

Because it was a change to the school calendar, the School Board had to formally vote on the change, which it approved unanimously.

Under the approved calendar

change, the last day of classes for students will be Monday, May 22. Tuesday, May 23, will be the last day for teachers, and Wednesday, May 24, will be the “packing day.”

Board Member Donna VonBerge suggested having students assist with packing, as it will give them some ownership in the move.

Sonju said some student groups may help with packing as a fundraiser and as a way to get in community service hours.

In related business, Business Manager Michelle Sander gave an update on the building project.

Sander said that strong winds early to mid-week last week hindered outdoor work.

“You probably haven’t seen a lot of work going on (from outside),” she said.

But construction crews were kept

busy indoors during the averse weather.

“There is progress being made on the inside,” Sander said.

Priming of walls and ceilings in the new gym and the addition to Lincoln Junior High are being completed, and painting should begin soon.

Renovations in the existing Lincoln gym should beginning April. Sander said the district is hoping to use the gym for storage of classroom items that are moved from Helen Baker Elementary.

Sander also passed around proposed plans for the new playground, which will utilize some equipment from Helen Baker as well as new equipment.

“We’re going to have an awesome playground when this is all done, not just for our school, but for the

community,” Sander said.

Sonju reported that work has begun on drainage issues, with work being done between the east ditch and the new project. He said the district is still waiting for the final easement.

In other business:

- The School Board approved a new contract with Chartwell to provide food service for the district.

Sander said the district had received two proposals for food service. Chartwell’s was lower at \$857,285, as compared to \$898,824 from CBM of Sioux Falls.

Sander said the district has been happy with Chartwell’s service, and said that there will be new opportunities for more offerings with the new kitchen and food service area that are part of the construction project.

- Discussed a wooded lot the district owns near the former Al’s Auto on Highway 22 just west of Glencoe.

The lot, at one time, was used as an outdoor classroom. Recently, the school district had a suggestion from a citizen to turn the woods over to the city of Glencoe for use as a park.

School Board Member Kevin Kuester said he would like to see the district make use of the property, and had contacted a contractor to restore the trails, so that it could once again be used either as an outdoor classroom or other educational opportunity.

School Board Member Jason Lindeman suggested opening it as the Nature Conservancy for public use,

School Board

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Chronicle photo by Lori Copler

FFA children’s barnyard

The Glencoe-Silver Lake FFA Chapter hosted its annual barnyard Wednesday, March 8, to bring together kids and farm animals. Above, GSL student Caden Pautsch checks out a donkey. Other

animals included chicks, rabbits, calves and goats. Along with GSL elementary students, children from local preschools and day cares also were invited.

Planning commission sets public hearings

By Karin Ramige
Publisher

In a very brief meeting on Thursday, March 9, Glencoe’s Planning Commission set two public hearings for its next meeting on Thursday, April 13 at 7:05 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Both hearings are in regards to dividing nd land use of two lots on 20th Street West in Glencoe. The lots are currently plotted for single family homes. Travis Tuchtenhagen of

Tuchtenhagen Construction and Willard Exsted of Exsted Realty are looking to divide the lots to build possible two sets of twin homes. The homes would be similar to others in the neighborhood.

One of the proposed complex would be three bedrooms each, the other two bedrooms.

Commissioner Ron Knop, who lives in the area, expressed concern about splitting the utilities on each

lot. Each lot has utilities for a single family home.

After the public hearing, the commission will decide if it will make a recommendation to the city council. If a recommendation is made, the council would hear it on Monday, April 17.

The commission hopes to received feed back from neighbors who live in the effected area.

County, Hutchinson officials meet in joint session Thursday

By Lori Copler
Editor

The McLeod County Board of Commissioners and Hutchinson City Council met jointly Thursday afternoon to discuss topics ranging from the joint planning ordinance to a shared roto-chopper to water drainage issues.

First up was a discussion of McCuen Creek, located between Allen Lake and the south edge of Hutchinson, which is in desperate need of a clean-out.

County Commissioner Paul Wright said the creek is a public waterway, and property owners along the creek would like to see the county take it over and incorporate it into the ditch system.

“That could easily be a two- or three-year process, and they would like it cleaned out this year,” said Wright.

But since it is not in the ditch system, the problem becomes how to pay for its clean-out, which is estimated to cost \$60,000.

County Attorney Mike Junge said an option is to create a special taxing district for the creek, which will allow the county to tax property owners for its clean-out. Junge said that creating a special taxing district for ag drainage is allowable under state statute. The county could pursue making it a county ditch for future maintenance.

Joint planning

Currently, McLeod County and the city of Hutchinson have a joint planning area in a two-mile ring around the city limits.

“The misconception is that the city runs that,” said Matt Jaunich, city administrator.

Jaunich said that township officials and residents don’t seem to understand that the joint planning board only makes recommendations to the county board.

“We need to correct that misconception,” Jaunich said.

Jaunich said he feels that part of that misconception is generated by the fact that some of the paperwork is filed through the city office. He said his staff is looking at other ways to process applications.

Another suggestion was to have the joint planning board meet somewhere other than the Hutchinson

City Offices to help correct the illusion that it is a city board.

Junge said that having the planning area actually allows townships to have more of a voice in what happens in the area.

Under statute, Junge said, the city actually has the authority to extend its ordinances to include the two-mile ring around the city limits without permission from the townships.

“This actually allows townships more of a say than they ever would have had had the city exercised that option,” said Junge.

Trailblazer

County Board Chair Joe Nagel gave an update on Trailblazer Transit, noting that the members of McLeod and Sibley counties were trying to work out differences with the Wright County Area Transit (WCAT) members, who have a letter of intent to withdraw from the system on the table.

Nagel said a mediation session was held Wednesday, March 8, which he thought went well, although there are still issues to work out.

“It was a very positive meeting, very professional, and I think we’ll be able to work things out,” said Nagel.

Jaunich said Hutchinson’s concern is that service continues for city residents.

Rotochopper

The city of Hutchinson is seeking input on a county-purchased roto-chopper being used at Creekside Soil.

The city would like to trade in the chopper, which has a value of about \$50,000 to \$60,000, for a new one, which the city would solely own.

Junge said he would work out an agreement with the city on the equipment.

Other issues included the possibility of a feasibility study to create a northeast ring road for truck traffic around the city, clean-up around the solid waste facility and the upcoming need to replace emergency radios throughout the county as the current radios are no longer supported with parts and service, as well as trails.

Weather



Wed., 3-15

H: 31° L: 21°



Thur., 3-16

H: 44° L: 32°



Fri., 3-17

H: 43° L: 25°



Sat., 3-18

H: 46° L: 27°



Sun., 3-19

H: 51° L: 35°

Looking back: A hyped-up major storm never materialized, but winter-like temperatures returned late last week.

Date	Hi	Lo	Precip
March 7	48	25	0.10
March 8	33	21	0.00

March 9	32	10	0.00
March 10	19	0	0.00
March 11	22	7	0.00
March 12	18	6	3.50
March 13	29	5	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

SL summer rec sign-up night

Silver Lake summer recreation and swimming lessons sign-up will be Wednesday, March 15, from 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., at the Silver Lake Auditorium. Activities offered include baseball for kindergarten through second graders, baseball for third- and fourth-grade boys, softball for third- and fourth-grade girls, and a morning program for kids kindergarten through sixth grade, as of the 2016-17 school year.

Glencoe Legion Auxiliary

The Glencoe American Legion Ladies Auxiliary will meet Monday, March 20, at 7 p.m., at the Glencoe Fire Hall. Lunch will be served.

High school music concert

The Glencoe-Silver Lake High School vocal groups and bands will present their winter concert Monday, March 20, starting with the vocal groups at 7 p.m., followed by the bands, at the high school. Performing will be the SA Singers, the Madrigal Singers and the Concert Choir. Four professional string musicians will accompany the choirs. The band concert, originally scheduled for March 13, was postponed and combined with the choir concert because of a conflict with boys basketball play-offs. The barbecue dinner that was scheduled with the band concert was cancelled, and hopefully will be rescheduled for another time.

Junior high musical concert

Glencoe-Silver Lake will present a seventh- and eighth-grade vocal concert Thursday, March 16, at 7:30 p.m., followed by a junior high band concert at 8 p.m., in the Glencoe-Silver Lake High School Auditorium. The choirs will perform separately and will then combine for the final selection. The choirs are directed by Kay Wilson and the bands are directed by Peter Gepson.

