



# Trapshooting

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# Chronicle

## The McLeod County

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Wednesday, April 9, 2014

# GRHS cuts \$2.3 million

## Recent budget reductions equal to 46 FTE positions after 2013 losses

By Lori Copley  
Staff Writer

Glencoe Regional Health Services (GRHS) recently cut \$2.3 million in expenses from its budget — the equivalent of 46 full-time positions — Chief Executive Officer Jon Braband said last week.

Braband said a combination of factors led GRHS to believe it would operate at a loss in 2013, but “we under-shot our projections,” Braband said, and the local health-care system lost about \$2 million in 2013.

“Our costs were about \$2 million more than the revenue we received,” said Braband.

For several years, Braband said, government programs such as Medicare and Medicaid “have not paid their fair share” toward medical costs.

The past practice has been for health-care systems to bill the gap between what Medicare and Medicaid paid and the actual cost to private insurers. Those private insurers are now balking at picking up the difference, Braband indicated.

In addition, private individuals’ health insurance premiums have risen and, as such, people are opting for policies with higher deductibles and higher co-pays.

“People have more of a first-dollar cost-share,” said Braband. Patients who once had \$250 annual deductibles now have deductibles of \$1,000 or more.

That has resulted in fewer people seeking out routine health care.

“The volumes have been soft,” said Braband. “People are paying more attention to where their dollars are being spent.”

“Costs have gone up, aggregate receipts have gone down,” he added.

In addition, Braband said, hospitals and other health-care organizations tend to operate differently than most businesses.

“Our main reason to be here is to be a care-giver organization, not a business,” said Braband, “but we do have business principles we need to follow.”

Braband likened a health-care organization to a heart that needs blood to operate — a business needs revenue as its blood to operate, as well.

### Community impact

Braband said GRHS has heard rumors about the cuts.

“No, we are not selling the hospital; no, we are not closing or selling off



Jon Braband

**GRHS budget**  
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Chronicle photos by Alyssa Schauer

## Spring Jazz concert

Last Thursday, the Glencoe-Silver Lake Jazz Bands I and II performed at the Glencoe City Center in conjunction with the GSL FFA pork chop feed. The spring concert was to feature the “MIDlots” from Bemidji State University, but the special guests had to cancel due to inclement weather. Yet, the GSL jazz bands still performed. Above are members of the Jazz I band. From left to right are Ashley Alsleben on the alto saxophone, Lili Mallak on tenor saxophone and Richard Wilson on baritone saxophone. To the left is Ethan Bass, of Jazz Band I.



# Board votes 3-2 to move forward with retrofit despite \$1 million more in costs

By Lori Copley  
Staff Writer

McLeod County Commissioners voted 3-2 Tuesday morning to move forward with its proposed retrofit of Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), despite an expected increase in costs.

Commissioners Jon Christensen and Ron Shimanski voted against the proposal, both saying they were not comfortable with the new expected costs, which are nearly \$1 million more than the preliminary budget.

Christensen said he likes the concept behind the proposal, but not with the anticipated cost.

Christensen noted the County Board had a workshop last week to review the new estimates, and heard it’s going to be about \$1 million more than expected.

“I’ve kind of got a ball in stomach,” said Christensen. Christensen said if he is not comfortable with the financing of a project, “I don’t know if I can support it.”

Shimanski echoed Christensen’s concerns toward the end of the meeting.

“Like Jon, I just have that knot in my stomach,” said Shimanski. “I have reservations about the movement of the dollars.”

Shimanski also noted he was unable to attend Thursday’s workshop, which added to his discomfort with new numbers.

The preliminary plan had called for an estimated cost range of \$2.87 million to \$3.59 million for the project.

However, commissioners heard Tuesday and at a workshop last Thursday morning that the anticipated cost is now about \$4.45 million.

Equipment needed to retrofit McLeod County’s Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to accommodate one-sort recycling will cost about \$300,000 more than anticipated, the County Board heard at the workshop Thursday morning and at Tuesday’s

meeting. Bob Craggs of Burns & McDonnell, a solid waste consulting firm, said at the workshop that the additional \$300,000 for equipment is based on estimates provided by a couple of vendors, but will not necessarily play out in the actual project.

Craggs said the vendors will usually provide “value engineering,” in which they will look for ways to reduce costs as the equipment is being installed.

Along with the additional money for equipment, there is an anticipated cost of \$110,000 for permits, etc., \$60,000 for site preparation and another \$499,000 for associated items such as rolling stock, a new track scale, software for the scale, and an eddy current separator for aluminum cans.

Commissioner Sheldon Nies said that some of those items — such as the truck scale — were needed regardless of whether the County Board moved forward with the retrofit or not.

“We just decided to roll them into this project,” said Nies.

Nies also said that the focus of the MRF committee was to “do things right the first time, and not be coming back for this or that. Our goal was to have no surprises.” That is partly why the cost is coming in higher than anticipated, he said.

Commissioner Paul Wright said he felt the County Board has done well in preparations, even if estimates are coming in higher than anticipated.

And Wright said it is important for the county to be clear that the project could still be done without the use of levy dollars.

“It’s very important that we make sure it’s quite clear what we’re doing,” Wright

**County Board**  
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# Improvements planned for BMX park this year

By Rich Glennie  
Editor

Glencoe City Council Monday night approved a \$5,000 parks grant to help pay for proposed improvements to the BMX track and grounds at Sterner Park.

Also approved was \$7,500 to help fund a paving project around the BMX track facility.

Ryan Voss of the Buffalo Creek BMX Park requested the funding, coupled with other donations and donated labor, to continue to make improvements to the park this year.

“I want to thank the city for all its support,”

Voss started, and he proceeded to explain the main improvements planned this year.

He said the first improvement is for a 24-by-30-foot steel-framed, open-air shelter that will provide shade at the facility located on 9th Street and Ives Avenue.

“There is not a stitch of shade at the park,” Voss said.

The shelter will cost about \$5,000, Voss added, and the club will do the work itself through donations and donated labor.

Second, Voss requested the \$5,000 park grant to help fund a playground at Sterner

Park. The BMX group also has received a \$3,900 donation from Miller Manufacturing, which will be used to fund the estimated \$9,400 for the playground equipment and fencing.

Voss said an area north of the central garage is the site of the playground, which will include swings and a slide for the younger children.

Third, Voss said a paving project is planned because the current surfaces at the BMX Park are “rough for walking.” The aim is to make it safer for pedestrians.

The project would involve a paved pathway from the Ninth Street entrance past the central building on the site then past the bleachers and emerge onto Ives Avenue.

Also in the plans is replacement of the Ives Avenue sidewalk with a paved pathway, Voss said.

The paving would cost about \$7,500 and the preparation work about \$2,500. He sought city help with the paving costs, and the BMX

**City Council**  
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## Weather

Wed., 4-9	Thur., 4-10	Fri., 4-11	Sat., 4-12	Sun., 4-13
H: 70°, L: 48°	H: 60°, L: 40°	H: 62°, L: 48°	H: 68°, L: 42°	H: 48°, L: 32°

**Looking back:** Surprise! A late snowstorm dumped over 8 inches on the area, delaying arrival of spring a bit longer.

Date	Hi	Lo	Snow
April 1	34	18	0.00
April 2	43	17	0.00

April 3	35	26	4.00*
April 4	45	24	4.20
April 5	49	17	0.00
April 6	65	35	0.00
April 7	62	36	0.00

\* .02 rain. Temperatures and precipitation compiled by Robert Thurn, Chronicle weather observer.

## Chronicle News and Advertising Deadlines

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

## Happenings

### GSL concert set for Sunday

The Glencoe-Silver Lake (GSL) Public Schools will present the annual districtwide band concert Sunday, April 13, at 4 p.m., the GSL High School gym. The concert will feature the fifth-grade and the sixth-grade bands from Lakeside Elementary, the combined seventh- and eighth-grade bands from Lincoln Junior High, as well as the ninth-10th-grade band and GSL Concert Band from the high school. There is an admission charge.

### VFW Auxiliary meets April 14

The next regular meeting of the Glencoe VFW Auxiliary to Post 5102 will be held Monday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m., at the VFW Club.

### Artists Series to work tip night

The Glencoe Area Performing Artists Series' board will work tip night at Unhinged! Pizza Monday, April 14, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Information about the 2014-2015 concert series will be available.

