



# Brewers win season opener

Glencoe shines in 9-2 defeat of Stingers

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GSL spring play to open Thursday

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The McLeod County

# Chronicle

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## Trailblazer board hears workplace study preliminary report

By Lori Copler  
Editor

Susan Herreid, a consultant with Sand Stone Group, outlined the general results of a workplace environment study commissioned by the Trailblazer Transit Joint Powers Board at its Thursday, April 25, meeting.

Herreid prefaced her remarks by noting that not all of the information she collected could be discussed at a public meeting because of data practice laws regarding private employee information.

Herreid said she had consulted with an attorney from the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT) about what she could and could not discuss publicly.

Herreid said could talk about the general themes she collected through interviews with current and former employees, board members and customers, but items dealing with specific employees would have to be dealt with in a closed session with the employee present.

Nor could she, Herreid said, provide the board with the full report

until the MCIT attorney had reviewed it and redacted any information that would not be considered public.

“So, we spent all this money and now we can’t talk about it,” said McLeod County Commissioner Doug Krueger.

Herreid stressed that she could still talk about general results, but that the board would need to find a procedure to deal with the private data.

Herreid said she had both positive and not-so-positive feedback.

Overall, she said, there is a percep-

tion that Trailblazer’s management team “is doing a great job of budgeting, planning and marketing Trailblazer.”

In addition, there is a perception of a “strong and ongoing relationship with customers, and a lot of excitement about growth and expansion,” Herreid said.

But there were also issues, Herreid said, within the workplace regarding communications, consulting and follow up, training, conflicts and resolutions, professional trust and accountability, and the interview process for

hiring new employees and retention of current employees.

“There were concerns around the workplace environment,” said Herreid. In particular, she said, about “rigidity regarding policies and procedures wasn’t conducive to teamwork and collaboration.”

In addition, she said, there was a concern that those policies were not always made available to staff when there were questions.

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Chronicle photo by Rebecca Mariscal

### GSL prom walks the red carpet

Glencoe-Silver Lake students walked the red carpet Saturday night during the 2016 Prom Grand March. The theme for the night was “Hollywood,” with couples stopping at various movie-related spaces to pose for pictures. After a formal grand

march, students took back to the stage for some fun photo ops. Above, Praparsi Thanphet, Maggie Petersen, Dini Schweikert, Marisa Luchsinger and Madeline Kuehn, in front, pose during the fun march. For more photos see page 10.

### County Board tables decision on employee health insurance

By Lori Copler  
Editor

The McLeod County Board of Commissioners had a lengthy discussion on whether to switch employee health insurance to another provider, and ended up tabling the issue until its May 17 meeting.

County Administrator Pat Melvin brought the matter forward at the board’s April 19 meeting, saying he wanted some direction before pursuing it more thoroughly with employees.

For the past several years, McLeod County has partnered with Sibley County to provide health insurance for employees in both counties.

Now, Prime West, which manages health care programs for a multi-county consortium, is considering expanding its service to include employee health insurance.

The problem, said Shelly Lange, a McLeod County employee, is that insurance premiums will be significantly higher for employees under the proposed Prime West (which will be called Prime Health for the insurance portion) plan.

Melvin said that while premiums are higher to start with, the hope is

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## Fogarty kids come together to help out mom

### Brenda Fogarty benefit set Sunday

By Rebecca Mariscal  
Staff Writer

The traditional family roles have switched slightly for the Fogarty family, with the three children coming together to help take care of mom Brenda.

In 2014, Brenda Fogarty was diagnosed with uterine cancer. Though she has made it through the brunt of her treatment, Brenda is still going in for scans and, now, dealing with the bills.

Jessica, Felicia and Colin, Brenda’s three children, have stepped in to try to alleviate some of the financial costs. The three put together a benefit for Brenda, complete with a pancake breakfast and silent auction, that will be held on Sunday, May 1, at 8 a.m., in the Silver Lake Auditorium. All are invited.

The three have seen first-hand how fighting uterine cancer has affected Brenda and her husband Pat, both physically and financially. Brenda was first diagnosed in June 2014, the day before her birthday.

Though they knew something was going on, all three children were shocked to find out it was cancer.

“I didn’t think she was serious,” Jessica said. “It was pretty startling because it doesn’t run in the family.”

“It was not something that we expected,” Colin added. “I don’t know if you ever do.”

After being diagnosed, Brenda underwent a hysterectomy, three rounds of chemotherapy and three rounds of radiation. She developed complications from the first round of chemotherapy and had to go back and do it all again.

“It was a real whirlwind,” Jessica said.

Now Brenda goes in once every three months to undergo scanning that requires a Barium mixture. With the previous treatments and current appointments, Jessica said the bills began to add up.

After seeing just how often Pat and Brenda got bills sent to the house, Jessica approached her siblings about doing something to help.

“I constantly saw it and I knew that is was becoming a struggle so I said we should probably do something to help pay those bills a little bit,” Jessica said.

Brenda’s children said they could tell Brenda stresses over the bills.

“You could see in her face and the way she was acting, it was starting to get way too stressful for them,” Colin said. “We needed to do something.”

With the already heavy stress over her health, the three kids said they didn’t want their mom to have to add financial stress to her burden as well.

“I don’t want her to worry about how are we going to pay this bill to go see the doctor,” Jessica said. “Or even at that, if they’re paying for the doctor bill, how are we going to pay for our house?”

Seeing this stress first-hand, Jessica, Felicia and Colin all wanted to do whatever they could to help.

They decided to host this benefit because they felt it would allow them

Benefit  
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Submitted photo

The Fogarty family is hosting a benefit for mom Brenda, right, on Sunday, May 1, to raise money to help her pay for the costs of treatment after she was diagnosed with uterine cancer last year. Pictured above, back row, from left to right, are Colin, Pat and Brenda; and front row, Cadence, Jessica, Junior and Felicia.

### Weather



Wed., 4-27  
H: 43°, L: 39°



Thur., 4-28  
H: 50°, L: 41°



Fri., 4-29  
H: 61°, L: 47°



Sat., 4-30  
H: 59°, L: 48°



Sun., 5-1  
H: 59°, L: 46°

Looking back: Dampness and cooler temperatures prevailed last week, with the same on tap for this week.

Date	Hi	Lo	Precip
April 19	57	44	0.01
April 20	62	51	0.24

April 21	69	51	0.69
April 22	61	41	0.00
April 23	72	36	0.00
April 24	63	52	1.48
April 25	60	44	0.52

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

## Glencoe blood drive April 27

There will be a Glencoe Community Blood Drive Wednesday, April 27, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., in the Glencoe City Center Ballroom. To make an appointment or for more information, call Nelda Klaustermeier at 320-864-3475.

## Food packaging in Plato

The Plato Lions Club is sponsoring a food packaging event for Food For Kidz on Wednesday, April 27. Volunteers are needed for each of two shifts, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The packaging will take place in the back room of the King Pin Pub. Please call 763-647-9884 or 612-501-7064. Charitable donations are tax deductible.

## Concert board to bus tables

The Glencoe Concert Association Board will bus tables for tips on Monday, May 2, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Unhinged! Pizza. The Glencoe Concert Association brings high quality entertainment to the Glencoe area. Memberships for the 2016-17 season, which includes three concerts in Glencoe and three in Hutchinson, are still available. Contact Darlene Dammann at 320-864-3424 for more information.

## Salad luncheon at St. Paul's

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 308 First St. NE, Plato, will host a salad luncheon Friday, April 29, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Take-out orders are available, as are cookbooks. The luncheon is hosted by the St. Paul's UCC Women's Guild.

## Day of Prayer at Berean

Berean Baptist Church in Glencoe will host National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 5, at 6:30 p.m., with the theme, "Wake Up America." The public is invited to join in prayer for the nation and the community.

## Glencoe Sportsman's Club

The Glencoe Sportsman's Club will meet Monday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m., at the VFW Club.

## St. Pius X spring luncheon

St. Pius X Council of Catholic Women will host a spring salad luncheon Thursday, May 5, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the St. Pius School gym and cafeteria. The event will feature a variety of salads and desserts and party favors for visitors to take home. Advanced tickets are available at Hite Hardware and the St. Pius X church office. Take-outs are available. For delivery call 320-864-5162.

## SL bean bag tournament

The Silver Lake Civic Association will sponsor a bean bag tournament at the Silver Lake Auditorium on Saturday, April 30. Registration starts at 10:30 a.m. with the tournament beginning at 11 a.m. Two brackets will compete, regular doubles and coed doubles. For more information, call 320-583-6899.

## Bohemian cemetery meeting

The annual meeting of the board, family lot owners and interested persons in the Bohemian National Cemetery, located three miles west of Silver Lake on Highway 7 in Rich Valley Township, are invited to the cemetery association's annual meeting Saturday, April 30, at 9:30 a.m., at the Komensky School, 19981 Major Ave. Refreshments will be provided. Anyone with questions is welcome to call 320-587-8728.

## Pillow cleaning set May 6

The Glencoe VFW Auxiliary is sponsoring its spring pillow cleaning event Friday, May 6, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Glencoe VFW Club. Pillows will be cleaned, deodorized, sanitized and fluffed.

## Teddy Bear Band concert

The Teddy Bear Band will perform Thursday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m., in the Glencoe City Center South Ballroom. The concert is part of the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten event, sponsored in part by the Glencoe Library. The concert is free and open to the public.

## Cedar Crest fashion show

Cedar Crest Estate of Silver Lake will host a style show with the opportunity to buy items at a discount on Wednesday, May 4, at 2 p.m., in the dining room. The event is open to the public, and refreshments will be served after the style show.

## Scholastic book fair at HB

Helen Baker Elementary School will be hosting a Scholastic "Buy One, Get One Free" book fair on Tuesday, May 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., in the gymnasium. The selection will include titles appropriate for children in preschool through eighth grade. All merchandise will be "buy one, get one free." The public is invited and can sign up to win door prizes from Scholastic. For more information visit <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/home> page/helenbaker.

## Salad luncheon at Faith

The Presbyterian Women will host a salad luncheon at Faith Presbyterian Church in Silver Lake on Saturday, May 7, at 11:30 a.m. The menu will include assorted salads and desserts.

## SL Sportsmen's Club

The Silver Lake Sportsmen's Club will meet Thursday, April 28, at 7 p.m., at the sanctuary.

## Dakota Trail plan open house

McLeod County Parks will have an open house for public input on the Dakota Trail master plan Monday, May 9, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., at The Depot in Hutchinson. The plan will help get regional trail designation by the Greater Minnesota Parks and Trails Commission.



Chronicle photos by Lori Copler

## A successful first Just Drive! 5K

Rain, thunder and cool temperatures failed to dampen the spirits of the over 540 runners and walkers who signed in for the first Just Drive! 5K held Sunday in Glencoe. The run/walk was designed to honor the memory of Glencoe resident Penny Verdeck, who died a year ago after being struck on her bicycle while on a training ride, and to bring awareness to the issue of distracted driving. Above, participants lined

up in Oak Leaf Park to await the start of the race. Below left, organizer Mike Meyer and his parents, Sue and Dennis Meyer addressed the crowd before the race's start, as did Penny Verdeck's husband, Ryan, at right. Area legislators Scott Newman and Glenn Gruenhagen also spoke. The family plans to make this an annual event.