Faith Preschool open houses

Faith Preschool in Silver Lake will have open houses and will take registrations for the 2017-18 school year Thursday, March 16, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, March 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The preschool is located at 100 Main St. W in Silver Lake.

Glencoe Study Club to meet

The Glencoe Study Club will meet Monday, March 20, at 7 p.m., at 1010 Mitchell Court, Glencoe.

Silver Lake Legion Auxiliary

The Silver Lake American Legion Auxiliary Unit will meet Monday, March 20, with lunch at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7 p.m. March is food shelf month, and also the birthday of the American Legion.

Brownton Lions fish fry

The Brownton Lions Club will have its annual fish fry Friday, March 24, serving from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. (or until the fish runs out) at the Brownton Community Center. The menu includes fish, potatoes, beans, coleslaw, bread, coffee and milk. Take-out orders are available. All proceeds go to community projects.

Mystery dinner set March 18

Brownton Cabin Fever Days will present a mystery dinner, “The Luck of the Irish,” Saturday, March 18, at the Brownton Community Center. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the meal and mystery start at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the Brownton City Offices, Security Bank & Trust in Brownton and Glencoe, and Five Star Financial in Hutchinson.

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.

Preservation Society meeting

The Glencoe Preservation Society will meet Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Historic Room at the Glencoe City Center. Board meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. Anyone interested in preserving the history of Glencoe and the surrounding areas are welcome to attend. We are always looking for new members. For more information contact Gloria, 320-864-4174.

Business meeting set

The Western Fraternal Life Lodge 34 of Hutchinson will hold a business meeting Tuesday, March 21 at 7 p.m. at Cedar Crest located at 1401 Main Street West in Silver Lake.

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.

School Board

Continued from page 1

much like Schaefer Prairie near Brownton.

“I just want to see it be used,” said Sonju.

- Approved its annual contracts with the Southwest West Central (SWWC) Service Cooperative.
- Approved a contract with Southwest Minnesota State University for student teaching.

- Accepted with gratitude donations from the McLeod County Corn and Soybean Growers Association, \$500 for the ag department; and the Silver Lake Lions, \$500 for the robotics program.
- Heard a presentation on the robotics program from student participants.



Submitted Photo

Knowledge Bowl goes to state

The Glencoe-Silver Lake Knowledge Bowl team members at the regional meet are, row one: Austin Pinske, Jacob Fehrenbach, Jack Gepson, Katie Twiss; row two: Kalie Butcher, Carlee Oberlin, Abby Gronlund,

Lexi Fronk, Haley Lukes, Jacob Reichow; row three: Megan Fehrenbach, Charles Urban, Cole Janke; back row: Dan Cross, Maggie Petersen, Jake Vasek, Brett Baumgarten

GSL Knowledge Bowl Wins Region, Heading to State Meet

On Thursday, March 9, GSL took four Knowledge Bowl teams to their Region 6 meet. Nine other schools brought their teams as well - Central Minnesota Christian School, Dawson-Boyd, Hutchinson, Montevideo, New London-Spicer, Ortonville, Renville County West, Willmar, and Yellow Medicine East – for a total of eighteen teams. All the teams had qualified at one of the Subregional meets held earlier.

GSL’s Supernova began the meet with a score of 46 on the written, five points ahead of the next score. They dominated the oral rounds 25-9-5, 24-8-3, 17-10-6, and 19-11-6. No team lasted against them in Room One for all four rounds, although Willmar and GSL Antimatter

were in Room One with Supernova for three rounds. (Hutchinson and Ortonville were each in Room One once.)

With scores that high, Supernova won the meet with an outstanding score of 137.0. Willmar came in second place with 91.5, while Hutchinson earned third with 90.5.

These top three teams will advance to the State Meet in early April. Supernova includes Jacob Fehrenbach, Jack Gepson, Austin Pinske and Katie Twiss.

GSL’s Antimatter suffered from their three rounds in Room One. During the first oral round, in Room Two, they had outscored their opponents 20-11-5. In the next three rounds, however, they were not able to do well


enough to hold their position, and fell from second place to third, finally finishing the meet in fourth place with 82.5 points. This placement muted the joy GSL team members felt for Supernova, as we had hoped that Antimatter might also qualify for the State Meet. The team members were Brett Baumgarten, Maggie Petersen, Jacob Reichow and Jake Vasek.

GSL’s Europa and Ganymede both competed in lower Rooms Five and Six for the entire meet. Each had good rounds, with 10, 11, and 12 points, but neither could break out of the lower two rooms. (This was still good performance for teams composed entirely of freshmen and sophomores!) Europa finished with 62.0 points; the

team members were Kalie Butcher, Lexi Fronk, Abby Gronlund, Cole Janke and Haley Lukes.

Ganymede ended the meet with 59.0 points; this team included Dan Cross, Megan Fehrenbach, Carlee Oberlin and Charles Urban.

Now GSL enters the frustrating wait-and-practice stage of the Knowledge Bowl season. The State Meet is April 6-7, and teams who qualify must practice for several weeks without other meets to go to. In fact, because spring sports and activities are starting, Knowledge Bowl practices are less frequent and students are torn between Knowledge Bowl and their other interests. We hope to be able to report good results in April after our long wait!




GLENCOE CO-OP ASSN.



Date: Thurs., Mar. 16, 2017 Time: 11 am
Where: Pla-Mor Ballroom
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LUNCH WILL FOLLOW MEETING.


If you are interested in running for the Board of Directors, contact our office by Friday, March 10. Qualifications required, call for details, 320-864-5561.

FB-1610-11A



St. Peter's Lutheran School

Gibbon, MN



WHAT: Kindergarten Round-Up & Open House for Grades 1-8
WHERE: St. Peter's Lutheran School
63872 240th Street, Gibbon
WHEN: Thursday, March 30
4-7 p.m.

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The McLeod County Chronicle

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Those who traveled to Duluth for the robotics competition include, front row from left, Mentor Mike Sundblad, students Earl Janke, Roxanna Sanchez, and alumni Martin Mallak; and, back row, alumni Ethan Wolf, students Blake Ortloff, Mason Husted and Eric Villow.

GSL Robotics team competes in Steamworks robotics game

The weekend of March 2-4, the Glencoe-Silver Lake (GSL) Robotics Team participated at the North Star Regional at Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center. They competed with and against 60 other teams in this year's challenge, "Steamworks."

Steamworks invites adventure clubs from an era in which technology relied on steam power to prepare their airships for the ultimate long-distance race.

Each team prepares to take flight in three ways:

- Build steam pressure. Robots collect fuel represented by green balls. They scored in high and low goals in their boiler. As fuel is scored, steam pressure in the tank on the airship builds — the high goal builds faster than the low goal.
- Start rotors. Robots retrieve and deliver gears to pilots on their airship, who then install them in the appropriate motor. Once a gear train is complete, the rotor can be started.
- Prepare for flight. Adventure clubs want their robots to climb aboard their airships so that they can assist the pilots.

Teams then move on to the autonomous period. Robots operate independently from pre-programmed instructions for the first 15 seconds. Points are scored by reaching the baseline, delivering the gears to the airship, and scoring fuel in the boilers.

The final phase is the tele-operated period, in which operators take control for 2



Drive team: Earl Janke, Isaac Swift, Blake Dahlke, Eric Villnow and mentor Jeff Jenson.

minutes, 15 seconds, and collect points by collecting and delivering gears to their airship, scoring fuel in the boilers, climbing the ropes for their airship to prepare for flight, populating gear trains to start motors and defending against other adventure clubs. The adventure club with the highest points wins.

The event began with a practice day March 2 to fine tune and work out the bugs of the robots. Friday, March 3, was the first day of competition.

In the first match GSL Team 4665 was the only alliance partner that was able to perform as the two other robots did not move from start position. As it was team 4665 still scored 57 points in that match. The team had four more matches that day and ended on a 1-4-0 record and a ranking of 58th out of 60 teams.

The team made adjustments and came back Saturday, March 4, to win its next three matches.

The robot is able to pick up fuel (balls) from the floor and

deliver them to the low goal, transfer gear to the airship and climb the rope. The final ranking for the team was 35th place.

This is the first year the team is competing in two events; its next regional is at the University of Minnesota, Mariucci Arena, April 6-8. The top alliance partners from all regionals qualify for "World Championships." The 2017 FIRST Championships will be held in Houston, Texas, on April 19-22, and in St. Louis, Missouri, on April 26-29.