### '500' card party set Monday

The St. Francis Mission Club will host a "500" card party Monday, April 14, at 1:30 p.m., at the St. Pius X School Cafeteria, 1103 10th St. E., Glencoe. There is no admission charge, and both men and women are welcome. There will be a free-will offering dessert luncheon.

### Legion, Auxiliary to meet

Brownton Edward Ewald Post 143 of the American Legion and its Auxiliary Unit will meet Monday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m., at the Brownton Community Center. Host and hostesses for the evening are Elmer Baysinger, Leone Kujas and Melissa Dunham.

### County DFL to meet April 12

The McLeod County DFL will meet on Saturday, April 12, at 10 a.m., at Common Cup Ministries at the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Second Avenue W, Hutchinson.

### Health meeting set for April 9

Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services will hold its quarterly Community Health Board meeting on Wednesday, April 9, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Note that this is a change from the usual Thursday meeting date, and this meeting will be held in the McLeod County Public Health Conference Room in Glencoe. The meeting is open to the public.

### County seniors to meet April 16

The quarterly meeting of the McLeod County Senior Citizens will be held Wednesday, April 16, at 1:30 p.m., at the Silver Lake Auditorium. Anyone 55 and over is welcome to attend.

### Stewart Easter party April 13

The Stewart Lions Club will host its annual kids' Easter party and pancake breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 13, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Stewart Fire Hall. The menu will consist of all-you-can-eat pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit, milk, juice and coffee, for a free-will offering. There also will be a kids' coloring contest and free photographs with the Easter Bunny. Proceeds go to local projects.

### Seniors club meets April 10

The Glencoe Senior Citizens Club will meet Thursday, April 10, at 12:30 p.m., in the Glencoe City Center Senior Room for socializing and games. All senior citizens are invited to attend. The group also meets Tuesday, April 15, at 12:30 p.m. More information can be obtained by calling at 320-864-3799 or 320-510-1551.

### Bloodmobile in Brownton

The Red Cross bloodmobile will be at the Brownton Community Center, 310 Second St. N., on Thursday, April 10, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

### Lions Bar Bingo Saturday

The Glencoe Lions will be sponsoring Bar Bingo at the Glencoe Country Club on Saturday, April 12, at 2 p.m. Everyone age 18 and over is welcome to play for cash prizes. The progressive game pay-out amount is \$699 if one has bingo within 52 called numbers. Food, beverages and pull-tabs are available. This is the final bingo event for this season. It will resume in the fall.

### Spring Fling breakfast set

The New Auburn Lions Club will host is Spring Fling breakfast brunch from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sunday, April 13, at the New Auburn City Hall. Served will be scrambled eggs with ham, hash browns, homemade muffins and beverages. Proceeds will go toward community projects.

### Brownton Women to meet

The Brownton Women's Club will meet Wednesday, April 16, at 6:30 p.m., at the Brownton Community Center to set up for the Easter egg hunt. Pizza will be served.

### Plato citywide sales coming

The Plato citywide garage sales will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 11-12, starting at 8 a.m. Watch for the balloons.

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

# Liquor store work nearing end

By Rich Glennie  
Editor

Glencoe City Administrator Mark Larson told City Council Monday night that work on the liquor expansion/renovation project is nearly complete.

While flooring is complete in the liquor store, some hallway work still needs to be completed; shelving will be set up on the west side of the store this week, and on Thursday, vendors will be in to set up displays.

"It's moving right along, smoothly," Larson said.

The outside awning is expected to be installed later this week, he added.

Yet to be done are concrete work near the new entrance to the liquor store, which will be done as weather permits, and the new parking lot, which will be done as part of this year's street improvement project.

Larson said an open house will be planned in a few weeks, and regular business hours are expected to restart this week as well.

Larson said January sales were up about \$7,000, while February sales were down about that same amount as the construction got under way.

March sales were down about \$30,000, Larson added, but so were expenses with

less product being purchased.

"We did not close the store once," Larson said. He added the city is thankful to KUE Contractors, Inc. of Watkins because, "they have been awesome to work with."

In other matters, City Council:

- Approved the purchase of a new plow truck, box, plow and wing for \$167,602. The cost will be spread out over a five-year period and was budgeted for this year.

- Mike Drew, public works director for streets and parks, said the vehicle should be delivered by mid-October.

- Revisited an early motion approving a new building code fee schedule. The action only required a resolution instead, which was approved.

- Approved first reading of a new illicit discharge ordinance required by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Three readings and a public hearing are required. The public hearing was set for 7:15 p.m., Monday, April 21.

The new 23-page ordinance replaces the city's current one-page discharge ordinance, according to Gary Schreifels, public works director for water and wastewater.

Schreifels said the current ordinance did not have teeth in it for enforcing violations.

The proposed new ordinance has teeth, he stressed.

Council Gary Ziemer said the new ordinance aims to keep all but storm water from going into the storm sewer system.

If approved, the ordinance could become effective June 1.

Council member Kevin Dietz noted there are some exemptions in the ordinance. "You can still wash your car (outside)," he added.

- Gave first reading to a new flood plain ordinance and set a public hearing for 7:30 p.m., Monday, April 21.

The new ordinance is required after the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued new flood plain maps for the city.

When approved, it will allow Glencoe homeowners to buy flood insurance, according to Larson.

The Department of Natural Resources enforces the FEMA flood plain ordinance.

- Approved several supplemental agreements with Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH) for work on a variety of projects for the city.

The agreements include a \$109,000 contract for design work on the 2015 Lincoln Park street and utility project, with an estimated cost of over \$4 million; \$46,600 for the 2015 Armstrong Avenue

street and utility project; \$5,200 for the 2014 Oak Leaf Park storm swale work; \$38,100 for the north central pond outlet to the east ditch; \$6,800 for the Haukos storm water pond outlet reconstruction; and \$3,100 for the Oak Leaf Park campground utilities.

The other contract with SEH is for design work on the municipal airport runway reconstruction project scheduled for this summer. The project is estimated at \$700,000 with the state paying most of the cost.

A parallel taxi runway project is scheduled for next year. The SEH contract is for \$64,000.

- Heard of Mayor Randy Wilson's concerns about the county's recycling bins in its 10th Street parking lot. Wilson said he has received complaints from residents about the debris blowing around the site.

Wilson said he will write a letter to the county suggesting the recycling bins be relocated to the county's North Complex. He also wants to know why fencing of the current site is not in place, yet.

- Closed the City Council meeting to discuss the possible sale of real estate. No other details were revealed.

## Good Friday Cross Walk also includes a drive, too

The Glencoe-Silver Lake Ministerial Good Friday Cross Walk also will include a necessary drive this year.

The group will begin at Oscar Olson Park (14th Street and Union Avenue) at 11:45 a.m. on April 18, and walk to Grand Meadows for a service at noon.

From there, the group will drive to Glencoe Re-

gional Health Services long-term care facility for a second service at 12:35 p.m.

"The community residents are invited to make this a part of their Holy Week journey. Come, walk/drive with us!" the Rev. James Gomez said.

For more information, call the Rev. Gomez at 864-6157.



## Early Childhood Family Education

## '1,000 Books' celebration set

Come celebrate both the Week of the Young Child and National Library Week on Tuesday, April 15, at 6 p.m. in the GSL Early Childhood Learning Center for the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Reading celebration!

The reading celebration is a joint effort of the Brownton and Glencoe public libraries, GSL schools and GSL ECFE. The event will be held in the motor room of the GSL Early Childhood Learning Center, an addition to Lincoln School in Glencoe.

All children enrolled in the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten reading program will receive awards noting the most recent goal they have achieved. Children who have reached 1,000 books will receive a hardbound book of their choice.

1,000 Books Before

Kindergarten is an independent reading program for children from birth to kindergarten entry; you may join at any time, and read aloud to your child as often as possible. Parents record books in a reading journal and return to the library to have their progress recorded. For each 100 books read, your child will receive a small prize.

The WonderWeavers Storytellers will be performing after the awards are presented by library staff. The program will be a combination of familiar stories and some new twists with lots of audience participation. The reading celebration is open to all families in our area who would like to attend; you do not need to be enrolled in 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten to attend.

## County Board Continued from page 1

said. At the workshop, Wright had said the plan is to use abatement fund money to finance the project. That fund currently has about \$5.5 million, and the County Board has set a standard of keeping at least \$2 million in that fund "as a safety mark," Wright said. The increased cost will bring that fund to less than that \$2 million cushion.

Nies then suggested "bouncing" the issue back to the budget committee and perhaps use bonding to finance the project, "rolling it" into other building needs under consideration for the county.