# Stewart man injured in two-vehicle crash

Arlen Alvin Bielke, 69, of Stewart, was injured in a two-vehicle accident in the area of Yacht Avenue and 30th Street, south of Stewart, Saturday. The accident was reported at 6:06 p.m.

According to the McLeod County Sheriff's Office, the involved vehicles were a 1996 Chrysler Concorde driven by Bielke and a 2000 Dodge Ram, owned by Buffalo Lake Welding and driven

by Clete William Fischer, 41, also of Stewart.

Bielke was taken by ambulance to the Glencoe hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

Each vehicle had over \$1,000 damage.

Responding to the accident were the sheriff's office, Minnesota State Patrol, Stewart Fire Department and Buffalo Lake Ambulance.

## GSL counselor hospitalized

Glencoe-Silver Lake junior high and high school counselor Sue Magnuson was hospitalized after a fall Friday, according to a districtwide email sent to parents Monday.

Magnuson suffered a fractured skull and is hospitalized at Hennepin County Medical

Center in Minneapolis.

She will not return to school the remainder of this year, according to the email.

A CaringBridge page has been set up for Magnuson, and can be accessed at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/suemagnuson](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/suemagnuson).

## Study

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"I strongly urge you to start revising policies and procedures and offer them to all the staff," said Herreid.

Herreid suggested the board start implementing some training, professional development, coaching and support, and evaluate progress in six months "to see what the changes may look like."

She said the training should not be just for employees and management, but for the board as well.

"I'd suggest a staff work session on how to move forward with some new strategies," said Herreid, who said it was important to allow the staff a voice in making changes.

"Hopefully, the end result will be a more open and positive atmosphere," she added.

Krueger asked if board members could sit in on the meetings.

"I'd like to know firsthand what's going on," he said.

Jack Russek, who represents the Wright County Area Transportation (WCAT) consortium on the Trailblazer board, said he is concerned with board members trying to micro-manage.

Sibley County Commissioner Jim Swanson said he has been on the board for eight years, and there have been issues "for every one of those eight years."

And, Swanson added, he felt part of the problem was that the board had not followed up on some of the issues.

"That's not micro-managing, that's following up on what you say you're going to do," said Swanson. "I think our board has failed in some of these areas ... and that's on us, that's not on management; that's on us."

The board agreed that the next step was to have the MCIT attorney review the study, then begin implementing suggested practices.

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# Trailblazer hires human resources director after contentious discussion

By Lori Copler  
Editor

The Trailblazer Transit Joint Board of Commissioners has offered its human resources position to a candidate, but the decision came after a long, sometimes tense and contentious discussion over the hiring procedure.

The board met Thursday morning at the Trailblazer facility.

Trailblazer Executive Director Gary Ludwig announced that the executive committee, which consists of the board's chair and vice chair, had made an offer to a candidate for the position, and the person was expected to start in two weeks.

And while most board members felt the candidate was qualified, based on Ludwig's description, some felt outlined procedure had not been followed in making the offer.

McLeod County Commissioner Doug Krueger said his understanding was that the board would be able to vet candidates before a final decision was made. Krueger

said he had not even seen the candidate's resumé.

"I thought we made it clear that we wanted this to be a board decision," said Krueger.

Ludwig said the candidate had 30 years of human resources experience, most recently a long-time stint with a law firm.

McLeod County Commissioner Sheldon Nies agreed with Krueger that there was not enough information to make a decision on a high-level position.

"How can we make a decision, just based on the information we have here?" Nies asked.

"I want to make sure this is our choice," added Krueger, noting that the previous human resources director had only lasted a few weeks.

Sibley County Commissioner Jim Swanson said he felt the executive committee had "overstepped" its bounds.

Despite questions about procedure, McLeod County Commissioner Ron Shimanski, the board's chair and a member of the executive

committee, urged the board to approve the contract and move forward.

"This candidate may be the best one to ever cross this threshold," said Shimanski. "I'm very reluctant to delay the hiring of this position."

Jack Russek of WCAT, the vice chair and the other member of the executive committee, agreed with Shimanski, saying Trailblazer really needs to fill the position "with everything we've got going on."

After a motion passed to not fill the position and reconsider it at a future meeting, maybe even the next week, further extensive discussion ensued. That discussion ended with a suggestion that the board call a 15-minute recess to allow board members to review the resumé and then vote on the hiring, which it did.

In related business, the board decided to hire a human resources firm on an on-call basis to assist the new human resources director, if needed, during the transition period.

# Trailblazer has profitable year 2015

By Lori Copler  
Editor

Trailblazer Transit had a financially sound fiscal year 2015, the joint powers board heard Thursday morning.

Executive Director Gary Ludwig reviewed the 2015 fourth-quarter report, noting that for the first time in its history, "we have excess operating revenue."

Ludwig did note that part of the reason for the success was that Trailblazer did not run the full schedule it had expected as it launched service within Wright County.

Trailblazer had a total budget of \$4.17 million for 2015, and only expended 79.9 percent of that, or \$3.33 million.

That means that the local-share partners — McLeod and Sibley counties and the Wright County Area Transportation (WCAT) coalition — actually put in more money than was needed, with \$116,192 left over after expenses were paid. That surplus will be put into a reserve fund.

In other business, the board:

- Reviewed an area transportation study provided by the Adult Training and Habilitation Center (ATHC), which showed where ATHC vans and Trailblazer buses overlap service. ATHC is hoping to work out a plan to utilize both its own vans and Trailblazer to provide transportation to its clients. The board took the plan under advisement.

Ludwig said that other groups also are looking to contract service with Trailblazer, including the Green Isle Community School, some parents in Montrose to transport students, Functional Industries, and early childhood and preschool programs in Wright County.

McLeod County Commissioner Sheldon Nies said that while Trailblazer should talk to those groups, "we need to remember what we're here for, and that's public transportation, not school buses. We need to make sure that (public transportation) is our priority."

- Met Mark Lauer, who will be an operations manager along with existing operations manager Tonia Persons.

Lauer said he grew up south of Bird Island and has lived in the Buffalo area the past 16 years. He started 2½ weeks ago.

Lauer said he feels Trailblazer "runs a very tight ship" and added that he's "very grateful for the opportunity to be a part of Trailblazer. You run a very safe and efficient operation."

- Heard that the new Buffalo facility has been put into use, although currently just the bus garage is being used. The office space has yet to be occupied.

- Heard that two more buses have been deployed, four drivers hired and that seven decommissioned buses were sold through an auction site for a total of \$31,875.

- Confirmed that its next meeting will be Thursday, May 19, at 9 a.m.

# Record

## Glencoe Police

### TUESDAY, APRIL 19

1:37 a.m. — An officer assisted the Brownston Police Department with an individual at the McLeod County Jail.

8:58 a.m. — An officer responded to a child protection issue on Hennepin Avenue N.

10:53 a.m. — An officer stopped a vehicle with a malfunctioning tail light on 16th Street E near Greeley Avenue N. A citation was issued for driving after revocation.

6:10 p.m. — A citation was issued for failing to yield for an emergency vehicle and a verbal warning was given for driving conduct at a traffic stop on Highway 212 near Highway 22.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

12:35 p.m. — A resident wanted to know why trucks were hauling on Edgewood Drive S. An officer advised the person that they were doing work in the area.

6:22 p.m. — An officer and the ambulance responded to a medical on 16th Street.

9:55 p.m. — An officer discovered lights on in the warming house on Greeley Avenue N. All the doors were locked, and the officer checked the area.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 21

6:09 p.m. — A Black Lab with one blue eye was reported loose in the area of 11th Street E and Armstrong Avenue.

7:08 p.m. — Officers responded to a verbal domestic on Newton Avenue. A female was arrested

ed on a Scott County warrant.

7:32 p.m. — A driver was arrested on a probable cause charge of third-degree driving while intoxicated at a traffic stop on 10th Street E.

11:47 p.m. — Officers and the ambulance responded to Greeley Avenue for a person who fell. The person was taken to the hospital.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 22

8:24 a.m. — Officers responded to a minor two-vehicle accident with no injuries at the intersection of 16th Street E and Ford Avenue N.

3:58 p.m. — A male was arrested on 11th Street E.

5:56 p.m. — A person who fell at an address on Prairie Avenue was taken by ambulance to the hospital in Waconia.

6:05 p.m. — A woman fainted and hit the back of her head at an address on 16th Street E. She was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

10 p.m. — A citation for speeding was issued in the area of Chandler Avenue N and Sixth Street E.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 23

12:12 a.m. — An officer checked on suspicious activity in a dealership parking lot in the area of Dairy Avenue and 120th Street. Everything was fine.

4:07 a.m. — Officers assisted the sheriff's office at the emergency room.

8:39 a.m. — Officers responded to a business on Ninth Street E for a customer who was upset about the car wash and was making a scene in the store.

8:33 p.m. — A gas drive-off was reported on 13th Street E. The person was found and said the drive-off was accidental, and went back to pay for the fuel.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 24

8:38 a.m. — Officers assisted with the Just Drive! 5K.

8:58 a.m. — A person on 13th Street E with a medical issue was taken by ambulance to the emergency room.

11:36 a.m. — A foot-powered scooter was found on Eighth Street E.

5:18 p.m. — An officer responded to a tenant issue on 16th Street E. An officer advised the tenant to contact court administration to see what paperwork is needed to have the individuals removed.

### MONDAY, APRIL 25

12:47 a.m. — A report was received of a suspicious male standing outside the Main Street Sports Bar on Greeley Avenue. The male was intoxicated and taken to detox.

4:10 p.m. — An officer responded to a vulnerable adult issue on Hennepin Avenue N.

6:02 p.m. — A male was arrested for driving after revocation in the area of McLeod Avenue and 13th Street.

8:26 p.m. — Officers assisted the sheriff's office with a vehicle in a ditch in the area of Boone Road and Highway 212 near Plato.

11:25 p.m. — Officers assisted the sheriff's office with a domestic in Plato.

# County Board Continued from page 1

that the Prime Health plan will create a large enough consortium that, in the long run, counties will save money, as will employees.

Commissioner Sheldon Nies said the big issue is who will pay for the difference in premiums if the county chooses the Prime Health plan. If the county covers the increase for the employees, it could cost up to \$190,000 for the county. Otherwise, the employees will be expected to pay the increased cost.

With the exception of Commissioner Ron Shimanski, McLeod County's representative to Prime West, most board members seem to feel that the county should not change plans at this time.

After a motion was made and seconded to stay with the current plan, Shimanski moved to table the issue to allow more time to investi-

gate the differences in plans, and to talk to employees.

Commissioner Doug Krueger said that tabling the issue also will "allow Prime West a chance to respond to our concerns."