Students on the GSL team include Daniel Cross, Tony Fischer, Mason Husted, Earl Janke, Jacob Jochum, Haley Kirchoff, Paul Lemke, Bjorn Lucas, Cullen Lukes, Cole Mathwig, Luke Mattson, Tyler Mueller, Luke Ness, Jonathon Norling, Tanner Novack, Blake Ortloff, Kole Polzin, Jon Ramige, Anna Salgado, Roxanna Sanchez, Ben Siers, Theresa Siers., Isaac Swift, Eric Villnow and Eric Wheeler. Mentors, Jeff Jenson, ReNae Jenson and Mike Sundblad.

Brownton City Council considers options for crumbling building

By Lori Copler
Editor

The Brownton City Council has decided to press charges against the owner of a decrepit building on Fourth Avenue N, its main business street.

The roof of the building, a former grocery store, has begun to cave in and its brick facade is falling into an empty lot on the south side of the building. The city has placed warning cones around the building.

At its Tuesday, March 7 meeting, Police Chief Ken Bauer suggested the city take possession of the building and demolish.

However, council members didn't feel it was the city's responsibility to take on the issue.

City Clerk Ella Kruse said that the owner of the building has not returned phone calls

about the building, although certified mail regarding the issue has been picked up.

Mayor Norm Schwarze said he had spoken to the city's building inspector about the building.

"The city is under no obligation to take that building," said Schwarze.

"But then whose liability is it if something happens?" asked Bauer.

"I would assume the owner's," said Schwarze.

Council members indicated that there is asbestos in the building, which would add to demolition costs.

Kruse said there also are several years of back taxes owed on the property, but it was not far enough in arrears to be forfeited to the county.

The council instructed Kruse and Bauer to contact the city attorney to begin criminal proceedings.

In other decrepit property business, the council passed a resolution that transfers an order for repairs on a house on First Avenue South to the new owner.

The house has long been a blight issue for the city. It issued an order for repairs to the previous owners. The house was then sold to a company, CTW Group, Inc., of Minneapolis, that buys old homes and renovates them. Some clean-up of the property was done, but the house is now on the market again.

Kruse said that transferring the order for repair to the current owner will ensure that any potential buyers know that there are repairs that need to be made before the house can be occupied.

The city also briefly discussed a vacant home on Third Avenue N that needs significant repairs.

Menus

March 20-24
Glencoe-Silver Lake Helen Baker Breakfast
Monday — Breakfast sausage pizza, chilled mandarin oranges, apple juice.
Tuesday — Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal, whole-grain apple cinnamon muffin, chilled pears, orange juice.
Wednesday — Skewered turkey sausage pancake, Cocoa Puffs cereal, applesauce, grape juice.
Thursday — Whole-grain french toast sticks, strawberry banana yogurt, chilled peaches, apple juice.
Friday — Cocoa Puffs cereal, whole-grain blueberry muffin, sliced apples, orange juice.

Glencoe-Silver Lake Helen Baker Lunch
Monday — Beef hot dog on a whole-wheat bun, tator tots, baby carrots, apple half, chilled pears.
Tuesday — Whole-grain chicken nuggets, whole-grain dinner roll, mashed potatoes, chicken gravy, celery sticks, banana, chilled applesauce.
Wednesday — Cheese-stuffed bread sticks, green beans, broccoli florets, red seedless grapes, chilled peaches.
Thursday — Crispy chicken patty sandwich, vegetarian baked beans, baby carrots, orange wedges, pineapple tidbits.
Friday — Toasted cheese sandwich, Campbell's tomato soup, sliced cucumbers, apple half, chilled mandarin oranges.

Glencoe-Silver Lake Lakeside Breakfast
Monday — Breakfast sausage pizza, Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal, whole-grain apple cinnamon muffin, chilled applesauce, orange juice.
Tuesday — Skewered turkey sausage pancake, Cocoa Puffs cereal, low-fat mozzarella string cheese, chilled mandarin oranges, apple juice.
Wednesday — Whole-grain pancakes, pork sausage patty, whole-grain blueberry muffin, strawberry banana yogurt, frozen strawberries, grape juice.
Thursday — Whole-grain french toast sticks, low-fat mozzarella string cheese, Golden Grahams, whole-grain blueberry muffin, sliced apples, orange juice.
Friday — Breakfast sausage pizza, Trix cereal bar, chilled pears, apple juice.
Glencoe-Silver Lake Lakeside Lunch
Monday — Barbecued rib

sandwich, turkey and cheese sandwich, vegetarian baked beans, baby carrots, apple half, chilled pears.

Tuesday — Italian meat sauce, whole-grain spaghetti, whole-grain bread stick, chicken and cheese chef salad, whole-grain seasoned croutons, broccoli florets, celery sticks, banana, chilled applesauce.

Wednesday — Whole-grain chicken nuggets, whole-grain dinner roll, sun butter and banana roll up, mashed potatoes, chicken gravy, carrots, red seedless grapes, chilled peaches.

Thursday — Mini turkey corn dogs, whole-grain dinner roll, turkey chef salad, whole-grain seasoned croutons, seasoned carrots, sliced cucumbers, orange wedges, pineapple tidbits.

Friday — Whole-grain pancakes, scrambled eggs, low-fat mozzarella string cheese, ham and American cheese sandwich, tator tots, red bell pepper strips, apple half, chilled mandarin oranges.

Glencoe-Silver Lake Junior, Senior High Breakfast
Monday — Whole-grain french toast sticks, hard-boiled egg, whole-grain peanut butter and grape jelly uncrustable, chilled applesauce, apple juice.
Tuesday — Breakfast sausage pizza, whole-grain blueberry bagel, cream cheese, chilled pears, grape juice.
Wednesday — Skewered turkey sausage pancake, whole-grain peanut butter and jelly uncrustable, chilled mandarin oranges, apple juice.
Thursday — Pork sausage, egg and cheese bagel, ultimate breakfast round, strawberry banana yogurt, chilled peaches, grape juice.
Friday — Whole-grain pancakes, pork sausage patty, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, whole-grain apple cinnamon muffin, pineapple tidbits, apple juice.

Glencoe-Silver Lake Junior, Senior High Lunch
Monday — Beef hot dog on a whole-wheat bun, chili cheese dog, sauerkraut, seasoned potato wedges, vegetarian baked beans, cheese pizza, pepperoni pizza, roma herb blend, deli selections, marinated tomato and cucumber salad, baby carrots, apple, chilled pears, seasoned corn.
Tuesday — Seasoned taco beef, tortilla chips, Mexican-style refried beans, cheddar cheese sauce, steamed brown rice, chilled kidney bean salad, red bell pepper strips, banana, chilled applesauce, apple.
Wednesday — Sweet and sour chicken, steamed brown rice, vegetable stir fry, sweet corn and pepper salad, sliced cucumbers, frozen strawberries, chilled peaches.
Thursday — Cheese pizza, seasoned carrots, buttermilk coleslaw, celery sticks, orange wedges, pineapple tidbits, broccoli florets.
Friday — Cheese-stuffed bread sticks, marinara sauce, green beans, caesar salad, baby carrots, apple, chilled mandarin oranges.

pizza, roma herb blend, deli selections, chilled kidney bean salad, red bell pepper strips, banana, chilled applesauce, broccoli florets, apple.

Wednesday — Sweet and sour chicken, steamed brown rice, vegetable stir fry, cheese pizza, Italian sausage pizza, roma herb blend, deli selections, sweet corn and pepper salad, sliced cucumbers, frozen strawberries, chilled peaches, apple.

Thursday — Boneless buffalo chicken wings, mashed potatoes, chicken gravy, seasoned carrots, whole-grain dinner roll, cheese pizza, aloha pizza, roma herb blend, deli selections, buttermilk coleslaw, celery sticks, orange wedges, pineapple tidbits, broccoli florets, apple.


Friday — Cheese-stuffed bread sticks, Italian meat sauce, marinara sauce, green beans, cheese pizza, pepperoni pizza, roma herb blend, deli selections, caesar salad, baby carrots, apple, chilled mandarin oranges.

St. Pius X School
Monday — Beef hot dog on a whole-wheat bun, seasoned potato wedges, vegetarian baked beans, marinated tomato and cucumber salad, baby carrots, apple, chilled pears, seasoned corn.
Tuesday — Seasoned taco beef, tortilla chips, Mexican-style refried beans, cheddar cheese sauce, steamed brown rice, chilled kidney bean salad, red bell pepper strips, banana, chilled applesauce, apple.