However, Wright pointed out that when the County Board visited the cities and townships about the one-sort recycling proposal, "we stressed that we would not be using tax dollars, and we

would not be bonding" for it. "Yes, you're absolutely right," agreed Nies.

The County Board, at the workshop, discussed two optional items for the sorting equipment, an OCC (old corrugated cardboard) screen, and an eddy current separator.

The OCC screen provides a screen to remove cardboard from the waste stream coming through the equipment, and the eddy current separator "blows" aluminum cans out of the stream.

Craggs said both can be bid as alternates for the rest of the equipment.

At Tuesday's meeting, the County Board approved a resolution to move forward with a design/build agreement with Burns & McDonnell to continue with the project, which the county hopes to complete within a year.

## City Council Continued from page 1

group would do the preparation work.

"We will try to get most of the improvements in place before Glencoe Days," Voss said.

He said the Glencoe Days weekend on June 20-21 also is a big weekend for the BMX track. On Friday, June 20, Olympians from the Sochi Games will be at the Glencoe facility. On Saturday, June 21, will be the annual fundraising races and Sunday, June 22, will be the state qualifying races.

"It is an opportunity to make the Glencoe BMX Park shine," Voss said.

Mayor Randy Wilson asked how much money has the BMX group invested in the park since its inception.

"Over \$75,000, mostly in donations, for park improvements," Voss said. "We have had great support from the business community and the city."

City Council approved both the \$5,000 park grant and the \$7,500 for the paving

work.

"It's a legitimate request," said council member John Schrupp, who also has been active in the BMX track projects.

"We put a lot of time into it, and the kids enjoy it. It's a good recreational spot all summer long."

Council member Kevin Dietz, a retired police officer, agreed. "It's a good idea. Just look at the number of kids who use it. It gives the kids something to do," and keeps them out of trouble.

"I'm very pleased with what the BMX group does," added Wilson, "and every so often they need some help."

Mike Drew, public works director for streets and parks, said a biggest concern of the park board was the need for fencing around the proposed playground in order to keep the kids at the BMX track.

The park board recommended approval of the proposed improvements, Drew added.

### NOTICE

The Glencoe Water Department will be flushing hydrants beginning April 14th and ending approximately June 30th, 2014.

This maintenance program is designed to check operations and flows of hydrants, provide maintenance on the hydrants, and flush out any high iron content in the distribution system.

If you experience any rusty water problems during this time, please call 864-5586 so the problem can be corrected as soon as possible. It is possible at the time of flushing to experience a temporary loss of pressure. This is a normal occurrence and the pressure will be restored in a short period to time.

Sorry for any inconvenience you may encounter during this maintenance period.

*Thank you, Glencoe Water Department*

## OPENING FOR THE SEASON

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# HHS building most pressing county need

By Alyssa Schauer  
Staff Writer

At a workshop Tuesday morning, April 1, to discuss long-range planning for McLeod County, the majority of commissioners agreed that the Health and Human Services building is the most “pressing need” for improvements.

The building has issues with temperature control and County Administrator Pat Melvin said crews are looking at updating the roof structure and other options to improve climate control in the facility.

“The majority of complaints I get in administration are from the Health and Human Services building. The primary issues are out there. It’s something we definitely have to take a look at,” Melvin said.

He said when the costs come in to upgrade the building, the county “should look at the big picture instead of solving one problem at a time.”

Melvin referred to the long-range plan for county buildings and improvements and said, “Maybe we can solve two or three problems at the same time.”

“Absolutely,” Commissioner Sheldon McNa said.

John McNamara of Wold Architects and Engineers met with commissioners about the McLeod County’s long-range plans and presented results from a recent survey that asked questions regarding population growth, the preference of a more centralized organization for county office versus decentralized organization, service trends that could affect how county services are offered and structural changes to the county’s organizational chart.

Since 2010, Wold reported there has been a “slight loss” in population. “But there is potential modest growth for the future,” he said.

Wold also reported changes in staffing numbers developed on a department by department basis.

“There hasn’t been a lot of growth staff-wise. In 2013, staffing numbers were lower than what we projected,” Wold said.

However, there has been major growth in staff in the social services department.

Human Services Director Gary Sprynczynatyk said the growth in staffing stems from changes in health care services and an increase in case

management for the aging population.

In discussion about the organization of county services, Melvin reported the survey found one commissioner in favor of a “decentralized organization,” where the offices would be located in separate locations.

“Another commissioner thought the IT (informational technology) department and board room should be moved to the north complex and another felt we should move health and human services to the north complex,” Melvin said.

He said tearing down the front part of the north complex and adding on to the back of the facility is in the current “master plan” for the county.

“I think this board is on record saying we’re not adding on to that building,” Nies said.

He said he remembers discussing the expenses, and “we didn’t see an advantage as to making that place bigger. It’s on the record. But we can change that, too,” Nies said.

“I would prefer a centralized location in the building downtown here,” Commissioner Ron Shimanski said. “A one-stop shop for county operations.”

“Impossible,” Nies commented.

“But I can go along with that if it’s economically reasonable, but with technology, it’s becoming less and less important for us to be located in one spot,” Nies said.

Commissioner Jon Christensen said he felt it isn’t “feasible” to move health and human services offices to the downtown building.

He said the county should consider the jail project and any additions that would benefit moving offices from the north complex to the downtown location.

“That would free up space for public health (in the north complex),” he said.

Commissioner Kermit Terlinden said his biggest concern about bringing more services to the downtown building is parking.

“When I first became commissioner, I heard about the parking problem out here. If we bring more buildings up town here, we’ll need more parking. What is it going to take to park all of our people and where are they going to park?” Terlinden said.

In service trends, McNa-

mara said technology is allowing offices to “do more and more things electronically.”

“The idea came up about mobile workers, especially with the shortage of space at Health and Human Services. We’d have to look at developing a mobile workers policy,” Melvin said.

Nies said he has heard huge success stories about working from home and “a lot of scary stories, too.”

“There were as many that failed as worked. A structure has got to be in place for what ‘work at home’ means,” Nies said.

“We are seeing a lot of pressure on technology and how it affects work. I think it is still evolving and a lot of organizations are doing ‘test pilots,’ (for working at home.)” McNamara said.

“In order for us to move forward, I’d really like us to have discussion on the next steps for our next meeting. Arrive at a consensus. Whatever we decide, it is not binding, but it will help us move forward. We should better define what our goals are,” Melvin said.

“I certainly agree we should make more definitive moves. It’s been 11 to 12 years since the last long-range planning was done. I’m in favor of continuing discussion and putting it on our timetable,” Shimanski said.

Christensen said he would like to see the County Board consider long-range plans in the construction of the jail. “We can utilize our dollars best if we have an idea of where we think we’re going,” he said.

“The jail we will move on with, but I wouldn’t hold it up for a long-range plan,” Nies said.

Terlinden said he contacted Glencoe-Silver Lake Superintendent Chris Sonju about the future of the Helen Baker building and hinted at using that facility for county services.

Nies said there would be same issues with that building as the health and human services building.

“I don’t want to buy another white elephant, but if we don’t look into it, we’re not doing our job,” Nies said.

Commissioners agreed to keep the long-range planning discussion on their “timetable” for future meetings.



Chronicle photo by Lori Copler

## Teen injured in accident

Morgan Rumrill, 16, of Silver Lake, suffered non-life-threatening injuries in a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Highway 212 and Morningside Avenue at the east edge of Glencoe. The accident occurred Wednesday, April 2, at about 4:20 p.m. According to the Minnesota State Patrol, Rumrill was driving a 2008 Chevrolet Aveo northbound on Morningside Avenue and

was nearly through the intersection when her vehicle was broadsided by a 1998 Dodge Ram driven by Jeffrey Kuechle, 33, of Paynesville. Kuechle was not injured. Responding to the accident were the Minnesota State Patrol, McLeod County Sheriff’s Department, Glencoe Fire Department and the Glencoe Ambulance.

## Record

### Police Report

Tuesday, April 1, at 6:50 a.m., a trucker reported that about 150 gallons of diesel were stolen from a semi-truck while it was parked overnight at Super America.

Tuesday at 7:36 p.m., a report was received of two juvenile females who lit a telephone book on fire to keep warm in their “fort.” The juveniles were taken to the parents, and the matter was referred to the fire department for possible intervention.

A driver was cited for driving after suspension and failing to stop at a stop sign on Tuesday at 9:22 p.m.