Melvin said a decision needs to be made by the end of May.

In other business, the County Board:

- Approved a contract with William Mueller & Sons of Hamburg in the amount of \$168,897 for the rehabilitation of five to six blocks of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 103 in the city of Biscay.

- Heard that an open house will be held Monday, May 9, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at The Depot in Hutchinson on the Dakota Trail master plan. Parks Director Al Koglin said the plan is a step into getting the trail designated as a re-

gional trail, which would qualify it for grants from the Legacy Fund.

- Approved a conditional use permit for Calvin Dolezal to salvage and recycle white goods and vehicles in Bergen Township. The permit was approved with the seven conditions as recommended by the county planning commission, plus two more: that not more than 500 gallons of motor oil or antifreeze could be stored on the premises, and that items could not be stacked higher than the height of a required fence.

- Approved the annual ditch spraying contract. County environmentalist Roger Berggren said that 18 to 20 miles of ditches will be sprayed on both sides this year.

- Appointed Dr. Randy Jurgenson to the McLeod County Extension Committee.

# Benefit Continued from page 1

to do more for Brenda than they could on their own.

"None of us could hand over money and be like, 'Here, we'll help you pay for it,' not in the capacity that we could do here," Jessica said. "It hits a bigger target, I think, if we do it this way."

The benefit allows them to include the community in the effort as well.

"We figured this would be a good way to get other people involved, too," Colin said.

The siblings have no specific financial goal set for the event. They said they just want to do something for their parents, and hopefully relieve some of the stress they feel.

"Our goal is just to get them something so that they can chip away at something, any of the bills," Colin said. "This will bring in more than we could have done just ourselves."

So far, the benefit has already seen a lot of community support.

"We're getting donations for the benefit just sent to the house or dropped at the house and we don't even know who they are," Jessica said.

The siblings said they've received many donations, both monetarily and for the

silent auction.

"I'm overwhelmed at the donations," Felicia said. "I was not expecting as many as we have."

The silent auction will feature Twins tickets, Winstock tickets, a granite rolling pin, several prints, quilts, a fire pit, many themed baskets and more. The auction will end at noon, but the rest of the event does not have an end time.

"Just come, eat, bid, have fun," Jessica said.

The three said the event will probably continue into the afternoon, with mingling and a deck of cards or two.

"That's just how the Fogartys are," Felicia said.

To donate, checks can be mailed to 219 Century Lane, Silver Lake, MN 55381 or dropped at Wells Fargo Bank for the Brenda Fogarty Benefit. For more information, call Jessica at 952-220-1971, Felicia at 320-237-7883 or Colin at 952-607-0288.



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# Trail plan hearing likely to be feisty

Our view: Issue of funding trails seems to have polarized residents

McLeod County will be hosting a public hearing Tuesday, May 3, at 9:30 a.m., on its proposed trail plan. The meeting will be at the Glencoe City Center.

We expect there will be a lot of debate at the hearing, and we hope people present their views respectfully and civilly.

The County Board’s 2012 decision to put \$500,000 toward the paving of the Luce Line sparked a lot of backlash by many in the public, and it divided the board.

In 2012, the county was still struggling with a flagging economy, and many thought the board should be putting money toward other priorities.

On the other hand, there were those who argued that the county’s financial commitment was vital to leverage funding from other sources, most notably the state of Minnesota. And proponents felt that a paved trail would help boost the county’s economy for the communities along the trail, including Hutchinson, Silver Lake, Lester Prairie and Winsted.

There is no doubt the 2012 decision left a sour taste in the mouths of many, and lately trail funding has become a focal point for many. In fact, 10 of McLeod County’s 14 townships have passed resolutions asking the board to table the adoption of the plan and to

do a cost-benefit analysis on the impact of the paving of the Luce Line.

The County Board commissioned the plan in 2015 at the request of the park and highway departments. The original goal of the plan was to make sure that any trail improvements — or new trails, for that matter — would be coordinated amongst the various entities so there would be no duplications of effort.

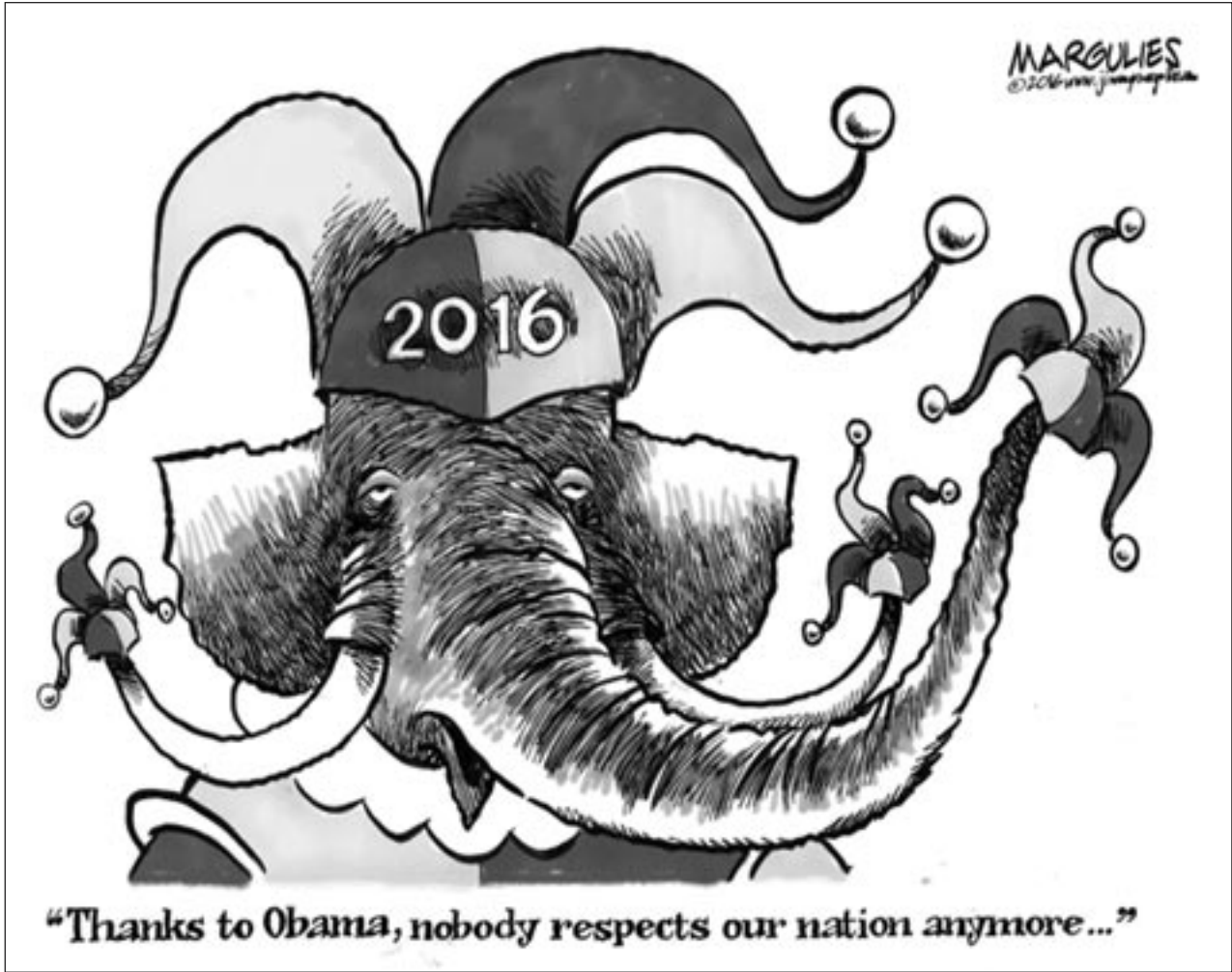
A trail committee was formed to work with the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission, and the make-up of that committee also has been called into question. There are assertions that the committee is “stacked” with Hutchinson and pro-trail members.

The real crux of the argument, though, is who pays for what. That isn’t outlined in the plan, because it’s a moving target. But without a plan, the county cannot leverage for state legacy or bonding funds.

The plan is a tool, not a set-in-stone blueprint for what the county is going to commit to over the next 20 years.

We believe the county does need a trail plan, but it must — as critics have suggested — stringently weigh the costs vs. the benefits each time it considers a trail improvement, just as it does with any other project it undertakes.

— L.C.



Guest Column:

## ‘Kari’s Law’ could help save lives

By U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar D-Minnesota

Kari Hunt of Marshall, Texas, was going through a tough time. She was separating from her husband of 10 years. And she had three children under the age of 10 to take care of. On a winter day a few years back, Kari agreed to meet her then-husband in a Texas hotel in the neighborhood where they once lived. She wanted to give her kids an opportunity to see their father. But that day her husband turned violent. He pulled out a knife. She called out for her kids to dial 9-1-1.

Kari’s oldest daughter dialed for help. Four times. She never reached an operator. The first responders weren’t alerted in time. And Kari’s life came to a tragic end.

Why weren’t those calls for help answered?

Well, the hotel’s telephone system required that she dial a “9” to reach an outside line. Kari’s young daughter didn’t know this. What 9-year-old would?

The first phone number most kids learn is 9-1-1. Reaching people who can help when emergencies arise should always be that simple — for

the college freshman with a new landline, the worker at a big office building, and the family staying in a hotel. Dialing 9-1-1 should always connect us with people who can help.

Kari’s Law, which I introduced earlier this year with Republican Sen. Deb Fischer of Nebraska, would enact a national standard, and make sure that any new multi-line phone system put into place across the country would allow a person who dials 9-1-1 to reach an emergency operator without dialing a prefix first. This bipartisan bill recognizes that 9-1-1 is a universal first step in the case of an emergency by making the steps to reach 9-1-1 call centers as easy and common sense as possible. Our bill, which we are working to build support for, also has a bipartisan counterpart in the House of Representatives.

While our bill would create a national standard, many businesses across the country have begun voluntarily implementing these direct-dial systems and the effort has widespread support across the hospitality and hotel industry, including the American Hotel and Lodging Asso-

ciation. Minnesota is leading in this area — the major Minnesota-based hotel company Carlson has made great strides in increasing the number of its hotels that permit direct 9-1-1 dialing.

Our bill would also require multi-line phone systems to be configured to notify a central location, like a reception desk, when a 9-1-1 call is placed in order to help emergency personnel pinpoint where in the building a 9-1-1 call was placed from. While this provision is limited to buildings where no additional hardware is required to configure the system, it will help paramedics, firefighters, and police officers know exactly where to locate a person needing help in many large hotels and office buildings.

The first responsibility of government is to protect its citizens — not only from foreign and domestic threats to national security, but also from unsafe products and unsafe practices. A dark day for a Texas family drew this problem to the light. Congress should pass my bipartisan bill to make sure that no family’s calls for help go unanswered. We can save lives.

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online at [www.glencoenews.com](http://www.glencoenews.com)

### Question of the week

Minnesota music icon Prince died last week at the age of 57. What was your favorite Prince song?