Wednesday — Sweet and sour chicken, steamed brown rice, vegetable stir fry, sweet corn and pepper salad, sliced cucumbers, frozen strawberries, chilled peaches.
Thursday — Cheese pizza, seasoned carrots, buttermilk coleslaw, celery sticks, orange wedges, pineapple tidbits, broccoli florets.
Friday — Cheese-stuffed bread sticks, marinara sauce, green beans, caesar salad, baby carrots, apple, chilled mandarin oranges.

First Lutheran School
Monday — Beef noodle hot-dish, romaine lettuce, fruit bread.
Tuesday — Chili with beans, corn bread, fruit.

Wednesday — Barbecues with cook's choice.
Thursday — Pizza burger with cook's choice.
Friday — Corn dog potato chips, fruit.



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Derelict buildings are marring our cities

Our view: Press property owners to make needed repairs

There have been positive signs that the economy is rebounding from what some call the “Great Recession,” which started nearly a decade ago with a crash in the housing market, high employment and out-of-control fuel prices.

Unemployment is down, the inflation rate is minimal, fuel prices are down, and construction has been robust in the area.

But we’re still dealing with the after-effects of that recession. In every town, there are boarded-up houses and businesses and vacant, weedy lots.

And it is costing taxpayers money to take care of them.

In Silver Lake, three Main Street buildings are barricaded off because of their disrepair and possible danger to the public.

Brownton has the same issue — recently, the roof caved in and the brick facade began falling off the old grocery store building on the city’s main business street.

The issue is not unique to small towns, although they are more visible there.

And it’s not just commercial buildings. Every town has homes that have been foreclosed upon and are standing vacant, waiting for new owners. The cities are mowing lawns and shutting off water after pipes freeze and the basements. Cities are certifying the costs for these maintenance items to property taxes, hoping that some day they will be reimbursed when the buildings are sold.

Back to the commercial prop-

erties.

In Silver Lake, the city has opted to buy the buildings in question and have them demolished, freeing up new retail space on Main Street.

Brownton has taken a different approach — the city is pursuing legal action against property owners with orders to repair and possible criminal charges.

Neither approach is wrong, nor are the especially right. The city of Brownton is paying legal fees, and the city needs to weigh whether a legal fight is worth it, or if the money would be better spent in buying the buildings and tearing them down.

Frankly, we feel that Brownton is right in pursuing legal action. At some point, property owners need to be held responsible for their property. Simply walking away from a property when it no longer suits your purposes is wrong. It puts the burden on others to clean up the mess. Pursuing legal avenues sends a message that abandoning property is not an acceptable solution.

The true solution is simple: take care of what you own. Be responsible.

Unfortunately, the solution is not reality. Hopefully, our communities can find ways to deal with these issues with minimal impact to their constituents. Most taxpayers would rather see their dollars go toward the benefit of their community, rather than cleaning up the mess someone else left behind.

— L.C.



Letters to the Editor

Fond memories of high school hockey

I recently traveled to International Falls in the dead of winter ... on purpose. Twice My wife politely turned down my invitation to join me both times.

It has been awhile since I stayed in International Falls in the winter. I had forgotten how much snow it receives and how cold it can get. But my mother didn’t raise any fools. So the first trip, I traveled during the annual “January thaw.” It wasn’t so bad. The week before it was 39 below zero! That is air temperature, folks, not windchill.

I dodged that bullet, but the snow banks were high at every intersection, and a driver needed to use care in creeping into the street to see if there was oncoming traffic. It felt like driving in a tunnel at times.

The second trip was made last Wednesday during the gale-force winds. I bucked those winds for 350 miles, bopping in and out of snow squalls all the way to the Iron Range. After that point, I was back into winter. The snow kept getting deeper as I headed farther north.

By the time I got to the Falls, I had wandered into a major blizzard. Sitting in my car in the Hardee’s parking lot, I could barely see 100 feet as the winds intensified. It also was below zero!

It was earlier in the trip that I realized I had forgotten something. My long underwear. After the mild winter around here, I figured long underwear was no longer necessary. I was wrong!

I actually had a purpose to my travels. I am working on a project to document the Falls Broncos hockey teams of the early 1960s that won 59 straight games. I wanted to talk to



Rich Glennie

these old Broncos about their exploits before they all passed on and their feat is forgotten. Most of them I knew, having grown up with them.

The winning streak began in late 1964 after the Broncos lost to Duluth East in the Region 7 finals. Back then, there were few teams playing hockey in Region 3 (southwest Minnesota), so the runner-up in Region 7 or Region 8, (they alternated) qualified for the state hockey tournament, too.

So the Broncos finished second in the region, and who do they face in the first round of the state tournament? Duluth East.

The Falls won that rematch and won the 1964 state title, too. That started the streak that lasted until the second game of the 1966-67 season. In between they won two more state championships with two undefeated teams.

Quite an accomplishment.

I got interested in the “streak” after attending my brother’s 50-year class reunion in 2015 and mine in 2016. I had an opportunity to listen to the stories and talk to those old geezers. It dawned on me that these

stories were too good to lose to history. So someone needed to get them down in writing. That is my aim.

There was the story about the quickest goal in school history that did not count. It occurred in the last regular season game in 1963-64. The Falls was playing St. Paul Cretin. The puck was dropped to the start the game, and before anyone knew it, the Falls center man slapped the puck from center ice into the Cretin net before four ticks were off the clock.

The shot so shocked everyone that the referee went over to the Falls bench and asked Coach Larry Ross what to do. Ross said the goal should not count, “because we’ll get some more.” The Falls lost that game 3-1, and Ross later said, “I’ll never do that again.”

Or the story of 1965 state championship game that featured three Broncos with serious injuries, and all played in the game. One had eight stitches to the head and was missing two teeth from the previous night, another played with a bad back and a third played with a broken wrist, but didn’t know it until after the game.

They were a tough bunch back then. One thought still lingers: the two best teams in Minnesota high school hockey back then may have been from International Falls. They practiced against each other every day. There were so many good hockey players that did not make the Broncos traveling squad that they could have fielded two teams!

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

Common Cup Ministry grateful for support

To the Editor:

With the recent opening of the Common Cup Ministry Thrift Store many thank-yous of gratitude need to be giving to the dedicated volunteers who gave many hours/weeks and weekends in the construction of the new store: Loren Engelmann (the go to person), Les Engelmann, Dale Engelmann, Randy Bussler, Charlie Czcalla, Louie Graupmann, Roger Gronholz, Roger Hilgers, John Kunkel, Dewey Klaustermeier,

Roger Montgomery, Louie Tessmer. And also to Bergmann Interiors and Lemke Welding. This project would not have happened without their support. A think you also to all the faithful volunteers who helped set up the displays as well as work on a regular schedule to staff the store.

There are many benefits to the act of volunteering. Volunteers feel a sense of ownership into the mission of the project no matter how much time and talent they can give. When

individuals unite in a common mission many are served! If you would like an opportunity to volunteer with Common Cup Ministry and/or learn more about our mission and the impact the ministry has on our communities, please call the shop at 864-1177. You can also visit our website: www.common-cup.org.

**Bev Bonte
Common Cup Ministry**

Question of the week

You can
vote
online at www.glencoenews.com

**McLeod County has miles of paved trails.
How often do you use them?**

- 1) Weekly
- 2) Monthly
- 3) Once in a while
- 4) Never

40 There are paved trails in McLeod County?

Results for most recent question:

**There is a proposal to increase
the renewable energy standard
to 50 percent from 25 percent. Do you:**

- 1) Agree — 36%
- 2) Disagree — 49%
- 3) Don’t care — 15%

47 votes. New question runs March 15-21



Feel strongly about an issue?

Share your opinion with
The McLeod County Chronicle readers
through a letter to the editor.

Please include your name, address and
telephone number (for verification purposes).
email to: loric@glencoenews.com

The McLeod County

Chronicle

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Karin Ramige, Publisher;
Lori Copler, Editor; June Bussler, Business Manager; Sue Keenan, Sales Representative; Brenda Fogarty, Sales Representative; Tom Carothers, Sports Editor; Travis Handt, Creative Department; Cody Behrendt, Creative Department; and Trisha Karels, Office Assistant.

Letters

The McLeod County Chronicle welcomes letters from readers expressing their opinions. All letters, however, must be signed. Private thanks, solicitations and potentially libelous letters will not be published. We reserve the right to edit any letter.

A guest column is also available to any writer who would like to present an opinion in a more expanded format. If interested, contact the editor. loric@glencoenews.com.

Ethics

The editorial staff of the McLeod County Chronicle strives to present the news in a fair and accurate manner. We appreciate errors being brought to our attention. Please bring any grievances against the Chronicle to the attention of the editor, Lori Copler, at 320-864-5518, or loric@glencoenews.com.