Police assisted the State Patrol and other agencies with a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Highway 212 and Morningside Avenue on Wednesday at 4:16 p.m.

A driver was cited for driving after revocation and no proof of insurance, and received a verbal warning for speed and a cracked windshield, during a traffic stop at Hennepin Avenue and Fifth Street on Wednesday at 9:38 p.m.

A medical emergency was reported Thursday at 12:53 p.m. on 11th Street East. A woman was taken to the Glencoe hospital by ambulance.

Another medical occurred Thursday at 2:52 p.m., Thursday, on Prairie Avenue. The individual

was taken to the hospital by ambulance.

The police department assisted the sheriff’s office with a verbal domestic on Dairy Avenue on Thursday at 6:49 p.m.

At 12:01 a.m., Friday, police were called to Highway 212-Morningside Avenue intersection for a vehicle stuck in the median. The driver managed to get the vehicle out.

At 5:53 p.m., Friday, a driver was stopped on 13th Street West and cited for going over the center line.

A gas drive-off was reported at 3:19 p.m., Saturday, at Super America. The driver left without paying for \$98.54 in gas. There was little description of the vehicle.

Glencoe Police assisted the county sheriff’s office at a medical

emergency at a residence on County Road 2 at 5:23 p.m. Saturday. A man was dead when they arrived.

Police received a complaint at 2:17 p.m., Sunday, about a girl delivering papers who was bitten by a small dog in the Andrew Drive area the day before. The dog owner claimed the delivery girl kicked the dog. It was agreed the delivery girl can put the paper in the driveway instead of at the front door in the future.

A bicycle was found on Fifth Street near the walk bridge on Sunday evening.

A worker at a West 13th Street location cut his finger and needed to be transported by ambulance to the hospital’s emergency room. The call came in at 9:30 p.m., Monday.

## Prize Winners!

**Bonnie and Brad Hahn** of Glencoe won the “Guess the Number of Keys” contest held by Fred Werth of Coldwell Banker Burnet. Bonnie’s guess of 221 was just one away from the actual amount of keys! The Hahn’s won a Wine Kit supplied by PJ’s How 2 Spirits owned by Peter Goettl and Jean Weber. When complete, the wine kit will make nearly 30 bottles of wine! PJ’s is located in the Star Plaza Business Center at 2017 10th Street East in Glencoe. *Congratulations Bonnie and Brad!*

## Record

### Building Permits

The following building permits were approved by the Glencoe City Council Monday, April 7:

Gary Mechtel, 1808 Judd Ave., window replacement and patio door.

Jerry Paul, 706 Ford Ave., re-roof.

John Glawe, 214 W. 18th St., fence.

Evelyn Truesdale, 1607 Loudon Ave., mechanical permit.

City of Glencoe, 1107 E. 11th St., library rooms.

Holly Clonis, 813 DeSoto Ave., re-roof.

Cy Fitness, Inc., 712 E. 11th St., remodel.

LeRoy Lewin, 1527 Knight Ave., re-roof.

Wayne Rosenfeld, 630 E. First Ave., plumbing and mechanical permits.

DaVita, 1123 Hennepin Ave., remodel, sign and plumbing permits.

Linzy Collins, 1429 Armstrong Ave., plumbing permit.

Mike Schultz, 2013 E. 15th St., window replacement.

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Glencoe Regional Health Services



GRHS0572b (3/14)

## Silver Lake Leader will close with May 29 edition its final one

Our view: Decision to close a newspaper is a difficult one, but financial numbers do not lie

Perhaps one of the toughest decisions in the newspaper business is whether to close a newspaper or continue in hopes things get better. McLeod Publishing Inc. was faced with that decision and decided it will close its Silver Lake Leader newspaper and office on May 29.

When McLeod Publishing purchased the Leader in December 2010 from Ken and Dorothy Merrill, it was agreed the Leader would remain open at least a year. It actually went 3-1/2 years.

While the decision to close the Leader does not directly impact The McLeod County Chronicle or its subscribers, the biggest of McLeod Publishing's newspapers, it is a difficult decision nonetheless. The decision was not made without plenty of discussion.

People often think of a newspaper only as a public service that acts as a conduit to disseminate news, business advertisement and information. That it is, but there is more to a community newspaper. It also is a business like any other business. It needs to remain profitable in order to continue.

The Leader was profitable in its first year under McLeod Publishing, had declining profits the second year and lost money the third. That is a pretty clear indication of where things were heading.

No one is to blame. There simply was not enough financial support throughout the entire year to make the Leader cash flow and remain viable.

The Silver Lake coverage will not disappear. We aim to continue the Silver Lake news, some of its columns and its advertisements within The Chronicle after May 29.

There are several aims with the change.

First, we want to retain the Silver Lake feel in a dedicated part of The Chronicle through the reporting of Alyssa Schauer of Silver Lake.

Schauer will continue to do features, report on Silver Lake City Council and cover Silver Lake community events throughout the year.

Brenda Fogarty will remain the advertising salesperson for the Silver Lake area.

Second, we will eliminate duplication. Currently, Glencoe-Silver Lake School Board coverage, school news and photos as well as McLeod County Board coverage are put into both newspapers. Now they will be rolled into one package.

Third, we will make The McLeod County Chronicle larger by adding pages as warranted. We will continue to place emphasis on happenings in communities within the GSL School District boundaries.

Fourth, we will roll over Leader subscriptions into The McLeod County Chronicle subscriptions. If you subscribe to both, your Chronicle will be extended by whatever is left on your Leader subscription. A letter has been sent to Leader subscribers describing the changes.

Broken down into its simplest form, a newspaper sells space to advertise one's product or service. What is not sold is filled by the news staff with photos, news and opinion pieces.

That will not change. We do not like change either. But it is part of the natural evolution process of any business.

We thank our loyal readers and advertisers of the Silver Lake Leader. Your loyalty allowed us to extend the life of the Leader another 3-1/2 years. We aim to maintain that loyalty by continuing to cover what is important to you.

The same thank you goes to the rest of The McLeod County Chronicle readers and advertisers. We appreciate the continued support of all our readers, subscribers and advertisers. Without your moral and financial support, there can be no community newspaper.

— R.G.



## There are disasters even dogs can't forget

I had no ideas for a column this week. None. Whatsoever.

My mother, God rest her soul, used to cut out my columns from the paper and put them in a scrapbook. After she passed, I found those books among her photo albums. Yesterday, I pulled them out, hoping that a peek at the past would spark an idea for the future.

As I scanned through them, I realized that I always had two reliable topics, my questionable culinary skills and my dog. Sometimes the two topics crossed paths.

The year I bought my house, my mother had a mild heart attack. I decided to take the pressure of hosting Thanksgiving off her by having it at my new home, which would give the relatives a chance to snoop.

Apparently, that decision caused my mother more stress than if she had hosted Thanksgiving herself. She arrived Thanksgiving morning with a huge tote of all the things she was sure I'd forget or ruin, from silverware to serving dishes to a turkey baster.

In between unpacking items, she ran around checking the pots on the stove, the turkey and stuffing in the oven and upstairs to make sure my bed was made.

What I didn't tell her that day, to avoid adding to her stress level, is that my dog had stolen the turkey the day before. It had been in the



Lori Copler

sink, defrosting, and he tried to eat it both whole and frozen.

When I arrived home from work that Wednesday afternoon, I discovered mounds of partially digested, half-frozen turkey throughout the house, and Moses upstairs with a glazed look on his face and a swollen belly.

So I didn't tell her that I made a hurried trip to the grocery store, got a new turkey, and spent half the night shampooing carpets and cleaning the house.

My mother was stunned that everything was in order and turned out so well, although she did wonder why I had my head on the table half-asleep.

I finally confessed all at Christmas, which was at her house.

The next year, I hosted Thanksgiving again. Another pre-dinner disaster. I was basting the turkey and

somehow managed to squirt drippings on the heating element in the stove, causing a small fire, the house to fill with smoke, and setting off all the smoke detectors.

My cousin arrived early to help. "First of all," she asked, "why do you have all the windows open and all the fans going; and, second of all, why are you drinking wine at 10 a.m.?"

We got the house cleared of smoke before the rest of the guests arrived, and everything else went off without a hitch.

I confessed all at Christmas.

Now, the family is trying to make plans for Easter dinner, and I had offered to host it at my house. I'm sure my mother was shuddering at the thought as she watched over us from heaven.