- 1) “When Doves Cry.”
- 2) “Purple Rain.”
- 3) “Little Red Corvette.”
- 4) “Let’s Go Crazy.”
- 5) “1999.”
- 6) Other.

Results for most recent question:

Spring has finally sprung. What is your favorite thing about the season?

- 1) Seeing everything green up — 46%
- 2) The return of robins and other birds — 15%
- 3) Major league baseball starts — 15%
- 4) Getting the garden and fields planted — 17%
- 5) Nothing. My allergies are killing me — 7%

46 votes. New question runs April 27-May 3.

## Letter to the Editor

### Where’s the proof of economic, health benefits?

To the Editor:

The recently released McLeod Trails plan makes claims about the benefit of paving more bike trails that are unsupported by the factual data provided to date. No bank that I know of would continue to shell out dollars based only on vague projections of benefits. The McLeod County commissioners should not either.

First is the claim of economic benefit? Continuing the now familiar claim that paving the Luce Line Trail will cause jobs and economic vitality will flow into the county. May the taxpayers respectfully ask: please prove it.

After creating 53 miles of trails within Hutchinson, and an additional 20 paved Luce Line miles, paying artists to display their work along the trails, \$50,000 in unnecessary signs to show riders where to ride on streets, and obtaining a bike-friendly award for the city of Hutchinson,

exactly what is the benefit realized? Can you name one company that moved here because of the trails? Is the industrial park expanding? At a minimum, has there at least been an increase in bike sales, the most logical business to increase because of more trails? Can Hutchinson City Councilor Chad Czmowski update us all on how business is at his Outdoor Motion Bike Shop in downtown Hutchinson is growing? Frankly, if his bicycle business, on Main Street in the heart of Hutchinson, isn’t booming by now, please name the other Hutchinson businesses who are seeing a payback from these millions of taxpayer dollars already spent for trails to date.

In particular, the McLeod Trails plan claims that “Consumer spending at Minnesota Trails (2008)” and equipment expenditures was an incredible \$3.26 billion dollars (Page I-4)! Can the source of this incredible figure tell us how much actual

consumer spending was spent for trails in McLeod County for any period of time? It’s been eight years since 2008. This should be readily available.

Second, a claim of improved health has been made from more paved trails. After considering the above spending for Hutchinson and Luce Line, can someone present measurable improvements in health for the residents of Hutchinson who already have the use of the exercise benefits of these trails as compared to either Hutchinson before the trail-building began or as compared to the areas of McLeod County without paved trails?

Can the designated committee leader of the McLeod Trails Committee please address these questions?

Jim Bobier  
Hutchinson

The McLeod County

**Chronicle**

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Letters

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

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





Chronicle photo by Lori Copler

Local state legislators held a series of town hall meetings throughout the area Friday and Saturday. State Rep. Glenn

Gruenhagen, left, and state Sen. Scott Newman hosted one in Glencoe Saturday morning.

## Bonding, trails, Real ID, budget all topics at town hall gathering

By Lori Copler  
Editor

Trails. Bonding. Real ID. Tax relief. The buffer law.

All were topics of conversation Saturday morning as state Sen. Scott Newman, R-Hutchinson, and state Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen, R-Glencoe, hosted a town hall meeting at Unhinged! Pizza in Glencoe.

Each legislator gave a brief recap of what was happening in their respective chambers at the capitol, then opened the discussion to the 15 attendees to hear questions and concerns.

Newman noted that the buffer law had been revised and was on its way to the governor (he has since signed it).

Newman said new language clarifies that the law does not apply to private waterways and made other changes.

“I don’t think it’s over,” Newman said of changes to the buffer law, “but what the bill that was passed was better than what was passed last year.”

Gruenhagen said he was disappointed with the law because he felt the government was “taking private property and telling owners what to do with it without compensation.”

Gruenhagen also reported on efforts on tax reform, from reducing or eliminating taxes on Social Security and veterans benefits to commercial property tax relief.

“We’re only one of a few states that tax Social Security benefits,” said Gruenhagen.

Also included in the tax bill is a provision to reform the property tax farmers pay on school building bonds, by reducing the tax by 50 percent per acre.

### Trails

Jim Bobier of Hutchinson raised the issue of trails, particularly in light of the newly drafted McLeod County Trails Plan that will be the

subject of a public hearing at next Tuesday’s McLeod County Board meeting.

Bobier had a chart that he said showed that the make-up of the trail committee was “stacked” toward trail proponents.

He noted that 10 of 14 McLeod County townships had passed resolutions asking the county to table the adoption of the plan until a cost-benefit analysis could be done on the paving of the Luce Line Trail, which was recently completed. Bobier said residents want to know if traffic on the trails and the economy increased enough to justify the cost of paving the trail.

Bobier also said he appreciated the efforts of the legislators to create a fee for the use of trails to help raise revenue.

“A user fee is appropriate,” said Bobier. “Snowmobilers and horse riders already have to pay, so should people who walk or ride.”

Earl Dammann of Glencoe said he agreed with Bobier on the user fee issue.

“Everyone wants everything for free,” said Dammann. “Well, somebody has to pay.”

### Real ID

Newman and Gruenhagen reported on efforts to comply with the federal Real ID mandate, which requires a special ID to access federal buildings and for flying.

Real ID, also known as an enhanced driver’s license, does have some advantages, Newman said. The ID contains a computer chip to better identify the holder.

For example, he said, Real ID or an enhanced driver’s license will allow holders to cross borders into Canada, Mexico and some Caribbean countries without a passport, expediting that process.

But both legislators were concerned about requiring everyone to have Real ID, especially if they don’t travel or

have no intention of going to a federal building.

“If you don’t want to, you shouldn’t have to,” said Gruenhagen.

Both also were concerned about the personal information that would be collected on the chips, and if that information would be secure.

Newman said the Senate is looking at up to three options — non-compliant, which is a basic driver’s license, enhanced ID, and then the full-blown Real ID.

Gruenhagen said the House is tending toward a one-track approach, that everyone gets a Real ID.

### Bonding

This is a bonding session, and Plato City Councilor LeeAnn Wood asked about the status of a Plato application for funding to make its community hall handicapped accessible.

Newman said the bonding bill will probably provide funding of about \$800,000 to \$1 billion; unfortunately, there are requests that total over \$4.5 billion.

Both Newman and Gruenhagen said that one of the Legislature’s toughest jobs is sorting out the requests and prioritizing them for funding.

Newman said many requests were received from municipalities asking for funding to help them retool wastewater treatment systems to comply with new Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) mandates regarding phosphorous and nitrogen levels.

Newman said a longtime goal of some legislators is to create legislation that would require a cost-benefit analysis before new mandates were imposed.

Norman Schwarze, mayor of Brownton, said that was his concern and why he attended the town hall meeting.

“These small towns can’t afford it,” Schwarze said.

## First Lutheran to conduct online child care survey

First Evangelical Lutheran Church has partnered with Perspectives Consulting Group, Inc., to conduct a child care feasibility study to determine the need for quality child care in the Glencoe area.

Because of changes in state laws regulating home day cares, First Evangelical Lutheran Church is concerned about the availability of quality child care in the Glencoe area. First Evangelical Lutheran Church currently has a successful preschool and kindergarten through eighth-grade school, and is exploring the possibility of opening a child development center.

The child care feasibility

study will help First Evangelical Lutheran Church understand the current need for quality child care and how that need is being met. As part of this study, parents of children under age 6 in the Glencoe area are being asked to participate in a short, simple, online survey about the need for quality child care in the Glencoe area. The link to the online survey is available on First Evangelical Lutheran Church’s website at [www.firstglencoe.org](http://www.firstglencoe.org) from Monday, May 2, through Tuesday, May 17. Parents are encouraged to participate even if they do not currently use child care, as their opinions will be important to this study.

Residents with questions about the survey should contact Bruce Donnay at 320-864-4159.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at Ives Avenue and 13th Street, one block east of the Hennepin Avenue and 13th Street corner of State Highway 22 in Glencoe, Minnesota. First Lutheran Preschool offers a warm and loving environment for children ages 3 and 4. First Lutheran School serves children in kindergarten through eighth grade in the Glencoe and surrounding communities by providing a first-rate education with Christian values.

## Walk MS event May 1 in Hutch

The National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society, Upper Midwest Chapter Walk MS: Christopher & Banks Hutchinson Walk 2016 is this Sunday, May 1. Nearly 200 people will come together to raise nearly \$22,000 for people affected by MS that will

fund vital programs, services and cutting-edge research.

Participants will meet Sunday, May 1, at Masonic West River Park and will walk a multi-mile scenic route. The society will provide walkers with snacks, refreshments and a finish line celebration.

Registration for Walk MS: Hutchinson starts at 10 a.m. with the walk officially beginning at 11 a.m. Visit [WalkMS.org](http://WalkMS.org) for additional information, or contact the Walk MS Team at 855-372-1331.



## Library News

By Jackee Fountain

## Children’s Book Week

The Glencoe Public Library will be celebrating National Children’s Book Week during May 2-7. Activities include:

Monday, May 2, is Movie Monday at 3 p.m. A G or PG movie will be showing. No registration is needed; just come and enjoy a movie after school.

Tuesday, May 3, is toddler storytime at 10:30 a.m. and Lego League at 6 p.m. for ages 6 years and older.

Wednesday, May 4, is the “May the 4th Party,” celebrated by Star Wars fans at the Brownton Library at 4 p.m. Please talk with Miss Gabby for registering by Friday, April 29. A Trailblazer bus is available and donated by the Friends of the Glencoe Library for transportation.

Thursday, May 5, is Craft Day from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday, May 6, is Craft Day from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Glencoe Library will have materials and directions and samples to make a take-home craft or card for Mother’s Day.

Saturday, May 7, is toddler storytime at 10:30 a.m.

Guessing jars and sign-ups for free books are going on all week. Parents, bring your children or students to the Glencoe Library and find out new things to do and see and

use at the library.

The Friends of the Glencoe Library geranium sales continue into May. To order the 4-inch planted geraniums for a nominal cost, talk to a member of the Friends of the Library or stop in the library and see a librarian. Geranium plant pick-up, just in time for Mother’s Day, is Friday, May 6, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., in the library parking lot. Proceeds from the geranium sales will fund children’s audio book collection additions and special holiday programming and new travel books for the adult collection. What a wonderful gift for Mom!

Parents, now is the time to update your children’s library cards before their summer reading trips to the Glencoe Library. Bring in your driver’s license and library cards to be updated. What a wonderful summer activity to help your child stay at grade level by reading during the summer months away from school. More information will follow for the Summer Reading Program Activity Days beginning in June.

Library information is found on the Glencoe Library website: [www.glencoe.lib.mn.us](http://www.glencoe.lib.mn.us).

## Abundant Table meal set May 4

The monthly Abundant Table community meal is set for Wednesday, May 4, in the Christ Lutheran Church Basement Fellowship Hall, 1820 Knight Ave., Glencoe.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. for fellowship, followed by the meal at 5 p.m.