Press Freedom

Freedom of the press is guaranteed under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press...”

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



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

Letters to the Editor

Updates on Real ID, licensure, light rail

To the Editor:

We have arrived at our first committee deadline, meaning most bills must have been heard in at least one committee to move forward, unless the Rules and Administration Committee grants an exception. Here is a snapshot of a few bills that have met this deadline:

Real ID

On Monday, March 6, the Real ID bill failed to pass the Senate by a vote of 38-29. However, despite the bill's failure to pass, its fate remains unclear; a motion was passed to reconsider the bill and it was subsequently laid on the table. This means that it is open for further consideration for the duration of the session.

Teacher licensure

Minnesota is home to some of the best and brightest students in the nation, but we are experiencing a lack of qualified teachers, particularly in rural school districts. One significant factor in this shortage is the state's cumbersome and inconsistent teacher licensing process. In 2016, Minnesota's Office of the Legislative Auditor (OLA) issued a scathing critique of Minnesota's teacher licensure system. The 107-page report found, in general, that "Minnesota's teacher licensure system is broken and needs significant changes." Last year, because of the OLA report, the legislature established a bipartisan work-

ing group that studied educator licensing and issued a unanimous set of recommendations. This year, the legislature is acting based on both those recommendations and the recommendations in the OLA report.

Senate File 4 is currently undergoing the committee process to fundamentally alter the way teachers are licensed in our state. Among its many provisions, the bill:

Establishes a new "Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board," which will take on the responsibilities currently shared by the Board of Teaching and the Department of Education

Creates a "tiered" licensing system, allowing for a clearer and more affordable pathway into the teaching profession. This new system will empower local school districts to take on more responsibility for educator hiring and development. It will establish consistent standards that will streamline the licensing process for both in- and out-of-state applicants.

The bill has been passed out of the Senate E-12 Policy and State Government Finance and Policy Committees. It awaits a hearing in the E-12 Finance Committee.

Senate File 695

My legislation to place a moratorium on Pollution Control Agency (PCA) wastewater regulations is currently moving through the Senate. This bill is particularly important to small commu-

nities, including a handful of cities in Senate District 18, facing tens of millions of dollars in costs as they work to bring city wastewater treatment plants into compliance with recently imposed PCA water treatment regulations. The moratorium will give the legislature time to consider a recently completed cost-benefit analysis to determine whether the PCA regulations are worth the cost.

Light rail transit

Another important bill heard this week relates to light rail transit spending. Senate File 150, of which I am a co-author, would require local governments to seek legislative approval before spending any money on studying, developing or constructing light rail transit. Light rail transit is controversial, costly and inefficient. Construction of light rail lines costs around \$100 million per mile; projects total in the billions and require tens of millions of dollars of ongoing taxpayer funds to subsidize operation. This model of mass transit is simply not sustainable at a time when every available dollar should be directed toward transit systems that provide more flexibility and are less expensive to construct and operate.

State Sen. Scott Newman
R-Hutchinson

Luce Line Trail is cracking up already

To the Editor:

We have a real problem pushing so many paved trails in McLeod County. The effect of local politicians are going to cause farmers and taxpayers tremendous financial harm. Look at the bad condition of the Luce Line trail that was paved only a year and a half ago.

The trail already has cracks the size of a quarter wide by 50 feet long. Who is going to fix these cracks and when?

Last fall I wrote a letter to the paper with a photo that showed the side horse trail, under water. The DNR

should have fixed the drainage tiling before paving. Because the Luce Line trails goes through my family's farm I see how bad the trail condition is becoming and how few people use the trail. I've had so many people call me about my letter on irresponsible spending to say thank you.

We had a trail before with many users such as walkers, regular and mountain bikers, runners and horses that cost the taxpayers nothing! Now after spending millions, a taxpayer money pit has been created that needs expensive

maintenance that will cause more county tax increases.

The Hutch paper said last fall that auto counters on the trail, last July at County Road 4, only recorded a high of 34 counts – only 17 people both ways. Most days when I am farming, I see no one.

We have a real problem spending millions of dollars for only 17 people using something that already needs repair. It's time to drain the swamp in McLeod County and stop this wasteful spending!

Dean Dostal
Hutchinson Township

From the Chronicle archives

30 Years Ago

March 18, 1987

Bill Ramige, Editor

The Glencoe Eagles basketball team and cheerleaders celebrated a 45-44 victory over Randolph Tuesday in the first game of the Region 4A tournament.

Over 100 girl scouts from Glencoe School District joined hands in a promise circle around the U.S. flag and Girl Scout flag Thursday. Girl scouts throughout the nation made the promise circle at 4 p.m. that day to celebrate the day founder Juliet Lowe began the Girl Scout organization 75 years ago.

Marlys Buckentin of Glencoe was one of 20 semifinalists in the Mrs. Minnesota pageant. She was selected from over 100 other married women nominated throughout the state and was one of the only two farm-wife semifinalists.

20 Years Ago

75 Years Ago

March 14, 1942

Delbert Merrill, Publisher

Silver Lake men reporting for induction on March 16 include George Totushek, Boleslas Witucki, Dominic Junewski and Adalbert Romanski.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Prochaska of Hale Township, on March 5, 1942, a girl weighing 8 pounds.

Miss Dorothy George of St. Paul is the new manager of the Curl Beauty Salon and will assume her duties here this weekend.

50 Years Ago

March 9, 1967

Wilbert Merrill, Publisher

Miss Susan Vorlicek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Vor-

March 12, 1997

Rich Glennie, Editor

The Spruce Ridge Resource Management Facility near Biscay will be taking part in a pilot project this spring if it is approved by the state. The project, leachate recycling, involves recirculating leachate (liquid that passes through the refuse) back into the refuse cell to assist in compaction and microorganism activity. It also will cut the costs of leachate disposal.

The Pizza Ranch opened its doors March 11 at 5:00 p.m. Jason Zehnder, is the owner/manager of the restaurant located right off Highway 212 next to Subway. Pizza and chicken are two of the specialties.

Glencoe-Silver Lake's Missy Withus was named to the Star-Tribune's all metro team honorable mention squad.

10 Years Ago

March 21, 2007

Rich Glennie, Editor

From the Silver Lake Leader archives

75 Years Ago

March 14, 1942

Delbert Merrill, Publisher

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50 Years Ago

March 9, 1967

Wilbert Merrill, Publisher

Miss Susan Vorlicek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Vor-

licek of Silver Lake, and LeRoy Prochaska, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Prochaska of Glencoe, were married Monday, Feb. 6, 1967, at St. George Catholic Church in Glencoe.

Duane E. Kadlec, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arnas Kadlec, has been promoted to staff sergeant in the U.S. Air Force. He is an aircraft mechanic at Hamilton Air Force Base, California.

25 Years Ago

March 12, 1992

Ken and Dorothy Merrill, Publishers

Silver Lake High School wrestler John Rosenau placed second in the 189-pound weight class at the state wrestling tournament.

Filings for candidacy for the Silver Lake School Board

opened Tuesday, March 10. The three-year terms held by Harvey Mikolichuk and Joe Chmielewski are expiring.

Jim and Dianne (Fier) Navratil of Silver Lake are proud to announce the birth of their son, James Anthony, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, on Feb. 24, 1992.

10 Years Ago

March 15, 2007

Ken and Dorothy Merrill, Publishers

Holy Family Catholic School had its science fair Wednesday and Thursday, March 7 and 8. First-place winners were Matt Mickolichuk, Joe Fehrenbach and Heidi Johnson. Placing second were Jamie Bieganek and Katie Dennison, and placing third were Kayla Schermann and Luke Weiers.

History

From the Brownton Bulletin archives

100 Years Ago

March 15, 1917

O.C. Conrad, Editor

Nearly 70 voters turned out at the village caucus Saturday evening. The following officers were elected: F.C. Groth, president of the council; R.J. Podratz, R. Zander and Otto Sell, council men; W.G. Sturdivant, recorder; Frank Mann, treasurer; F.L. Rekow, assessor; W.G. Sturdivant, justice; and Albert Zimmerman, constable.

M.B. West shipped in a carload of slat wood this week and the stuff sold like "hot cakes" as the village has been out of coal and all kinds of wood for a week to 10 days. It is hoped that warmer weather — which is well past due — will help relieve that situation.

Mr. and Mrs. W.N. Schmidt left Tuesday afternoon for their future home at Lakota, North Dakota. F.W. Hollingsworth has accepted the position as sales manager for the Interior Lumber Company of this village and entered upon his duties Tuesday.