And as I read through the columns she so carefully preserved, I had to wonder why I made such an offer.

As I flipped through the pages of the scrapbook, Moses came in, put his head on my knee, and gave me that adoring puppy-dog look.

"I'm still mad about the turkey," I told him.

Even though that event was over 10 years ago, he tucked his tail between his legs and slunk away to his bed.

Some disasters, no one forgets. Even a dog.

## Letters to the Editor

### Winter not the only culprit for our many potholes; lack of funds, too

To the Editor:

It seems there is quite a bit of hype lately about the amount of potholes that are emerging from this past winter. I am sure everyone has a highway or street in mind that they have to carefully maneuver to avoid them. While most know potholes are caused by frequent freeze/thaw cycles that cause loss of support for the pavement surface, there is another cause that is far too overlooked. It is the underinvestment in our aging pavements.

While this winter may appear longer than most, it's no coincidence that the potholes are more frequent. MnDOT reports that 50 percent of state highway pavements are more than 50 years old and Minnesota is ranked 38th nationally for pavement condition. Unfortunately, without additional revenues in the Highway Fund, potholes will continue to be

on the rise.

As Minnesotans it seems we take pothole season for granted. If we get a bent rim, broken shock, or need a front-end alignment after hitting one we might curse a bit but then shell out the couple hundred bucks and move on. Rather than spending that money at the mechanic shop we would be better off putting it toward a long term pavement fix for that road.

Potholes don't have to be a normal routine for spring. Contact your legislators and tell them we need increased long-term funding for our transportation infrastructure. Tell them you want long-lasting project solutions, not just shovel-by-shovel temporary fixes.

**John Brunkhorst**  
Minnesota County  
Engineers Association (MCEA)  
President

Guest opinion:

## Passed Bullying Bill reminder of '1984'

By Sen. Scott Newman  
R-Hutchinson  
District 18

April 3, the Senate passed the Bullying Bill with bipartisan opposition after debating approximately 16 amendments over a five-hour period. Ultimately, I voted against it for the reasons that follow:

- Parental notification: There is no requirement to notify either the parents of a child who "perceives" to have been bullied or the child allegedly doing the bullying.

While I believe parents should be the center of the solution involving allegations of bullying, those who voted for this bill apparently believe parental notification should be discretionary and in keeping with a "state model policy."

Should this bill become law, it is entirely possible authorities could refer your child to the school "technical assistance center" for counseling or remedial action without your consent or knowledge.

- Costs: This bill is a state unfunded mandate on our local school districts that will cost approximately \$19 million per year. Particularly in

rural schools, this will mean either fewer teachers and more students per class or a significant real estate tax increase for every property owner your school district.

Cost estimates are as high as \$32 per student being taken directly out of the classroom and use that funding to pay for this bill.

I see only two available options: high teacher-to-student ratio or raise our taxes, again.

- Local control: Sen. Dave Osmeck, R-Mound, best described this bill in six words, "In St. Paul, we know better."

With this bill, our locally elected school board, our school administrators and our teachers, all who live in and are part of our communities, will no longer have the ability to implement a bullying policy that fits our rural schools.

Under this new top down concept, Minnesota's Commissioner of Education "shall develop and maintain a state model policy," which will effectively prohibit our local school board, administrators, teachers and parents from implementing bullying policies to protect our children.

We do have an option available to replace this bill with a law that, although unlikely, could be adopted in the upcoming conference committee. It is called the "North Dakota" model. Sen. Carla Nelson, R-Rochester, offered this solution with SF 2411 and although she was never granted a committee hearing, she offered it as a floor amendment.

This idea eliminates all three of the above problems, has bipartisan support and has been successfully implemented in North Dakota. Although all Republican senators voted for this amendment, it was rejected when a majority of DFL senators voted against it.

The overall Orwellian nature of this legislation places it at the top as one of the worst pieces of legislation I have yet seen as a legislator.

As I read the details of it, the phrase "social engineering" keeps nagging followed immediately by the question of whether certain students who do not fall into a newly created "protected class" will be

Sen. Newman  
Turn to page 5

Guest column:

## Need to fix MNsure rollout mess

By State Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen, District 18B

Open enrollment for ObamaCare ended on March 31. This is an important milestone, and brought to an end the troubled ObamaCare rollout.

Minnesota's ObamaCare exchange, MNsure, has cost the state of Minnesota more than \$150 million. The results? Higher costs and fewer health care choices for families across Minnesota. Hours of waiting on the MNsure help line. A broken website that lost applications and user information.

And that's just the tip of the iceberg. When you look at the enrollment numbers, the results look even worse, and puts MNsure on precarious financial footing.

MNsure's original high enrollment goal was 270,000 private health plans. These goals are important, because private health plans are the largest funding source for MNsure.

The 270,000 goal was the high enrollment goal provided to legislators in the fiscal note when the MNsure bill was passed in March of 2013. Those goals have since been revised downward multiple times.

When you lower expectations, it makes it a lot easier to hit your goal. The final en-

rollment tally was about 47,046 people. That represents just 17 percent of the original goal. MNsure took a victory lap April 1, declaring that they had exceeded expectations, and met their goals.

A combined 122,205 Minnesotans enrolled in public plans through MinnesotaCare or Medical Assistance. That means for every person enrolled on a private plan, there are 2.5 people enrolled on a public plan. Funding for public programs is dependent on private plan enrollment and the taxes collected on the premiums by those on private plans.

Without a more balanced number of private versus public enrollees, MNsure simply won't be financially stable in the future.

MNsure has already had to cut \$5 million from its budget in 2015 to make up for lower-than-expected funding. If this imbalance continues, MNsure will either need more funding from the state, or will have to cut back operations even further.

In addition, the "young invincibles" — young uninsured people — were supposed to comprise about 40 percent of enrollments. Signing up young, healthy people is important to offset the influx of older, less healthy

people coming on to insurance plans. Unfortunately only about 20 percent of MNsure's enrollees were between the ages of 18-35.

This is a recipe for higher insurance premiums next year. We will find out late this year what the insurance rates will be for next year, but insurance industry experts are already anticipating an increase due to these demographic imbalances.

ObamaCare has been a mess for Minnesota. Just last week, Democrats were forced to pass an ObamaCare bailout. The federal government did not provide expected funding under ObamaCare, resulting in a massive funding gap for MinnesotaCare and Medical Assistance.

During that same debate, Democrats refused to accept Republican attempts to fix MNsure that would have increased transparency and oversight.

It's time for Democrats to admit their mistake and join us in working to fix ObamaCare in Minnesota. It's just not working for Minnesota families, and now it's hurting Minnesota's budget. Republicans stand ready to help clean up the mess. We just hope Democrats are willing to join us.

## Letters to Editor

### Can't skip reading to your child tonight

To the Editor:

Reading aloud is probably the most important gift that we give our children.

Reading aloud from infancy serves many purposes for the parent and child. The physical closeness of looking at books together provides the beginnings of trust and security between the infant and caregiver. The baby recognizes the voices of its caregivers and the subtle dance of the parent-child relationship begins.

The parent and infant both teach and learn each other's ways of communicating. The socio-emotional bond is developed through calm, soothing interactions and play times.

Later babies and toddlers become sponges for language development. Chunky board books provide hours of point and talk opportunities for parents and children.

Children develop preferences early for interesting colors, and the expressive art found in children's board books and picture books. Rich language in books also helps to expand children's vocabulary from basic to more complex. This is also the beginning of the time when your special child or grandchild wants to hear the same book over and over. Remember repetition is good!

During the preschool years, your child does a lot of learning about symbols like the logo of their favorite eating establishments, cereal, or superhero as well as numbers and letters.

Your child may also become interested in the environment around him/herself. This is a great time to introduce nonfiction topics which hold your child's interest; try insects, butterflies, frogs, bunnies, birds, worms, plants, flowers, dinosaurs, animals

and more.

Your child will enjoy pointing things out they recognize from environmental print — especially eating franchises! But also introduce your child to road signs — stop, slow, speed limit 55, exit, words on water towers and whatever s/he is curious about. Eventually, it's time to recognize and copy letters and words.

Your child's world expands exponentially when s/he wants to write words, the names of people in their family, and other things of interest. Take advantage of this curiosity by providing paper and all kinds of writing tools (crayons, pencils, markers, etc., crayons require additional pressure to make a mark so they help children learn how much pressure to use when writing or drawing.)