This month’s menu includes ham salad and chicken salad croissant sandwiches, potato chips, glazed fruit salad, vegetables and dip and chocolate cake.

The meal is free and open to all, including families and children, the elderly and anyone seeking fellowship or a helping hand.

Please call Christ Lutheran Church at 320-864-4549 so that it can prepare for your presence.

## Woman hurt in accident

An Arlington woman suffered minor injuries in a one-vehicle accident early Saturday morning.

According to the Sibley County Sheriff’s Office, Tamara Kaye Robinson, 51, of Arlington, was driving a 2012 GMC Terrain on 441st Avenue in Kelso Township, about 5 miles southeast of Gaylord, when her vehicle hit a mailbox.

Robinson was taken by the Arlington Ambulance to the Ridgeview Sibley Medical Center in Arlington.

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# Brownton bike-a-thon set for Sunday, May 1

The Brownton Women’s Club is hosting the Brownton bike-a-thon Sunday, May 1, with alternate rain date of Saturday, May 7.

Children in kindergarten through sixth grade may participate. Friends, relatives and neighbors can sponsor the riders either with a flat donation or a per-mile pledge. Children have from now to May 1 to ask for pledges or donations.

The pledges are recorded on a sponsor/pledge form. Packets containing registration, parental consent and pledge forms can be picked up at the Brownton City Office and Security Bank & Trust Co.

Participants are asked to meet at the Brownton City Park at the Lions Shelter by 1 p.m. on Sunday, May 1, and are asked to bring their completed forms.

The bike-a-thon starts at 1 p.m. and ends at 4 p.m. At the end of the ride, hot dogs, chips, cookies and beverages will be served to all who attended, including participants and their families and supporters.

The child with the most pledges from each of the three age groups will receive a new bicycle, and the second-place participant in each group will receive a \$50 gift card. The age groups are kindergarten and first grade, second and third grades, and fourth through sixth grades. Every child who rides will receive a participation prize.

The Brownton Lions Club is providing the bicycles for the winners, and Thrivent Financial has contributed a \$250 Community Impact Card toward the event.

Proceeds from the bike-a-thon will be used toward Brownton community projects and events.

# Brownton summer rec open to register

Registration for the city of Brownton’s youth summer recreation program is now open.

Registration forms can be picked up at the Post Office, Security Bank & Trust and the Brownton City Offices and online at cityofbrownton.com.

Activities available for boys include coach-pitch baseball (second and third grade), Peanuts and PeeWees baseball (grades four through seven), T-ball baseball (pre-kindergarten and first grade), basketball (pre-kindergarten through third grade and fourth through seventh grade), tennis (grades four through seven), kickball (pre-kindergarten through third grade), recreational games (pre-kindergarten through third grade), golf (grades four through seven), and volleyball (grades four through seven).

Girls’ activities include coach-pitch softball (second and third grades), softball (fourth through seventh grades), T-ball softball (pre-kindergarten and first grade), basketball (pre-kindergarten through third grade), tennis (grades four through seven), kickball (pre-kindergarten through third grade), basketball (fourth through seventh grades), recreational games (pre-kindergarten through third grade), golf (grades four through seven) and volleyball (fourth through seventh grade).

There is an activity fee, which includes a T-shirt for new participants only. Registration is due to the city clerk’s office by Friday, May 27. The program starts Monday, June 6, and runs through July 14. The time will be from 9 a.m. to noon.



Submitted photo

## Girl Scouts clean up road, collect paper

Girl Scouts from Glencoe and Stewart participated in Earth Day activities by hosting a newspaper drive in Stewart and doing their section of Highway 212 road ditch clean up. Pictured, sitting from left, are Bailey Skala, Cierra Bullock, Brooklyn Fitzloff and Dakota Bullock; standing in the middle row, Robin Lueck, Hailey Hanson and Crystal Wise; and, adults standing in the back, Tammy Weck, Tosana Hanson and Tammy Bullock. Also participating, but not pictured, were Kim Fitzloff, Gerri Fitzloff and Breanna Benner.



Submitted photo

## First Lutheran students confirmed

Nineteen students were confirmed Sunday, April 24, at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glencoe. The Revs. Dan Welch and Ronald Mathison officiated. Front row, from left, are Addisyn Stuewe, Megan Siewert, Joellen Dammann, Breana Templin and Adam Schauer; second row, Hannah Boesche, Michael Waibel, Derek Trippel and Katelyn Ober; third row, Cullen Lukes, Claire Witte, Courtney Richer and Dani Tessmer; fourth row, Alexander Cohrs, Mikayla Beneke, Ethan Bernstein and Maxwell Edwards; and, back row, Welch, Jacob Schuch, Emily Schuch and Mathison.

## Brownton seniors meet on Monday

The Brownton senior citizens met Monday afternoon at the Brownton Community Center.

Winning at cards were Audrey Tongen, first, and Carol Brelje, second, 500; Leone Kujas, first, and Verona Katzenmeyer, second, pinochle; and Norma Albrecht, first, and Lil Lindeman, second, sheephead.

Theola Fors won the door prize.

The next meeting will be Monday, May 2, at 1 p.m. All area seniors are welcome.

Submitted photo

## Honored for efforts

On April 21, Lucas Morang was presented with a plaque from the Minnesota Lions Multiple District 5M Hearing Foundation for his fundraising efforts over the years for the Starkey Hearing Foundation. The Lions Multiple District covers all of Minnesota, Manitoba and western Ontario. The Silver Lake Lions Club submitted his name for and made the presentation recognizing his efforts over the past 10 years raising some \$50,000 that was and will be used for research and development to help the hearing impaired. Morang is a junior at Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted High School. He is the son of Donna Morang and Joe Morang and grandson of the Marietta and the late Marvin Neumann. Pictured is Morang receiving the plaque from the Silver Lake Lions Club President Joyce Zajicek.



34<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Stewart Firemen’s  
Chicken Dinner

Sunday, May 1  
At The Fire Station  
10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
\$9.00 for ½ Chicken  
\$8.00 for ¼ Chicken

Menu: Chicken, Potato, Corn,  
Dinner Roll, Coffee/Milk, Dessert  
Take-out orders available



## Weather Corner

By Jake Yurek

A very active weather pattern has set up over the Midwest, bringing plenty of rain to just about everyone. Over the weekend most areas saw anywhere from one-half inch to 2 inches plus.

We’ll add to that total this week as a couple potent storms pass to our south. The first will hit to our south late Tuesday, bringing a large chance of very severe weather, so hopefully it missed populated areas (also 5-plus inches of rain to some areas). This will spread a precipitation shield over the upper Midwest into Wednesday, so that’s when we could see rains enter the picture.

The second will again pass to our south and some indications point to it staying from the Minnesota-Iowa border south, but I think we may clip this one as well. Unfortunately, the second will happen on Saturday, so you may have to dodge raindrops if you have weekend plans.

Sunday we should dry out a little bit with only scattered morning showers. The rainy pattern may linger into next week as well, but it’s hard to say for sure with the computer models changing from day to day. Highs for the week will be held in check by all the rain and clouds, typically staying in the 50s with lows in the upper 30s and 40s. The gold star day of the week will be Friday as we may actually get to see some sun (Thursday may be OK as well).

Have a great final week of April; hello, May!

Ma dobry weekendem

Mit dobry vikend

Wednesday night — Lows 37-44; rain.  
Thursday — Highs 47-53, lows 37-44; morning sprinkle, then mostly to partly cloudy.  
Friday — Highs 55-61, lows 40-45; partly cloudy.  
Saturday — Highs 52-58, lows 40-45; clouds and showers.  
Sunday — Highs 54-60; scattered morning showers and clouds.

Weather Quiz: What are some of May’s weather extremes?

Answer to last week’s question (Why did it seem hazy a few days last week?): Haze in Minnesota is typically associated with higher levels of moisture in the air (typically summer or foggy days) or from leftover smoke getting blown in the upper elevations of the atmosphere toward us. That was the case last week as our air was coming in from the southwest, where there just happened to be wildfires in Kansas. We also saw it last summer with the Canadian wildfires.

Remember: I make the forecast, not the weather!

Silver Lake City Council  
Special Meeting  
Monday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.  
Agenda

Agenda:  
• Review bids for tanker truck construction for Silver Lake Fire Department.

Community Calendar

Thurs., April 28 — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.; Ridgewater College Concert Choirs present annual free spring concert, Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1040 South Grade Road SW, Hutchinson, 7 p.m.  
Mon., May 2 — Tops Weigh-In mtg., 5-5:30 p.m.; Brownton Senior Citizens Club, Brownton Community Center, 1 p.m.  
Tues., May 3 — Brownton City Council, 7 p.m.  
Thurs., May 5 — CINCO DE MAYO; AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.



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content/  
mothers-day-drawing

or stop by our office  
716 E. 10th St., Glencoe  
The Glencoe Advertiser/  
McLeod County Chronicle



# Dr. Burkart joins GRHS general surgical staff

Nora Burkart, medical doctor (M.D.), has joined the general surgery department at Glencoe Regional Health Services (GRHS), where she consults with patients at the Glencoe clinic and performs surgery five days a week. Dr. Burkart's colleagues on the general surgery staff are Drs. John Bergseng and Chad Robbins.

Dr. Burkart performs a wide range of procedures in the operating room. Many are abdominal surgeries, such as repairing a hernia or removing an appendix, bowel obstruction or gallstones. She also performs colonoscopies, procedures to diagnose and treat benign disease and cancer including colon, breast, skin and thyroid, as well as many other types of surgery across age groups and conditions. Dr. Burkart uses laparoscopic approaches whenever possible.

"I like doing all types of



Dr. Nora Burkart

surgery," Dr. Burkart says, "but I have a special interest in procedures related to breast cancer treatment."

Dr. Burkart started on her path to becoming a surgeon at 19 when she began working as a surgical assistant while attending medical school at the National University of San Marcos in her hometown of Lima, Peru.

"I was drawn to medicine at a young age and was very interested in learning about surgeries," she says. "It just felt natural to me. Both of my parents were educators, and in my own way, I followed their example of learning and service to others."

After moving to Minnesota, Dr. Burkart started her residency in general surgery at the University of Minnesota and completed it at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, Georgia. While doing research, Dr. Burkart also earned a master's degree in health informatics at the Institute for Health Informatics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Dr. Burkart is a native Spanish speaker but is also fluent in English, French and Portuguese. She spends a week or two every year on medical mission trips to perform cleft lip and cleft palate repairs and other surgical pro-

cedures for underprivileged children in Peru.

Dr. Burkart and her husband, Brian, live in Prior Lake, but she feels at home at GRHS.

"The hospital staff and the people in the community seem like a good fit for me," she says. "I really enjoy the broad types of surgical cases here. A surgeon doesn't experience this much variety at a larger hospital."

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Burkart, patients may call GRHS at 320-864-7750 or toll free 1-888-526-4242, extension 7750.