75 Years Ago

March 12, 1942

Milton D. Hakel, Editor

Funeral services are being held this afternoon for one of Brownton's faithful public servants of many years standing. Last respects are being paid to W.C. Hochsprung at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Mr. Hochsprung has been ill since October 1940, when sickness forced him to resign as Mayor. He was formerly a partner with Joseph Zander in the Brownton Garage, and later operated the business on his own after the partnership dissolved. He is survived by his wife Laura (Selle), four sons and six daughters.

50 Years Ago

March 16, 1967

Charles H. Warner, Editor

The Lake Marion Ballroom of Brownton has been sold. During the past week, Ralph Neumann, proprietor of the popular night spot on the east shore of Lake Marion, disclosed that he sold the ballroom to Leroy W. Rieger of Minneapolis. The sale became effective March 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Duane Todd announce the birth of a son, Thomas Lee, on March 9 at the Glencoe hospital. He has two brothers, James and Robert.

20 Years Ago

March 12, 1997

Lori Copler, Editor

Two snowmobilers are counting their blessings after their snowmobiles drove into the open water of the aeration system on Lake Marion in the early morning hours of Wednesday, March 5. The two, Rick Roskammer, 29, and Richard Bernhagen, 24, both of Hutchinson, plunged into the water. A third snowmobiler, Brian Brice, went to shore and called 9-1-1 from a nearby residence. Bernhagen managed to get himself out of the water, but Roskammer ended up having to cling to the edge of the ice, from which he was pulled by Brown-

ton Police Chief Mark Mathwig, who was tethered to a rope by the Brownnton First Responders. Jeff and Shannon Streich announce the birth of their daughter, Morgan Rae, on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 1997. Grandparents are Oather and Sandra Martin, Paul and Becky Krueger and Marge and Jerome Streich.

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Kid's Glasses \$98.00
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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.

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Obituaries

Arlene Wendolek, 88, of Silver Lake

Arlene Frances Wendolek, 88, of Silver Lake, died Wednesday, March 8, 2017, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday, March 13, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake with the Rev. Michael Doyle officiating. Gift bearers were Ron and Eileen Pulkrabek.

Casket bearers were her grandchildren, Beth Keith, Aaron Wendolek, Eric Wendolek, Cole Wendolek, Lucas Wendolek and Logan Wendolek. Interment was in St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery in Silver Lake.

Arlene Frances (Nemec) Wendolek was born June 27, 1928, in Glencoe, to Albin and Mary Rose (Moravec) Nemec. Her mother died shortly after Arlene was born, and she was raised by her aunt and uncle, Charles and Clara Pulkrabek. She grew up in rural Glencoe, attended country school at District 6

Koniska School and graduated in 1946 from Stevens Seminary in Glencoe.

On Sept. 30, 1952, she was united in marriage to Harry Wendolek by the Rev. Albert Slechta at St. Joseph's Church, now Holy Family, in Silver Lake. Their marriage was blessed with two sons, Mark and Dean.

The couple engaged in dairy and crop farming for many years in Hale Township, McLeod County. At age 26, Mr. Wendolek was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. His parents returned to the farm from their retirement home in Silver Lake to keep it going, and Mrs. Wendolek returned to Charles and Clara Pulkrabek's home. Two years later, Mr. Wendolek returned home and they resumed farming.

Mrs. Wendolek was a faithful member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake. In her spare time, she enjoyed gardening, embroidery, sewing blankets for her church bazaar and feeding the birds and pheasants in her front yard. She loved playing Polish Poker with her friends at Cedar Crest in Silver Lake.

Mrs. Wendolek was always

upbeat, had a great sense of humor and could hardly keep from laughing when telling a humorous story. She was not afraid to strike up a conversation with a perfect stranger.

She was very proud to donate blood as often as six times a year for many years, totaling 18 gallons, and was still giving blood at age 88.

She is survived by her sons, Mark (Carol) Wendolek of Cokato and Dean (Julie) Wendolek of Silver Lake; grandchildren, Beth Keith, Aaron (Natasha) Wendolek, Eric Wendolek, Cole Wendolek, Lucas Wendolek and Logan Wendolek; and great-grandchildren, Caleb Keith, Issabelle Wendolek and Mackenzie Wendolek.

She was preceded in death by her husband Harry on July 17, 2009; aunt and uncle, Clara and Charles Pulkrabek; her parents; three brothers; one sister; two stepbrothers; and one stepsister. She was the last surviving child of the Albin and Mary Rose Nemec family.

Arrangements were with the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake. Online condolences may be directed to the family at www.mareshfuneralhome.com.

Gary Wawrzyniak, 67, of Silver Lake

Gene Edward Wawrzyniak, age 67, of Silver Lake passed away Saturday, March 11, 2017 at Cedar Crest.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Friday, March 17, at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake. Father Paul Schumacher will be the Celebrant.

A visitation will be held Thursday, March 16 from 4-8 p.m. at the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake. A Prayer Service will be held at 7:30 p.m. Further visitation will be held Friday morning, March 17 from 9-10 a.m. at the funeral home.

Interment with military rites will follow at Holy Family Cemetery.

Casket bearers will be Jo-Dale Miska, Dale Kosek, Pete Swartzter, Frank Nowak, Lee Monahan and Larry Pro-

chaska.

Gene Edward Wawrzyniak was born December 8, 1949, in Hutchinson, the son of Edward and Sophie (Miller-bernd) Wawrzyniak.

Mr. Wawrzyniak graduated from Silver Lake High School in 1967.

He honorably served his Country in the United States Army. Gene was a Vietnam Veteran.

On April 18, 1998, Gene was united in marriage to Burnett M. Chmielewski.

Mr. Wawrzyniak worked as a mechanic for local garages in Silver Lake. He also owned and operated Gene's Towing. His towing business was his life! Gene enjoyed watching his grandchildren's athletic events, making firewood with his sons and his morning coffee "clutch."

Mr. Wawrzyniak was a fireman for over forty years. He was Assistant Fire Chief for Silver Lake from 1986-1987 and he was the Fire Chief from 1988-2011. He was also a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in

Silver Lake.

Mr. Wawrzyniak is survived by his loving wife: Burnett M. Wawrzyniak; children: Kyle (JoAnna) Wawrzyniak, Kelli (Jeff) Monahan, Kendra (Robby) Motzko and Karl Wawrzyniak (Megan Kleve), Gordon (DeAnn) Chmielewski, Cory Chmielewski, Brenda Chmielewski (Bob Wraspir), Jeff Chmielewski; grandchildren: Justin (Brittney) Wawrzyniak, Brianna and Ashley; Maddie, McKenna, Miah and Mylea; Evan and Owen; Jack, Mya and Abby, Tanner, Morgan and Christian; Keijanna and Karsen; great grandchildren: Jeremiah, Macie, Dane, Bo and Luke; other relatives and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents Edward, Sophie and Bernice, great aunt and uncle, Ernest and Delphine Mallak and a granddaughter, Mileka Sae Hall.

The Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake is serving the family. Online condolences may be made to www.mareshfuneralhome.com.

Plan for a safe, sober ride on St. Patrick's Day, March 17

Don't test your luck by driving drunk this St. Patrick's Day. Plan for a safe and sober ride home to avoid the serious consequences that come with a DWI.

St. Patrick's Day is historically a dangerous day on Minnesota roads, as it's the second-leading holiday for DWI arrests per hour, only behind Labor Day.

The number of people arrested for DWI on St. Patrick's Day typically goes up when the holiday falls on a weekend, as is the case this year.

DWIs by year

- 2012 (Saturday), 346.
- 2013 (Sunday), 227.
- 2014 (Monday), 105.
- 2015 (Tuesday), 134.
- 2016 (Thursday), 189.

The risks

Drunk drivers are risking the lives of everyone on the road when they get behind the wheel. During the last six years, there were 11 traffic deaths on St. Patrick's Day, with five of them being drunk driving-related (45 percent). "Celebrating the St. Patrick's Day holiday can be a great time, but that celebration can quickly turn to tragedy if you choose to drive after drinking," says Officer Andrew Fiebelkorn of the Glencoe Police Department. "If you're planning on drink-

ing, there's only one choice — find a sober ride home. Your life and the lives of those you love depend on it."

State statistics

In the last five years (2011-2015), 462 people were killed in drunk driving-related crashes in Minnesota. Drunk driving-related deaths account for one-fourth of all traffic fatalities in Minnesota. Each year, approximately 27,000 people are arrested for DWI and one in seven licensed Minnesota drivers has a DWI on record.