Your child may also enjoy rebus (books with pictures and words to "read") and predictable books at this time. Brown Bear, Brown Bear by Bill Martin Jr. is a children's classic and a great example of predictable books.

Often children are able to memorize and retell books that are familiar from repeated reading aloud.

The impact of reading aloud to young children from infancy to kindergarten entry is undeniable. Learning to read well prepares children for the middle school years when they must read to learn.

Consider the readiness of two children for kindergarten:\*

**Child A**  
Is read to 20 minutes/day/5 days/week.  
5 days/week=100 minutes.  
In one week: 100 minutes.  
In one month: 400 minutes.  
In one year: 4800 minutes.  
By kindergarten entry: 24,000 minutes.  
24,000 minutes = 66 six-hour school days of learning

before kindergarten.

**Child B**  
Is read to 4 minutes/day or not at all.

4 minutes/5 days/week = 20 minutes.

In one week: 20 minutes.

In one month: 80 minutes.

In one year: 960 minutes.

By kindergarten entry: 4,800 minutes.

4,800 minutes = 10 six-hour school days

Which child would you expect to know more?

Which child would you expect to have better vocabulary?

Which child would you expect to be better prepared for school?

Which child would you expect to be better prepared to learn to read?

Which child would you expect to be more successful in school?

How do think each child will feel about him/herself as a new student?\*

(\*Reading statistics, author unknown.)

Reading aloud is too important to leave to chance. Read early and often to give your child skills that are needed for the rigor of kindergarten. This is why you can't skip reading to your child tonight!

GSL ECFE, GSL Schools, and the Brownton and Glencoe Public Libraries are celebrating the reading accomplishments of birth to kindergarten entry aged children at "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" on April 15 at 6 p.m. in the motor room of the GSL Early Childhood Learning Center.

It is open to the public. Each child will receive a free book and refreshments, and entertainment will be provided by the WonderWeavers storytellers. Happy Spring!

**Jan Mackenthun**  
ECFE/SR coordinator  
GSL Schools

## Letters to Editor

### Appreciates good laugh after long winter

To the Editor:

This is a letter of appreciation to Lori Copler and Rich Glennie for the experiences they have written about in the last few weeks.

After the rough winter, the political disagreements, the rumors of war and disasters from around the world, it is great to have a good laugh — and to be able to enjoy read-

ing about the humorous things that have happened to them.

**Theola Fors**  
**Brownton**

### Sibley County residents deserve vote

To the Editor:

Dear fellow Sibley County residents:

Late last month I shared my apprehension about the once-failed RS Fiber/Fiber to the Home (FTTH) project. It was humbling to hear from many of you about my letter.

Overwhelmingly, the anxiety we all share about this largest-ever financial obligation on Sibley County residents is that we never get any say. A Joint Powers Board decided two years ago we don't get a public vote, and they won't let us vote on it this time either.

Several of you asked me why. Candidly, I do not know what to tell you because I

have been trying to get an answer to that very same question for two years.

Today, in Sibley County, if you want reliable landline telephone service, hundreds of television channels and high speed internet access, you can order it from numerous companies. And not one of them will make you pay their debts if they go out of business. On top of it each one pays a lot of taxes. One of the oldest companies in Sibley County, Winthrop Telephone, gives 42 percent of its profits back in taxes.

Please understand that with RS Fiber/Fiber to the Home you and I will be on the hook for every single bill, every

single debt, and every single invoice piled up when this project does not pencil out.

In fact, they've already used our money to try and sell this to us. Oh, there are two groups that will get paid off 100 percent: the Wall Street companies selling the bonds and the professional consultants.

Please let your city council or your township board and your county commissioner know — politely — that our Social Security widows on fixed income deserve a public vote on this enormous project.

**Mark L. Santelman**  
**Winthrop**

## Government should stay out of business

To the Editor:

Broadband has been a hot media topic lately. Various letters, articles and news stories have focused on broadband and how it isn't available to many rural areas of Minnesota. Some have even used the word "broadband" in the same sentence as "rural electrification." "If broadband isn't available, rural America will die!" Is this reality or just scary fiction?

I own a central Minnesota broadband company and have been a leading pioneer in my industry for over 15 years. I have several issues with these discussions.

Most of Minnesota is *not* underserved. For example, in Sibley County, they profess to not have viable broadband options. There are at least six different private sector businesses currently offering good broadband services to this area. ConnectMN.org can confirm this. My company will be number seven.

Internet access (for most areas) does not need to be funded by the government. The government has no place in this discussion other than to encourage the private sector to invest in areas that need more choices. Yes, it can become a catalyst — but it does not need to be a capital investor. The private sector can and should do the funding for broadband deployments.

Broadband deployment is a

perfect example of capitalism at its best. Small companies like mine can quickly provide broadband access with little or no government restriction. We can do this anywhere in the U.S. and we have provided access to many underserved areas already with relative ease.

Most people do not understand broadband. They do not understand that there are several ways to deliver fast Internet access to the user. For example, my company, using current wireless technology, can deliver over 100 Mbps to our customers. Cable is capable of doing this as well. The media and proponents of government-funded broadband feel that fiber is needed for everyone. While this is a noble thought, it is simply not economical nor practical to do this everywhere — and it is not needed.

The proponents of fiber argue that it is needed to move us into the future. Terrestrial wireless is the "wave" of the future. It can deliver gigabit performance today, where it is needed, and it is only getting faster with each technology advance. It does not cost \$20,000-plus per mile to deploy like its fiber counterpart. Quite simply, we have access to non-fiber technology that can provide the "last mile" access to rural folks while allowing them to do everything they want on

the Internet.

Finally, some people are arguing that broadband (lack thereof) is stifling the economic growth of Smalltown, USA. This is simply not true. Smalltown is facing many other challenges and they are using broadband as an excuse. Let's focus on the real root causes and not make excuses.

Broadband, specifically wireless broadband in America, is an American Dream success story. We have been given the technology and the means to use it anywhere we want to provide competition. Competition drives prices down and quality up. Instead of looking for taxpayer handouts, we should embrace the Dream and encourage the government to become a catalyst and not a capital provider. I'm living the American Dream and I love it. No thanks, I don't need any government money and my company will be providing good quality access to those who need it.

In conclusion, please support the American Dream by encouraging your government representatives to become a broadband catalyst and to put their wallets away for now (or longer).

**Kyle Ackerman**  
**Xtratyme Technologies**  
**Hutchinson**

### Sen. Newman Continued from page 4

equally protected.

Whether those fears are well founded or not, this bill clearly identifies a very basic difference between the DFL and GOP political party tenants; with the former fully embracing big government and all that it can provide and the latter tenaciously, desper-

ately hanging onto those core beliefs of limited government, individual opportunity and personal responsibility.

Why those good people on the other side of the aisle from me are so willing to give up their individual freedoms in order to embrace an unnecessarily regulated and

overly protected lifestyle continues to baffle me.

Perhaps they have forgotten the warnings outlined by George Orwell in his prescient novel "1984." Maybe we should all go back and re-read it.

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## History

### From the Brownton Bulletin archives

#### 100 Years Ago

April 10, 1914

O.C. Conrad, Editor

J.H. Groetsch arrived here from Gaylord Monday evening and is prepared to do work in the line of papering and painting. Jack is also some performer on the violin and has taken his place in the Brownton orchestra.

The "kidlets" of the town are about pestering the life out of citizens in trying to sell Loose-Wiles crackers and biscuits, in competition for a small auto-car to be given away by Zimmerman & Co. There is some tall hustling going on and the prize winner will indeed be a happy lad.

City water was piped into the Zimmerman & Co. store last Saturday. In digging in the pipe, nearly five feet of frost was encountered.

#### 75 Years Ago

April 6, 1939

Percy L. Hakes, Editor

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Duenow, who reside southwest of Brownton, was saddened Monday evening when their youngest child, LaVonne Junell, passed away. The little child recently contracted measles, which was followed by complications which caused her death. She attained the age of 1 year, 3 months and 15 days, having been born on Dec. 19, 1937. She is survived by her parents, Arthur and Alma Duenow, and by her brothers and sisters, Eldora, Orville, Ardella, Geraldine and Gordon.

A group of farmers from Sumter Township met on Monday, March 27, for the purpose of organizing a unit of the Farm Bureau for the township. The following officers were elected: Gail Nobles, president; Adry Peik, vice president; Mrs. Bert Sommerdorf, secretary-treasurer;

Mrs. Adry Peik, women's community chairman.