Glencoe Regional Health Services was founded in 1941. It includes a primary-care clinic, 25-bed critical access hospital, a 110-bed nursing home and a 40-unit independent senior housing complex in Glencoe, and outpatient clinics in Lester Prairie and Stewart.

## People

### Rolf plays with Barry Manilow

Shelby Rolf, a junior at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, was one of 30 members of the Augsburg Choir who performed with Grammy award-winning singer-songwriter Barry Manilow on April 7 when he stopped at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul on his farewell "One Last Time!" tour. Rolf, the daughter of Dan and Jill Rolf of Glencoe, is a music business major who sings alto in the choir.

### Son born to Fredericksens

Jamie and Andrew Fredericksen of Lester Prairie announce the birth of their son, Isaac James Fredericksen, born April 11, 2016 at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Isaac weighed 9 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 inches long. He joins sister Penelope Fredericksen. Grandparents are Jim and Bev Givens of Grand Ronde, Oregon; Mark and Deb Fredericksen of Waconia and Jon and Janice Fredericksen and John Roth of Lake Crystal.

### Daughter to Fasching family

Sarah and Max Fasching of Winsted announce the birth of their daughter, Laura Ann Fasching, born April 16, 2016 at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Laura weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20 inches long. She joins brother Leo, 5. Grandparents are Carol and Gerry Bisping of Winsted and the late Stan and Jeanne Fasching of Winsted.

### Baby boy to Gomez, Cruz

Alma Alicia Gomez and Alfonso Cruz of Hutchinson announce the birth of their son, Isaac Isaiah Cruz, born April 12, 2016 at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Isaac weighed 5 pounds, 6.8 ounces and was 12.75 inches long. Grandparents are Leonor Gomez, Alfonso Garcia and Imelda Moemi Cruz of Matamoros, Tamaulipas and Aurelio Gomez of Brownsville, Texas.

### Baby girl to Chance family

Amy Lynn and John Chance of Litchfield announce the birth of their daughter, Lacey Anne Chance, born April 13, 2016 at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Lacey weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20 inches long. She is welcomed by sibling Angelyn Chance. Grandparents are John and Kim Chance of Cold Spring and Linda and Randy Ahnrdt of Litchfield.



### GSL ECFE, preschool take field trips

The Glencoe-Silver Lake Preschool and Early Childhood Family Education program has kept busy. The GSL preschool visited Helen Baker Elementary to prepare for kindergarten. Preschools partnered with kindergarteners for a full experience. Above, kindergartener McKenna Lindhal reads to preschooler Savannah Schultz. ECFE visited the Mohr dairy farm. At left, Madison Picha says hello to a friendly cow. Below, Raylan Sonnenberg, Valerie Worm, Daphne Worm and Iris Nicholson spend time with a newborn calf.



## County parks will open April 29

McLeod County parks will officially open Friday, April 29. Park hours are from 8 a.m. to one hour past sunset.

All six parks open at that time. They are: Buffalo Creek, Glencoe; Swan Lake, Silver Lake; William May Park, Winsted; Stahl's Lake, Hutchinson; Lake Marion, Brownton; and Piepenburg, Hutchinson.

Camping is available at Lake Marion and Piepenburg. The Lake Marion caretaker's number is 320-328-4479, and the Piepenburg caretaker's number is 320-587-2082.

Park shelters will be available by reservation. To guarantee a park shelter for a certain date and time, call the McLeod County Park Office at 320-484-4334. There is a fee.

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



Submitted photo

### Recognized for excellence

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) recently recognized 288 Minnesota wastewater treatment facilities, including the city of New Auburn's, for maintaining a perfect record of permit compliance during 2015. MPCA Assistant Commissioner Rebecca Flood, pictured above with New Auburn operator Robert Kloeckl, had high praise for the award recipients. To be eligible for this recognition, facilities were required to submit all monitoring reports to the MPCA correctly and on time, demonstrate consistent compliance through monitoring or surveys and employ staff certified by the MPCA in wastewater operations. The awards were presented at the 79th annual Wastewater Operations Conference in Brooklyn Park. The annual conference brings together wastewater operators from Minnesota for training and professional education. This is the 14th time New Auburn has been recognized for excellence in operating its wastewater system, according to City Clerk Wendy Becker.

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# Benefit for Brenda Fogarty

## Sunday, May 1

### Silver Lake Auditorium

Pancake Breakfast, Silent Auction & Bake Sale  
Starts at 8 am

Silent Auction ends at Noon

Pancakes, eggs, sausage, fruit, coffee & OJ

~ FREE WILL DONATION for Pancake Breakfast ~

Pat, Jessica, Brenda, Colin, Felicia, Cadence & Jr.

### Brenda's story

Brenda was diagnosed with Uterine Cancer in June of 2014. Since then she has undergone surgery, chemo and radiation treatments, more surgeries, and lots of checkups. She developed complications from the chemo that required extra treatments and surgeries, which also requires her to go in for checkups every 3 months for additional scans. With the additional scans that are needed, the cost of medical expenses keep rising.

This benefit will help cover medical expenses that keep adding up, and Brenda would be very thankful for all of your support.

For updates on Brenda's status, you can check out her Caring Bridge site at [caringbridge.org/visit/brendafogarty](http://caringbridge.org/visit/brendafogarty).

\*16-18ACa



Obituaries

Albert Ardolf Jr., 90, of Silver Lake

Albert “Abbie” Ardolf Jr., 90, of Silver Lake, died Wednesday, April 20, 2016, at his home, surrounded by his family.

A Christian Mass celebrating his life was held Tuesday, April 26, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake. The Rev. Paul Schumacher was the celebrant. Glenn Mallak was the reader. Gift bearers were Jessica Dressel, Ashley Boyer and Savannah Ardolf.

Casket bearers were Jeffery Mallak, Michael Boyer, Jeff Kranz, Jacob Mallak, Jordan Mallak, Grant Boyer, Nick Kranz and Josh Hallquist. Honorary casket bearers were Sawyer Ardolf and Sydney Ardolf.

Interment was in the Holy Family Cemetery. Military honors at the cemetery were provided by Silver Lake American Legion Post 141.

Abbie Ardolf was born Aug. 19, 1925, in Rich Valley Township, the son of Albert Sr. and Josephine (Posusta)



Albert Ardolf Jr.

Ardolf.

He was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith. He received his education up to the eighth grade.

Mr. Ardolf entered the U.S. Army in 1953 and served his country during the Korean War until 1955. He was honorably discharged as a corporal from the Army.

On Aug. 27, 1957, he was united in marriage to Mary Jo Makousky at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Their marriage was blessed with five children.

The couple resided and farmed in Rich Valley Township and shared 58 years of marriage. Mr. Ardolf was a lifelong farmer. He retired in 1993, but continued to help his family and friends farm until moving into town in 2008.

He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake. He also belonged to Silver Lake American Legion Post 143 and the Sportsmen’s Club.

He enjoyed spending time with his family, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also enjoyed dancing to polka music, going to the casino, camping, fishing, playing cards and visiting with friends and neighbors.

He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Mary Jo Ardolf; children, Karen (Jeff) Kranz, Julie (Jeffery) Mallak, Ann (Michael) Boyer, Bruce Ardolf and Scott (Shauna) Ardolf; grandchildren, Nick (RaeAnn) Kranz, Jacob (Kristen) Mallak, Jessica Dressel, Jordan Mallak, Ashley Boyer and friend Josh Hallquist, Grant Boyer and friend Carissa Parpart, and Savannah, Sawyer and Sydney Ardolf; great-grandchildren, Peyton Knisley Raiber, Kadence and Brandly Kranz, Carter Mallak and Jase, and Ezra Dressel.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert Sr. and Josephine Ardolf; brother and sister-in-law, Francis and Evelyn Ardolf; sisters and brothers-in-law, Magdalen and Marvin Miller, Alice and George Humlichek, Myrtle and Rudolph Urban and Helen and Doc Annis; grandson, Jess Kranz; great-granddaughter, Talon Jade Dressel; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Thomas and Gladys Zanoth; and brothers-in-law, Michael Zanoth and Denny Worshek.

Arrangements were with the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake.

Mabel L. Ehrenberg, 104, of Glencoe

Mabel Louise Ehrenberg, 104, of Glencoe, died Friday, April 22, 2016, at Glencoe Regional Health Services Long Term Care.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 26, at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glencoe with the Rev. Ronald Mathison officiating. Dawn Wolter was the organist. Soloist Dennis Wolter sang “Amazing Grace.” Congregational hymns were “Abide With Me” and “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.”

Casket bearers were Randy Ehrenberg, Steve Ehrenberg, Mark Storms, Jarred Ehrenberg, Andy Storms, Mark Steffens, Chad Kohlmeyer and Kim Anderson.

Interment was in the church cemetery.

Mabel Louise Ehrenberg was born March 27, 1912, in Hamburg, the daughter of John and Maria (Klanche) Dreier. She was baptized as an infant on April 7, 1912, by the Rev. H.J. Bouman at



Mabel Ehrenberg

Emanuel Lutheran Church in Hamburg, and was confirmed in her faith as a youth on May 21, 1925, by the Rev. Dysterheft, at St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Helen Township. She received her education at the Helen Township parochial school.

On Dec. 20, 1931, she was united in marriage to Ervin Ehrenberg by the Rev. Dysterheft at St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Helen Township. They made their home on the Ehrenberg family farm near Schilling Lake until the late 1960s, when they moved to Glencoe. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Duane and Diane. The couple shared 51 years of marriage before Mr. Ehrenberg’s death on June 1, 1983.

In addition to being a loving wife, mother and homemaker, Mrs. Ehrenberg helped on the farm. After moving to Glencoe, she also worked at Tonka Toys, Bon-gards Creamery and did house cleaning. She was an active member of First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glencoe.

Mrs. Ehrenberg enjoyed gardening, fishing, playing cards and her trips to the cabin. She treasured the time

spent with her friends and family, especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by her children, Duane (Romane) Ehrenberg of Norwood Young America and Diane Sellnow of Grand Rapids; grandchildren, Randy (Bobbie) Ehrenberg of Norwood Young America, Steve Ehrenberg of Norwood Young America, Patt (Mark) Storms of Norwood Young America and Kim Anderson of Iron-ton; great-grandchildren, Aleisha (Chad) Kohlmeyer, Jarred Ehrenberg, Andy (Tyra) Storms, Jessica (Mark) Steffens, Ashley Anderson, Anna Loehrs and Betsy Loehrs; great-great-grandchildren, Holden, Eaven and Sullivan Kohlmeyer, Lydia and Claire Storms, and Anthony Steffens; nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Maria Dreier; husband, Ervin Ehrenberg; grandson, Shawn Loehrs; and brothers, John Dreier and Alvin Dreier.

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

Bernice M. Gehlen, 93, of Hutchinson

Bernice Mary Gehlen, 93, of Hutchinson, formerly of Silver Lake, died Sunday, April 24, 2016.