DWI consequences

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

Nathan Dammann, 41, of Hamburg

Nathan Dammann, age 41, of Hamburg passed away Monday March 6, 2017 at his residence.

A memorial service was held Saturday, March 11 at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Hamburg with Rev. Donald Andrix as officiant.

Urn bearers were Bill Wark, Brian Oelfke, Matt Rechtzigel, Dan Goetze, Jason Schroeder and Jeremy Stoeckmann. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Nathan Donald Dammann was born January 6, 1976 in Minneapolis. He was baptized February 22, 1976 at Emanuel Lutheran Church by Rev. Meyer and he confirmed his faith April 22, 1990 at the Emanuel Lutheran Church with Rev. Andrix officiating. Nathan was a member of the Central High School graduat-



Nathan Dammann

ing class of 1994. He went on to study at Canby Technical College in Canby and graduated in 1996.

Mr. Dammann was united in marriage with Nikole Beneke August 1, 1998. This union was blessed with daughters Chauntaya and Felesha.

Mr. Dammann had worked at Wm. Mueller & Sons in Hamburg and Hutchinson Auto prior to beginning his career at S.M. Hentges & Sons Construction in Jordan. He also farmed alongside his father on the Dammann family farm.

Mr. Dammann loved to work in his shop and welcomed the challenge of making something work again. He had a passion with his father for "Black Smoke" and tractor pulling. Nathan loved to rub others "If it ain't red, leave it in the shed!"

Mr. Dammann was a very traditional man who cherished time with his family and friends. He was always there when someone needed help. Nathan will be remem-

bered for his easy going, respectful, kind and caring personality. Nothing could beat the time with his daughters.

Mr. Dammann is preceded in death by his grandparents Sylvia and Roy Biermann, Edward and Elsie Dammann; uncles Roger Dammann and Bill Backen.

Mr. Dammann is survived by his loving family: daughters Chauntaya Dammann and Felesha Dammann; parents Donald and Darlene Dammann of Hamburg; sister and brother-in-law Jill (Vance) Huwe of Carver; niece Sydney Huwe; fiancée Kaiipo Nikor of Hamburg; aunts and uncles Mavis Backen of Texas, Sandra and Dick Saliny of Crystal, Carol Dammann of Bloomington, Allan and Karen Dammann of Perham; his dog Magnum; many cousins, other relatives and dear friends.

In lieu of flowers memorials are preferred. Arrangements were with the Johnson Funeral Home in Waconia. www.johnsonsfh.com

Adeline Harpel, 89, of Glencoe

Adeline Ella Harpel passed away Saturday, March 4, 2017, at Glencoe Regional Health Service Long Term Care in Glencoe.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Tuesday, March 14 at Church of St. Pius X in Glencoe with Rev. Anthony Stubeda officiating.

Casket bearers were Terry Olson, Adam Tabberson, Laura Dooley, Jennifer Medd and Mathew Jahnke. Honorary casket bearers were Wyatt Jahnke, Talon Jahnke, Braeden Dooley, Calin Dooley, Avery Medd, Peyton Medd, Jovie Jahnke, Merissa Kosek, Aiden Kosek, McKiya Kosek, Everly Tabberson and Chad Moehring. Interment was at the Glencoe Catholic Cemetery.

Adeline Ella (Forster) (Hoffmann) Harpel was born March 6, 1927, in Comfrey at her farm home. She was the 7th child born to Joseph and Sophie (Reiderer) Forster. Adeline was baptized as an infant March 13, 1927, by Rev. F. J. Plaschko at the Church of the Japanese Martyrs in Leavenworth, Minnesota. The family later moved to Sleepy Eye where Adeline received confirmation and education at St. Mary's Catholic Church and School.

On September 3, 1946, Mrs. Harpel was united in marriage to Arthur Hoffmann

at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sleepy Eye. The couple made their home on their farm in Clements. Their marriage was blessed with five children, Sandra, Peggy, Steven, Marilyn and Joseph. Adeline and Arthur shared over 26 years of marriage, until Arthur passed away June 14, 1973.

On December 6, 1980, Adeline was united in marriage to William Harpel at Church of St. Pius X in Glencoe. The couple made their home in Glencoe. They shared over 25 years of marriage together, until William passed away December 30, 2005.

Mrs. Harpel helped on the family farm in Clements. The family moved from the farm in 1963. They owned and operated Park Ridge Resort on Lake Miltona. In 1965, they moved to Glencoe.

Mrs. Harpel worked at Telex, Nature Fresh, Green Giant and Glenhaven Nursing Home. She was a member at Church of St. Pius X in Glencoe. She was also a member of the Glencoe VFW Auxiliary Post #5102.

Mrs. Harpel loved spending time with her family and friends. She loved vacations to Alexandria in the summer and fall vacations to the North Shore Drive along Lake Superior. She enjoyed Monday morning coffee with friends and volunteer work at the nursing home sewing on, at that time, name labels. She also enjoyed flowers, bird watching and animals, especially her cat, Lily. Mrs. Harpel made several trips to

Las Vegas, Jackpot Junction and enjoyed social time with her friends and family at the VFW. She was faithful to her church and always had time to discuss problems, console and help family and friends. Adeline was the fun Grandma. She will be sadly missed by all.

Blessed be her memory.

Mrs. Harpel is survived by her children, Sandra (significant other, Eddie Val Gould) Olson of Glencoe, Peggy (Rocky) Lounsbury of Hutchinson, Steven Hoffmann of Glencoe, Marilyn (Vern) Showalter Hutchinson; grandchildren, Terry Olson, Jennifer (Doug) Medd, Laura (Dan) Dooley, Chad (special friend, Heather Thom) Moehring, Adam (Ashley) Tabberson, Mathew (Darci) Jahnke; great grandchildren, Wyatt Jahnke, Talon Jahnke, Braeden Dooley, Calin Dooley, Avery Medd, Peyton Medd, Jovie Jahnke, Merissa (Brian) Kosek; great-great grandchildren, Aiden Kosek, McKiya Kosek, Everly Tabberson;

Many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Mrs. Harpel is preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Sophie Forster; husbands, Arthur Hoffmann, William Harpel; son, Joseph Hoffmann; son-in-law, Wayne Olson; brothers; sisters.

Arrangements were with the Johnson-McBride Funeral Chapel of Glencoe.

Online obituaries and guest book available at www.mcbridechapel.com.

Mini-concert at Grace Bible Church

On Sunday, March 19, request speaker Travis Vaad will be sharing during the regular 9:30 a.m. worship service at Grace Bible Church in Silver Lake.

Vaad is a gifted singer, songwriter, recording artist, pastor, missionary and Christian speaker but, most importantly, a loving husband, father of four, and passionate follower of Jesus.

Immediately following the service (at about 10:35 a.m.) there will be a 40-minute

mini-concert with free refreshments where Vaad will be playing and sharing some of the background to his songs found on his latest album. Regarding his album "Fly," Vaad states, "Each song was birthed by an encounter or experience with Jesus in some way. The journey hasn't always been an easy one, but the seasons of joy far outweigh the hard seasons."

Vaad especially wants to encourage those in the arts

who have a passion for sharing Christ to do so through their writing and music. One can listen to some of his music at www.travisvaad.com.

There is no charge for the event, and the public is invited to attend. Grace Bible Church (www.silverlakechurch.org) is located at 300 Cleveland St. SW in Silver Lake, next to the city water tower.

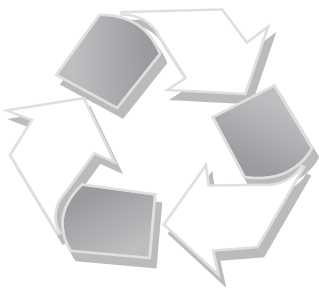
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Community Calendar

Thurs., Mar. 16 — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.; Stewart Lions

Sat., Mar. 18 — Brownton Cabin Fever Days will present a mystery dinner, "The Luck of the Irish," at the Brownton Community Center. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the meal and mystery start at 7 p.m.

Mon., Mar. 20— Tops Weigh-In mtg., 5-5:30 p.m.; Brownton Senior Citizens Club, Brownton Community Center, 1 p.m. Brownton Lions; Stewart American Legion Post 125 & Auxiliary mtg., Stewart Community Center, 7 p.m.; First Day of Spring!

Spring Begins

Thurs., Mar. 23 — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.