#### 50 Years Ago

April 9, 1964

Charles H. Warner, Editor

A fire of undetermined origin destroyed a barn containing 1,000 bales of straw and two small sheds Thursday evening on a Collins Township farm 5½ miles northwest of Brownton. The farm is owned by Spencer Hanson of Lafayette and farmed by Elmer Ziemann. Firemen from Stewart and Brownton were called to the fire shortly after 6 p.m.

The March 9 break-in of Harry Lindeman's Standard station was solved last week with the arrest of three McLeod County men. Sheriff Leon Odegaard said Henry Hlavka, 20, of Silver Lake, and brothers Merlin, 22, and Merle Eggersgluss, 21, of Glencoe, were arrested in connection with the break-in.

The junior class of Brownton High School will present "Woman Called X" by Maurice Corbet on Friday, April 28, at 8 p.m. The cast consists of Lynn Todnem, Barbara Schmidt, Peter Jensen, Bruce Bartels, Shirley Kloempken, Galen Ribar and Carol Huebert. Julie Kreie and Tim Sanken are the student directors. The set committee consists of Donovan Alsleben, Ronald Lindeman, Raymond Draeger, Gary Dennin and Norman Schwarze. The publicity committee includes Julie Kreie, Gerald Rosenow, Scott Schwartz, Lowell Maass and Jim Alsleben. Larry Schwarze, Bruce Bartels and Dennis Schuette are the props committee. The sound effects will be handled by Sandy Uecker and Coralie Wendlandt. Norma Lindeman, Coralie Wendlandt, Carol Husfeldt and Mary Sieh are the make-up committee.

#### 20 Years Ago

April 6, 1994

Lori Copler, Editor

Burt Draeger of Brownton recently returned from a month in Europe, most of which he spent in Lillehammer, Norway, as a spectator at the 1994 Winter Olympics.

The city of Stewart's police car sustained about \$2,200 in damage after it collided with a McLeod County Sheriff's Department squad early Sunday morning. Police Chief Arnie Olson told the City Council the accident occurred when both the Stewart Police Department and the sheriff's department were called to a vehicle rollover. Olson was driving behind the deputy who, at one point, slowed to try to read an address and was then struck from behind by Olson's squad. Neither officer was injured in the accident, which is under investigation by the Minnesota State Patrol.

David and Jodi Sanken of Brownton announce the birth of their daughter, Morgan Jo, born March 28, 1994.

#### 10 Years Ago

April 7, 2004

Lori Copler, Editor

U.S. Congressman Collin Peterson visited Brownton Monday afternoon, hearing concerns of area city officials, in particular to transportation. Peterson also presented a U.S. flag that had flown over the nation's Capitol to McLeod West Schools.

The Brownton Fire Department hosted an open house to show off some of its newest acquisitions, including its new pumper truck, ice rescue suits and an inflatable rescue boat.

Security Bank & Trust had a ribbon-cutting ceremony at its new branch in New Auburn on Wednesday, March 31.

Wednesday that the Glencoe Butter and Produce Association has taken over management of the Stewart Creamery for the present time.

The wedding of Sandra Ruth Botte, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Botte of Renville, and John W. Lipke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Lipke of Stewart, took place Saturday evening at Christ Chapel, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter.

Named valedictorian and salutatorian respectively of the Stewart High School class of 1964 are Rosalie Grischkowsky, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Grischkowsky, and Larry C. Penk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Penk.

#### 35 Years Ago

April 12, 1979

Anthony G. Blum, Editor

Three Stewart High School students will go to the regional contest April 21 at Lester Prairie High School as the result of their performances at the district contest. They are Judy Renner, Jolynn Kasal and Bob Witt. Both Judy and Jolyn advance in the discussion category, and Bob is advancing in the creative expression category.

#### 10 Years Ago

April 14, 2004

Rich Glennie, Editor

It took a community effort, but Mark's Economart is back in business after nearly shutting its doors.

The budget axe fell again on the 2004-05 school district budget as the Glencoe-Silver Lake School District continued to struggle to balance its expenses with revenues. The latest setback was the news of the loss of 20 more students, and another \$120,000 in state aid, since December. As a result, the board opted to postpone spending referendum money on capital projects for a year, and use those referendum dollars to help prop up the general fund. The latest cuts come on top of \$350,000 in cuts made earlier in the process.

Eleanor Dose celebrated her 101st birthday on Thursday, April 8. Her sons, Melvin and Norman, and their wives, Ruth and Carol, joined her for lunch at Millie Bencke Manor.

## Brownton City Council votes 3-2 to continue with RS Fiber

By Lori Copler  
Staff Writer

The Brownton City Council voted 3-2 April 1 to continue participation in the RS Fiber project, which has now become a privately owned utility cooperative rather than a joint powers agency between counties and cities.

Mark Erickson, Winthrop city administrator and a proponent of the project, said the new plan is to fund the proposed \$67 million fiber-to-home project with a combination of bank loans and general obligation bonds, rather than a revenue bond, as had been originally proposed.

The goal of RS Fiber is to provide fiber-optic Internet, phone and television service to communities in Renville and Sibley counties, as well as the communities of Brownton and Stewart in McLeod County.

The participating townships and cities will collectively issue a \$15 million general obligation (GO) bond, and the cooperative will borrow another \$42 million.

The \$15 million GO bond will make loan payments if, for some reason, RS Fiber fails to generate enough revenue to make the payments. Erickson said that does put the participating communities at financial risk, but emphasized that the business plan still expects the cooperative to make enough money to make its payments.

"You are not being asked to approve a GO bond tonight," Erickson told the City Council, but rather pass a resolution amending the joint powers agreement to reflect the change in RS Fiber's structure. "If you don't like the GO bond when the time comes, you can opt out, but there may be a cost for re-drafting the business plan or joint powers agreement." Erickson said that cost would likely be less than \$1,000.

Within the past couple of months, RS Fiber sent new pledge cards out to the intended service area.

Council Member Norm Schwarze expressed disappointment that those numbers — nor those from Stewart — were not presented at a recent informational meeting.

Erickson said he was unaware those numbers were omitted, and apologized. But he also was unable to tell the City Council what Brownton's anticipated participation would be.

Both Schwarze and Mayor Jay Werner voted against the resolution amending the joint powers agreement.

"I would have liked to know Brownton's numbers," said Schwarze.

Council Member Doug Block volunteered to be on the board for the new cooperative.

Erickson said that Brownton's agreement to amend the joint powers agreement also indicates the city will continue its participation for now.

#### Meters

In other business, Maintenance Supervisor Mark Streich and City Clerk Ella Kruse suggested the City Council explore the possibility of electronic meters for electricity and water.

Streich said Hutchinson Utilities would be willing to remotely read electric meters, and provide the information to the city, much as it does now for the natural gas system.

However, Streich said, Hutchinson Utilities does not have the software available for reading water meters, so the city would have to purchase the equipment for that.

Streich said some of the city's new electric meters are already capable of remote reads, and that it would probably cost about \$36,000 to bring them all up to remote-read capability.

Replacing water meters with electronic-read capabilities would cost about \$72,000, he said.

"You wouldn't necessarily have to do it (replace the meters) all at once," said Streich. "You could maybe do it by sections."

Streich said it would save city staff the time of both manually reading meters and inputting the readings into computers.

Kruse said the electronic reads also would be more accurate, since it will eliminate the possibility of readings being transposed or read erroneously.

Kruse also said the electronic reader could also pinpoint meters which may be malfunctioning.

In other business, the City Council:

- Was introduced to Jeffrey Kraimer, new owner of the Brownton Bar & Grill. Kraimer said he hopes to take over operation of the bar and grill by May 1. The City Council approved a liquor license for Kraimer.

- Heard that Joe DeMars, who owns a home on Seventh Avenue North, wants to deed the home and property to the city.

According to Kruse, DeMars contends the home was "trashed" by renters and is not fit for occupancy. The city agreed to accept the deed with the intent of tearing the house down and creating a salable lot.

- Heard that building inspector Butch Schulte will retire April 30. Kruse said the city will be in contact with an independent building inspector from the Sibley County area in hopes of contracting with him for building inspection services.

- Voted to allow the fire department to move ahead with plans to purchase a new fire engine in 2015.