Visitation will be Wednesday, April 27, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., with a rosary and Council of Catholic Women (CCW) prayers at 5 p.m., and parish prayers at 7:30 p.m., at the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Thursday, April 28, at 10:30 a.m., at Holy Family Catholic Church in Silver Lake with the Rev. Paul Schumacher as celebrant. Gift bearers will be her granddaughters, Lindsay Wegge, Megan Skarnes, Jacque Gehlen, Kate Gehlen and Brooke Gehlen.

Casket bearers will be her grandchildren, Joe R. Gehlen, Sean P. Gehlen, Keith T. Quiring, Eric M. Quiring, John R. Quiring, Grant P. Gehlen, Lindsay K. Wegge, Megan E. Skarnes, Jacque L. Gehlen, Kate E. Gehlen and Brooke A. Gehlen. Honorary casket bearers are the quilters of Holy Family Catholic



Bernice Gehlen

Church.

Interment will be in St. Joseph’s Cemetery in Silver Lake.

Bernice Mary Gehlen was born Dec. 10, 1922, to Henry W. and Mary A. (Matousek) Podrasky.

She was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Silver Lake. On June 15, 1948, she married the love of her life, Joseph W. Gehlen, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Silver Lake. The two built their business, Gehlen Farm Service, together in Silver Lake. They were blessed with five children, Joseph, Mark, Mary, Paul and Jon.

Mrs. Gehlen was a loving wife, mother and grandmother who was a faithful servant of her church and community. She was a hard worker who enjoyed gardening, canning, connecting with friends and family on Facebook, and was an individual who had endless energy. She was very precise on how she cooked and did her canning, having a motto of: “quality ingredients result in a quality product.”

She enjoyed living at The Pines in Hutchinson and was involved in many activities while living there, including the bell choir and Wii bowling. She started the welcoming club and the book club.

She also made sure everyone had a friend, finding ways to energize people through exercise class, bingo and keeping running averages for Wii bowling. She loved to keep things organized.

Mrs. Gehlen was active in the Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Lions Club, Rosary Society, St. Joe’s (Holy Family) quilting and the Holy Family CCW.

She is survived by her children, Joseph (Pam) Gehlen, Mark (Paula) Gehlen, Mary (Tom) Quiring, Paul (Dianne) Gehlen and Jon (Jennifer) Gehlen; grandchildren, Joe (Leanne) Gehlen, Lindsay (Matt) Wegge, Sean (Angie) Gehlen, Megan (Eric) Skarnes, Jacque Gehlen, Keith Quiring, Eric Quiring, Grant Gehlen, John Quiring, Kate Gehlen and Brooke Gehlen; great-grandchildren, Joey, Natalie, Mae, Elise, Olivia, Ella, Audrey and Jacob “JW;” and other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joe Gehlen; parents, Henry and Mary Podrasky; infant brother, Henry Podrasky; and twin great-grandsons, Willem and Thomas Gehlen.

Arrangements were with the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake.

Menus

May 2-6  
Glencoe-Silver Lake  
Helen Baker Breakfast

Monday — Breakfast sausage pizza, mandarin oranges, apple juice.

Tuesday — Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal, apple cinnamon muffin, applesauce, orange juice.

Wednesday — Skewered turkey sausage pancake, orange wedges, apple juice.

Thursday — Cocoa Puffs cereal, blueberry muffin, fruit cocktail, orange juice.

Friday — Whole-grain French toast sticks, strawberry banana yogurt, pears, grape juice.

Glencoe-Silver Lake  
Helen Baker Lunch

Monday — Chicken nuggets, whole-grain dinner roll, mashed potatoes, chicken gravy, baby carrots, Red Delicious apple half, pineapple tidbits.

Tuesday — Hamburger, potato wedges, jicama sticks, banana, applesauce.

Wednesday — Italian dunkers with sauce, vegetarian baked beans, jicama stick, green grapes, peaches.

Thursday — Taco beef, flour tortilla, brown rice, romaine, tomato, cheddar garnish, double-cheese chef salad, croutons, whole-grain dinner roll, refried beans, cucumbers, Red Delicious apple half, pears.

Friday — Cheese pizza, caesar salad, baby carrots, Red Delicious apple half, mandarin oranges.

Glencoe-Silver Lake  
Lakeside Breakfast

Monday — Breakfast sausage pizza, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, apple cinnamon muffin, applesauce, orange juice.

Tuesday — Skewered turkey sausage pancake, Cocoa Puffs cereal, low-fat mozzarella string cheese, mandarin oranges, apple juice.

Wednesday — Egg and cheese sandwich, blueberry muffin, strawberry banana yogurt, orange wedges, grape juice.

Thursday — Breakfast sausage pizza, Golden Grahams cereal, blueberry muffin, raisins, apple juice.

Friday — Whole-grain French toast sticks, low-fat mozzarella string cheese, Trix cereal bar, pears, orange juice.

Glencoe-Silver Lake  
Lakeside Lunch

Monday — Chicken nuggets, whole-grain dinner roll, turkey and cheese sandwich, mashed potatoes, chicken gravy, baby carrots, Red Delicious apple half, pineapple tidbits.

Tuesday — Hamburger, ham and turkey chef salad, croutons, whole-grain dinner roll, potato wedges, jicama sticks, banana, applesauce.

Wednesday — Italian dunkers with sauce, sun butter and grape jelly sandwich, vegetarian baked beans, jicama stick, green grapes, peaches.

Thursday — Taco beef, flour tortilla, brown rice, romaine, tomato, cheddar garnish, double-cheese chef salad, croutons, whole-grain dinner roll, refried beans, cucumbers, Red Delicious apple half, pears.

Friday — Cheese pizza, mini bagel fun lunch, caesar salad, baby carrots, Red Delicious apple half, mandarin oranges.

Glencoe-Silver Lake  
Junior, Senior High Breakfast

Monday — Breakfast sausage pizza, peanut butter and grape jelly Uncrustable, pears, apple juice.

Tuesday — Bacon, egg and cheese bagel, breakfast round, strawberry banana yogurt, applesauce, grape juice.

Wednesday — Skewered turkey sausage pancake, organic strawberry yogurt, granola, strawberries, sliced banana, vanilla yogurt, peaches, apple juice.

Thursday — Ham, egg and cheese on an English muffin, peanut butter and grape jelly Uncrustable, fruit cocktail, grape juice.

Friday — Pancakes, pork sausage patty, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, apple cinnamon muffin, mandarin oranges, apple juice.

Glencoe-Silver Lake  
Junior, Senior High Lunch

Monday — Chicken patty sandwich, crinkle fries, vegetarian baked beans, pepperoni pizza, cheese pizza, deli selections, carrot sticks, sweet corn and pepper salad, Red Delicious apple, pears.

Tuesday — Hamburger, cheeseburger, corn, bacon, lettuce, tomatoes, red onions, Italian

sausage pizza, cheese pizza, deli selections, jicama sticks, cole slaw, banana, applesauce.

Wednesday — Fajita chicken, orange sauce, brown rice, vegetable stir fry, chicken Alfredo and broccoli pizza, cheese pizza, deli selections, red bell pepper strips, marinated tomato and cucumber salad, apple salad, peaches.

Thursday — Taco beef, chicken taco meat, flour tortilla, hard taco shells, refried beans, guacamole, diced tomatoes, romaine lettuce, Italian sausage pizza, cheese pizza, deli selections, sliced cucumbers, chickpea citrus salad, pear, mandarin oranges.

Friday — Italian dunkers with sauce, meat sauce, green beans, pepperoni pizza, cheese pizza, deli selections, carrot sticks, caesar salad, orange wedges, pineapple tidbits, blueberry crisp.

St. Pius X School

Monday — Chicken patty sandwich, crinkle fries, vegetarian baked beans, carrot sticks, sweet corn and pepper salad, Red Delicious apple, pears.

Tuesday — Hamburger, cheeseburger, corn, bacon, lettuce, tomatoes, red onions, jicama sticks, cole slaw, banana, applesauce.

Wednesday — Fajita chicken, orange sauce, brown rice, vegetable stir fry, red bell pepper strips, marinated tomato and cucumber salad, apple salad, peaches.

Thursday — Taco beef, chicken taco meat, flour tortilla, hard taco shells, re-fried beans, guacamole, diced tomatoes, romaine lettuce, sliced cucumbers, chickpea citrus salad, pear, mandarin oranges.

Friday — Italian dunkers with sauce, meat sauce, green beans, carrot sticks, caesar salad, orange wedges, pineapple tidbits, blueberry crisp.

First Lutheran School

Monday — Hot dog on whole wheat bun, baked beans, apple.

Tuesday — Spaghetti with meat sauce, breadstick, romaine lettuce, apples.

Wednesday — Chicken fajita with cook’s choice.

Thursday — Hot ham and cheese with cook’s choice.

Friday — Corn dog, potato chips, fruit.

Intersection sign replacement project under way in county

The McLeod County intersection sign replacement project began Monday, April 18.

The project will not include any road closures, but stationary construction vehicles may be present along various state, county and township roads throughout the project. ID Sign Solutions of Glencoe was awarded the project.

The intersection sign replacement project includes the removal and replacement of approximately 430 intersection identification signs (street name signs) throughout McLeod County. Existing Intersection ID signs that warrant replacement will be removed and replaced with

new posts, sign panels, and hardware.

The project is expected to be completed in late May.

The sign installation contract cost approximately \$19,000. Materials for the project were previously purchased at an approximate cost of \$40,000. The project is funded by a combination of wheelage tax and county funds.

Any questions regarding the project should be directed to Phil Schmalz, assistant county engineer, at 320-484-4362 or email at phillip.schmalz@co.mcleod.mn.us.

For other county construction information, please visit the construction page on the

county website at www.co.mcleod.mn.us/highway/construction.

Up-to-date project-specific information also will be posted on the highway department’s Facebook and Twitter pages; username is “McLeod CoHwy.”

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**Thank You**

We would like to express a sincere thank you to the staff at Harmony River, Wooded Glen, for their loving care and kindness to our dear mother and grandmother, Frieda Spiering. Also to the staff of Allina Hospice during her last week. Dr. Bonte for his direction, Pastor Reed of Immanuel Lutheran of Brown-ton for his prayers and comforting words.

We would especially like to thank Rich Hantge and his staff of Dobratz-Hantge Chapel for all their help and excellent service during this difficult time.

Special thanks to the ladies of Immanuel who did all the preparing and serving of the luncheon.

Thank you for all the cards, food, monetary and floral memorials, thoughts, prayers and kindness.

Our wish is that you take the love, joy and kindness you received from Frieda and spread it to those who touch your life. God bless you all.

**The family of Frieda Spiering  
Rhonda & Lonnie Lindeman & family  
Sherwyn & JoAnn Spiering**

\*17Ca

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# McLeod County Historical Museum hosts panel of current firefighters, covers history of county fire departments

By Rebecca Mariscal  
Staff Writer

The fire departments of McLeod County have a history as long and varied as the cities they service. To honor this history, the McLeod County Historical Society and Museum has made the history of fire fighting in the county its theme for this year.