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Obituaries

Jean Penas, 75, of Silver Lake

Jean Frances (Ardolf) Penas, 75, of Silver Lake passed away Sunday, March 12, 2017 at Glencoe Long Term Care after a short battle with gallbladder cancer.

A Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial for Jean Penas will be held on Monday, March 20 at 10:30 A.M. at Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake. Father Paul Schumacher will be the Principal Concelebrant. Alice Nowak will be the organist. The Adult Choir will provide special music.

A visitation will be held Sunday, March 19 from 3-7 p.m. at the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake. A Rosary Society Rosary, a C.C.W. Rosary followed by Parish Prayers at 6:30 p.m. Further visitation will be held on Monday morning, March 20 one hour prior to Mass at the funeral home.

Interment will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery in Silver Lake.

Jean Frances (Ardolf) Penas was born January 29, 1942 to Francis and Evelyn Ardolf at Glencoe Hospital. Jean was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph Catholic Church and attended St. Joseph Catholic School through 8th grade. She graduated from Silver Lake High School in 1959. Jean was a faithful member of the

Church of the Holy Family, Rosary Society, CCW, the Adult Choir, and the Guatemala Mission Group.

On May 23, 1961 Jean and Ron Penas were united in marriage at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Silver Lake. They shared 55 years of marriage and were blessed with two boys, Michael and Robert.

Mrs. Penas grew up on her parent's farm east of Silver Lake. As a teenager, she helped her parents run the hardware store in Silver Lake. She was a very talented and crafty person. Over the years she did many crafts such as crocheting, embroidery, and ceramics.

Mrs. Penas was the local florist for many years, and had owned her business, Jean's Floral and Craft, for the past 20+ years out of her home. This business quickly turned into a family affair as she taught her two daughters-in-laws the art of floral design so they could help her, and Ron quickly became the family delivery man. Over the years she gained many customers through word of mouth and was well known throughout the area. Her favorites were the interesting and complex arrangements she was asked to design.

Mrs. Penas had many hobbies and enjoyed many vaca-

tions with friends and family. She was especially proud of her grandchildren and their accomplishments. When the grandchildren were old enough, she took each of them to visit the mission in San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala to show and teach them about helping others. She was looking forward to seeing her last grandchild graduate from high school and seeing in person what happens behind the scenes at NASCAR and ARCA races.

Mrs. Penas is survived by her husband of 55 years, Ron Penas, sons and daughters-in-law: Michael (Lori) Penas and Robert (Peni) Penas; grandchildren: Jennifer Penas of Utica, NY, Andrew and Evelyn Penas of Silver Lake, Francis Penas of Mooresville, NC; brothers and sister-in-laws: Elaine (Jerome) Hemerick, Val (Robert) Shamla, LeRoy (Judy) Penas; numerous friends and family members.

Mrs. Penas is preceded in death by her parents, Francis and Evelyn Ardolf; in-laws Frank and Emma Penas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred.

The Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake is serving the family. Online condolences may be made to www.maresh-funeralhome.com.

Brownton City Council updated on street, utility project at workshop

By Lori Copley Editor

After a year or more of hammering out financing for its street and utility project, the city of Brownton may finally be able to put the project out for bids late this year.

The City Council met with John Rodeberg and Chris Knutsen of Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc., (SEH), its consulting engineers, in a workshop session prior to its regular meeting Tuesday, March 7.

To qualify for Rural Development funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the city had to put together a comprehensive plan for improvements, which include underground utility improvements, and work on its water treatment facility, water tower and lift stations.

The total estimated cost for these improvements comes to about \$8.37 million, of which about \$721,000 will be funded through a Rural Development grant, \$1.34 million from a wastewater infrastructure fund (WIF) grant, \$5.3 million from a low-interest loan from Rural Development, and just over \$1 million from a city bond.

The work scope includes street and utility improvements on Sixth Avenue South from Fourth Street South north to Third Street North, Third Street South from Fifth Avenue South to First Avenue South, Second Street South between Third Avenue South and First Avenue South, Second Avenue South between Third Street South and Division

Street, First Avenue South from Third Street South and Division Street, Fourth Avenue South between Second Street North and the railroad tracks, Third Street North between Fifth Avenue North and Seventh Avenue North, Third Street North east of Third Avenue N and then around the curve and north to Fourth Street, and Fifth Street North between Fourth Avenue North to Second Avenue North.

The council asked if Fourth Avenue North should also be paved from Fourth Street North to Fifth Street North to connect with the Fifth Street segment.

Rodeberg said that it was a possibility, but also noted that segment of road was in the flood plain.

"There could be times when that pavement will be under water," he said.

Rodeberg said the improvements on Fifth Street North would help with erosion issues on that street.

Added to the project was a segment of Eighth Avenue North between Division Street and Second Street North, while a block of Seventh Avenue N between Second and Third streets was removed because there were no occupied homes on that street.

Proposed for street improvements, but not utilities, was a partial block of Fourth Street S to the east city limits, then south on Ninth Avenue South, then back west on Fifth Street S.

Rodeberg said the street and underground utility work

will likely be bid in separate packages from the work for the lift stations, treatment facilities and water tower.

"There will be different contractors interested in those," said Rodeberg.

Rodeberg also said he felt that the city will receive favorable bids, if recent bids received in other communities are any indication.

Knutsen said that work on the design of the streets and utilities is about 30 percent complete, and design is beginning on the other components of the project.

"We're starting to get to the point of preparing construction documents," said Knutsen.

Rodeberg said plans will be presented to Rural Development soon for review, which will take 30 to 60 days. In May, SEH will meet with local utilities, such as natural gas, electric, the proposed RS Fiber project and others to review the plans.

SEH is hoping to present the plans to the public at a "neighborhood meeting" in late April, and a formal public hearing will be held in June. The preliminary assessment roll also should be available in June.

The final design will then start, followed by approval by Rural Development and, hopefully, the letting of bids in December with award of bids in January and a spring construction start.

The council agreed to continue having workshop sessions as the project progresses.

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Safety essential when visiting a farm

The nursery rhyme does not state, “Old MacDonald had a farm and on this farm there was a bunch of dangerous things.” But maybe it should?

Farmers perform an essential service, providing food and other products that consumers commonly take for granted. The inner workings of a farm are something to treat with respect. Most of the families who live and work on a farm understand the potential hazards of such an environment. However, individuals visiting a farm may be unaware of these dangers. Understanding farm safety helps keep everyone safe.

According to the organization Kids Health, the age groups at greatest risk for injury on farms are children ages 3 to 4 and teenagers ages 13 to 14. Most injuries can be prevented, though, with a little education and precautionary measures.

Machinery

There are many different forms of machinery on a farm to help keep it working efficiently. These items can pose serious safety risks. Although tractors are the type of farm equipment that causes the most injuries, some adults still think it is safe to allow children to ride along. Injuries that may result from farm machinery include pinching of clothing or parts of the

body, where a person may become trapped in the gears or components of equipment; cuts from equipment that shears crops; bruising or cuts from projectiles thrown by mowers or other field equipment; and crushing or trapping injuries from machinery that falls or tips over.

Animals

Part of the excitement of visiting a farm is seeing and petting the animals. Although many animals may be docile and domesticated, they can still be unpredictable. Animals that are startled by yelling or loud noises also may become restless and dangerous.

Children should understand that animals may unintentionally cause injuries. It may be in a horse’s defense mechanism to kick when it is scared. To avoid such injuries, never approach animals from behind. Also, when baby animals are present, a female may be protective of her brood and go on the defensive.

Another inadvertent injury that may occur is from bacteria or viruses from the animals. Animal feces may contain bacteria, and there may be other microorganisms on the animals themselves. It is a smart idea to always wash your hands after handling a farm animal to prevent the spread of disease.

Here are some other precautions that can be taken when visiting a farm.

- Don’t allow children to wander around unsupervised.
- Rides on farm equipment should be discouraged.
- Before starting machinery, operators should locate children and other guests and clear them from the work area.
- Don’t allow children near machinery.
- Children under the age of 16 should not be allowed to operate any farm vehicles.
- Watch for hand tools or other equipment, and keep children away from them.
- Do not touch animals unless a farm worker allows it. Then follow his or her instructions.
- Don’t provoke farm animals or attempt to startle them.
- Supervise children around ponds, feeding troughs or manure lagoons. It only takes a few inches of water to pose a drowning risk.

Farms are interesting places to visit, especially for children. Safety should always be a priority when visiting a farm.

Download the 2017 Ag Scene at [Glencoenews.com](http://www.glencoenews.com)
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