On Sunday, April 24, the museum hosted a panel of representatives from current fire departments from around the county for a “then and now” look at fire fighting.

“We are trying to dig deeper into our history,” Executive Director Lori Pickell-Stangel said. “History is happening as we speak.”

Representatives from Plato, Hutchinson, Silver Lake, Winsted and Brownnton were present. Pickell-Stangel provided the history of each town before turning it over to the panelists for a current look.

### Plato

Though Pickell-Stangel said there’s not a ton of information on the founding of the Plato Fire Department, the first Plato fire chief was appointed in 1898. Up until that point, the city had equipment but no department.

“It was all hands on deck if something happened and the citizens just chipped in,” Pickell-Stangel said.

Shortly after the formation of the fire department, the city of Plato experienced a huge fire that took out a block of the business district and caused \$35,000 in damage.

Today, Fire Chief Jay Wood said the city has 22 volunteers on the fire department. The responders are unpaid and they go out to any



Chronicle photo by Rebecca Mariscal

**Representatives from the local fire departments spoke about what firefighting is like now. Pictured above, from left to right, are retired fire fighter Ron Knick and Assistant Fire Chief Lori Copler of the Brownnton Fire Department,**

service needed. The department protects about 1500 people and has its busiest days in March and July.

The department has two tankers, two engines, a rescue truck and a grass fire truck.

### Hutchinson

The Hutchinson Fire Department formed in June 1884. The first fire the department responded to was a straw fire that Pickell-Stangel said had been set purposefully by the chief and the mayor to test the department’s skills. The two were fined 50 cents for the lost straw.

Now, Fire Chief Mike Schumann said the Hutchinson Fire Department has 32 members that are paid on-call for their services. The department answers about 450 calls a year and covers 180 square miles.

The department has two engines, a ladder truck, two tankers, a grass fire truck and an off-road vehicle.

### Silver Lake

**ment, Assistant Fire Chief Brian Langenfeld of the Winsted Fire Department, Silver Lake Fire Chief Dale Kosek, Hutchinson Fire Chief Mike Schumann and Plato Fire Chief Jay Wood.**

The Silver Lake Fire Department is as old as the city, Pickell-Stangel said, with the earliest records from 1898. The department started with a dozen members, a few ladders and an assortment of pails. Records from 1900 showed \$11.65 in the treasury.

Today, Fire Chief Dale Kosek said the Silver Lake Department has 28 members, including one female member. He said over half of the department has over 20 years on the force. They answer about 150 calls.

The city does mail-out donations every year and is able to get more than the \$11 in its budget.

The department has two pumpers, two tankers, a rescue van, a grass fire truck and a pickup truck.

### Winsted

The Winsted Fire Department was formed in 1887, shortly after a large fire caused great loss in the business district in 1886.

Pickell-Stangel said the

museum actually still has the original bylaws of the Winsted department, one of the few. The museum also has some of the original uniforms of the department, which were highly decorative.

Today, Assistant Fire Chief Brian Langenfeld said the department has 22 fire fighters who answer 196 calls a year.

The department features two fundraisers, both a spaghetti dinner at Winstock and a pancake feed at the fire house.

The department has a boat, a pickup, two pumpers, two tankers and a ladder truck.

### Brownnton

The Brownnton Fire Department was formed in 1891.

“It was first class in every respect and its membership included Brownnton’s best young men,” Pickell-Stangel said was reported.

Now, Assistant Fire Chief Lori Copler, the first and only woman in the department, said Brownnton has about 28 fire fighters who answer about 75 calls a year. She said

# Glencoe Lions host Music in the Park series

The Glencoe Lions have scheduled their 2016 Music in the Park series. There will be five Wednesday evening concerts, beginning Wednesday, June 29.

Five businesses have stepped forward to sponsor the entertainment, which will be held at Oak Leaf Park’s Shelter 2.

The schedule is:

• Wednesday, June 29 — State Farm Insurance-Larry Anderson will sponsor Carver Creek, a family band comprised of five siblings. They provide a variety of bluegrass, old-time, Irish and country music, always keeping on the cheerful side of the spectrum. Each member adds their own unique flavor.

• Wednesday, July 6 — Security Bank & Trust will sponsor Allen and Matt Carlson from Hamburg, a father and son duo who share a passion for music, especially classic country, gospel and hymns that entertain audiences with a positive, uplifting message.

• Wednesday, July 13 — First Minnesota Bank will sponsor The Flemming Fold, which is an exciting and versatile family musical group. This father, mother and two young daughters perform a wide variety of high-energy, toe-tapping music blending bluegrass, country, old-time, gospel and Alpine folk music with yodeling.

• Wednesday, July 20 — McBride Chapel will sponsor the duo of Jim and Mike Wendolek featuring old-time favorites. They are returning for a fifth season.

Wednesday, July 27 — McLeod Publishing, Inc., is sponsoring Chuck and Jason Thiel with music that is pleasing to all old-time and modern listeners, also returning for a fifth year.

The Glencoe Lions will serve a hot sandwich meal at a nominal charge at each event. Proceeds will be used to fund community projects. The free musical entertainment will begin at 6:30 p.m.

If businesses or individuals would like to donate door prizes or cash for any of the events, please contact Jean or Ron Dahlke at 320-864-5237. All donations will be acknowledged at each event, and donations are greatly appreciated.

# GSL presents ‘Rosie the Riveter’ Thursday

By Rebecca Mariscal  
Staff Writer

The homefront of World War II will take the stage Thursday night with Glencoe-Silver Lake High School’s premiere of “Rosie the Riveter.”

Opening night is Thursday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the GSL High School Auditorium will other performances on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and a Sunday performance at 2 p.m.

Audiences will experience the story of a well-known icon from World War II, Rosie the Riveter and her “We Can Do It” slogan.



Chronicle photos by Rebecca Mariscal

**At left, Rachel Bonderman, as Rosie O’Connell, keeps order in the shop. Above, workers listen to news of D-Day, when Allied troops stormed the beaches of Normandy, France. Pictured from left to right are, Madeline Kuehn, Stephanie Welch, Kate Kunkel, Leah Bettcher, Molly Green and Grace Witte.**

The play follows Rosie O’Connell working as a secretary at the closing Eddie’s Auto Parts Factory in the midst of World War II. Wanting to help the cause, Rosie convinces Eddie to keep the shop open under government contract, promising she will find the (wo)manpower. Rosie herself rolls up her sleeves and recruits her fellow women to do all they can to support their boys fighting overseas.

“Rosie the Riveter” is directed by Patrick Hiltner. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for students.

The cast for the production is as follows:

Rosie O’Connell, Rachel Bonderman; Helen Henley, Katie Twiss; Eddie Kendrick, Travis Uecker; John Stanley, Quinten Proehl; Katherine

Hartley, Lili Mallak;

Margaret Miller, Marisa Luchsinger, Marjorie Stinson, Autumn Lindback; Tommy, Alex Endres; Jasper, Jacob Reichow;

Mary Jane Hilton, Leah Petersen; Lucy, Molly Green; Martha, Madeline Kuehn; Ida, Bryanna Paul; Nancy Prior, Emmi Jerabek; Evelyn Richardson, Grace Witte; Edna Clifton, Leah Bettcher;

Bonnie, Kate Kunkel; Valerie, Stephanie Welch; Linda, Haley Lukes; Colonel Cole, Austin Pinske; Henry, Jonah Tankersley; Mary, Marissa Kirchoff, Melinda, Tina Bonillo.

Crew members for the show are Madilynn Anderson, Jordan Doolittle, Darrin Emery, Marissa Kirchoff and Thalia Otero.



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**loric@glencoenews.com;**

**call the Chronicle office at 320-864-5518;**

**or mail to**

**PO Box 188, Glencoe, MN 55336**

**or 716 E 10<sup>th</sup> St., Glencoe, MN 55336.**



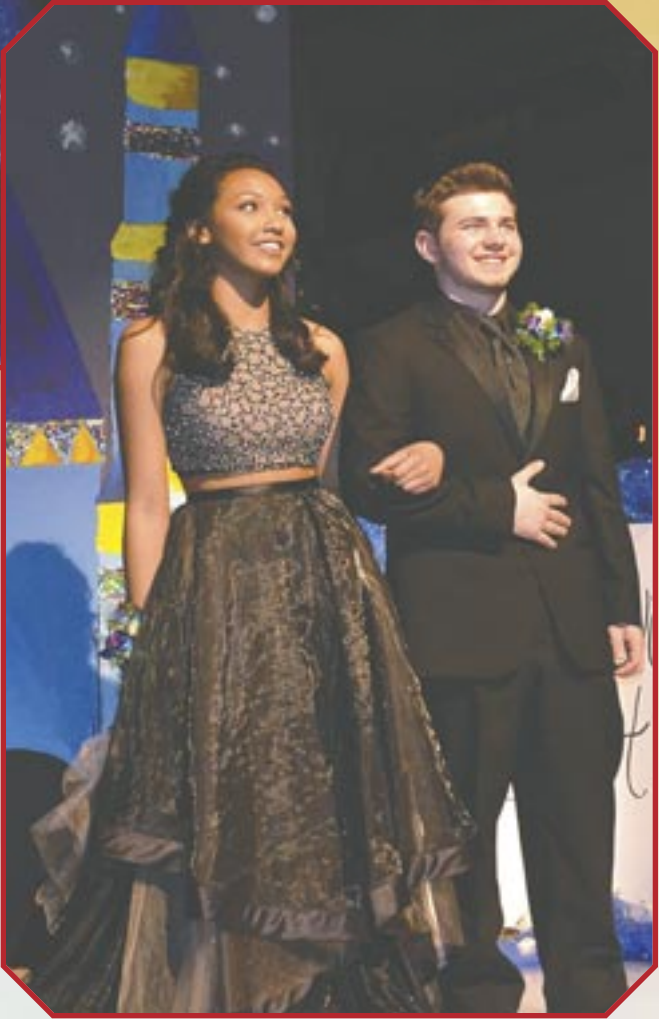
# HOLLYWOOD: GSL PROM 2016



Above, junior class officers Sarah Bandas, Katie Twiss, Amanda Husted and Jake Fehrenbach take advantage of the second fun grand march to pose on the red carpet. At right, Emily Muetzel accompanied by Mitchell Pinske on the Titanic display.



Circular, from left: Lili Mallak accompanied by Blake Jurek, Leah Peterson accompanied by Giovanni Ramirez, Mieke Folks accompanied by Jordan Tessmer and Kambri Tessmer accompanied by Alfredo Pena.



Isabell Mallak accompanied by Cole Willock.



Jiana Posusta accompanied by Luis Duenas.



Students take another lap for fun! At right, Matt Sanchez and Joey Torgenson horse around during the encore march. Below, Ashley Bandemer, Molli Cacka and Ashlyn Stuewe pose in the dates' jackets.