### From the Stewart Tribune archives

#### 100 Years Ago

April 10, 1914

A.F. Avery, Editor

A.B. Lyman of Lake Allie came to town Wednesday in his automobile. He found the roads rough — very rough — and by the time he reached town he was shaken, both physically and mentally. By the time he got home he was mad — mad all through — and when A.B. gets mad all over, he's pretty mad. He therefore proceeded to hitch five of his splendid draft horses on a road drag and came all the way to Stewart and back, arriving here about 7 o'clock. The result was nine miles of splendid roads which had been all ruts and chuck holes, and a valuable lesson for road officials to do the right thing at the right time.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Uecker Thursday, April 2.

Martin Johnson, who has made an effort at running a general store at the old Stewart Mercantile here, left this week with his family for Pine City, near where they expect to operate a farm. Nels Thompson, who bought the stock last fall, has taken charge of the store.

A charming little daughter arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Albrecht last Thursday, April 2.

#### 75 Years Ago

April 7, 1939

Harry Koepfen, Editor

The crew of men assigned to tear down the old Stewart public school building has completed that work, and the building is now only a memory. The site will be made into a park during the coming season, according to present plans.

Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday for Willmar, 10-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Klitzke, who died Sunday evening from complications following measles. The baby was one of twin boys.

Nels Peterson Grunnet, 66, formerly a Stewart merchant, died of a heart attack last Tuesday at his home in Minneapolis. While here, he was a member of the firm of the Stewart Mercantile Co., and he had held several offices of trust in this community.

A baby boy, Thomas John, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Krebsbach Sunday morning, April 2. The youngster is their firstborn.

#### 50 Years Ago

April 9, 1964

Kermit T. Hubin, Editor

Announcement was made

### From the Chronicle archives

#### 30 Years Ago

April 11, 1984

Bill Ramige, Editor

Glencoe High School head football coach Don Tangen resigned from his position as head football coach. He has been the head football coach for the past three years. He has also been a basketball coach at Glencoe during this time and said he will continue with that position.

Brent Carver of Glencoe was one of 42 players named to the Outstate All-Star Football team, which will play the Metro All-Stars in the 1984 Minnesota High School All-Star football game scheduled for July 28 at Parade Stadium.

Jane Mattke, who will graduate from the University of Minnesota this spring, is training with the Gopher track team in an effort to qualify for the U.S. Olympic trials in the long jump. Mattke holds the Minnesota school record for the outdoor long jump at 20 feet, 2½ inches and the indoor mark at 18-8. She

is the daughter of Joan and Ozzie Chapman of Glencoe.

#### 20 Years Ago

April 13, 1994

Rich Glennie, Editor

The Jeff and Mary Fasching family was honored as the McLeod County Outstanding Farm Family at a ceremony and banquet at the University of Minnesota.

The McLeod County Dairy Association crowned three new Dairy Princesses. They are Kristy Ober, daughter of Russell and Wanda Ober of Glencoe; Teresa Engelmann, daughter of Roger and Peggy Engelmann of Plato; and Teresa Rettman, daughter of Morris and Gwyn Rettman of Hutchinson.

## Entries being sought for spring arts show

Crow River Arts is seeking entries for its annual spring art show.

Categories include painting, drawing, digital art, fiber art, sculpture and three-dimensional and jewelry.

The deadline for submissions is Thursday, April 10. Prizes will be given for first and second place and honorable mention in each category.

The submitted artwork will be on display at the Hutchinson Center for the Arts from April 15 through May 1. An artists' reception and awards ceremony will be held Friday,

April 18.

For more information on submitting entries and associated fees, go to www.HutchinsonArts.org, or e-mail Director@hutchinsonarts.org.

## Brownton Easter Egg Hunt set for April 19

The annual Brownton Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 19, at the Brownton Community Center.

The event is designed for youngsters toddler through the third grade.

Bring your own basket or bag to collect eggs. Treat

bags and prizes also will be handed out.

Parents are encouraged to take photos with the Easter bunny and live bunnies.

Refreshments will be served, and admission is free.

The event is sponsored by the Brownton Women's Club.

## BASICS Concert

(Brothers and Sisters in Christ Singers)

**April 12, 2014 at 3 p.m.**  
**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**Stewart**

Proceeds to benefit restoration of the former Red Owl building.

**Light luncheon to follow in the church basement.**

www.facebook.com/stewartredowl

## Community Calendar

**Wed., April 9** — Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services quarterly Community Health Board mtg., McLeod County Public Health conference room, Glencoe, 9-11 a.m.

**Thurs., April 10** — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.; Bloodmobile, Brownton Community Center, 1-7 p.m.

**Sat., April 12** — McLeod County DFL, at Common Cup Ministries, intersection of Franklin Ave. and Second Ave. W, Hutchinson, 10 a.m.

**Sun., April 13** — Stewart Lions Club annual kids' Easter Party and Pancake Breakfast, Stewart Fire Hall, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Mon., April 14** — Tops Weigh-In mtg., 5-5:30 p.m.; Brownton Senior Citizens Club, Brownton Community Center, 1 p.m.; Stewart City Council, 7 p.m.; Edward Ewald Post 143 of Brownton & Auxiliary, Brownton Community Center, 7:30 p.m.

**Tues., April 15** — Narcotics Anonymous, Brownton Community Center, 7 p.m.; Brownton Legion.

**Wed., April 16** — McLeod County Senior Citizens quarterly mtg., Silver Lake Auditorium, 1:30 p.m.; Brownton Women's Club, Brownton Community Center, 6:30 p.m.

**Thurs., April 17** — AA Group mtg. next to Post Office in Stewart, 8 p.m., call 320-212-5290 for info.; Bloodmobile, Brownton Community Center, 1-7 p.m.; Stewart Lions.

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Submitted photo

## Advance in Pinewood Derby

Beau, left, and Kole Christensen, both from Glencoe Cub Scout Pack 352, participated in the Crow River District Pinewood Derby Saturday, April 5, at the McLeod County Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. They both will advance to the state championship at the Mall of America on June 7. Kole is in the youngest scout den, the Lions, and earned second place

in his division with an average time of 3.1547 seconds, or 198.8 miles per hour, in four heats. Beau won in his Webelos I division with an average time of 3.0259 seconds, or 207.3 miles per hour, in four heats. Beau also earned second place overall from all 75 Cub Scouts competing on Saturday.

## People

### Daughter born to couple

Amanda Ringer and David Raddatz Jr. of Silver Lake announce the birth of their daughter, Aubriana Louise Raddatz, on March 29, 2014, at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Aubriana weighed 6-1/4 pounds and was 18 inches long. Her siblings are Joshua Ringer and Elijah Raddatz. Grandparents are Suzy and Don Hammer of Lester Prairie, Pamela Karfa of Victoria, Stanley Ringer of Feeding Hills, Mass., and David Raddatz Sr. of Arizona.

### Kesler wins welding awards

Christian J. Kesler, son of Jeremiah and Christine Kesler of Brownston, took part in Skills USA, a statewide welding competition in March. He won first place/gold for his welding sculpture; he also won silver for welding, and bronze for mechanical dexterity. In June, he will compete in the national competition in Kansas City, Mo.

### Son born to doctor couple

Dr. Robert Brown and Dr. Erin Flynn-Brown of Waconia announce the birth of their son, Robert Leslie Brown, on Feb. 18, 2014. He was born at home, weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces, and was 21 inches in length.

### Wendlandt studies in London

Alyson Wendlandt, daughter of Lisa and Steven Meier and Brent and Kendra Wendlandt of Glencoe, is studying in London during spring semester 2014 through the Office for Education Abroad at the College of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph and Saint John's University in Collegeville. Wendlandt is a junior accounting major at the College of St. Benedict. While in London, the students study British history, literature, theater, music and art through lectures, readings, discussions and writing assignments. The National Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and the British Museum are used as classrooms by the program professors. Students on this program may also choose to participate in an internship and gain international professional experience.

### Gruenhagen to escort Dayton

ST. PAUL—District 18B state Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen, R-Glencoe, was selected by DFL House Speaker Paul Thissen as one of two Republican representatives to escort DFL Gov. Mark Dayton to the House Chamber for his State of State address, scheduled for April 23. "While Gov. Dayton and I don't see eye to eye on a lot of issues, it will be an honor to escort him for the State of the State address," Gruenhagen said. "I hope to hear from the governor his plans to work with the Legislature, Democrats and Republicans alike, on solutions to improve our great state."

## First Lutheran School announces honor roll

First Lutheran School in Glencoe announced its third-quarter honor roll last week.

**"A"**  
**Eighth grade** — Jessica Alsleben and Ariel Brelje.

**Seventh grade** — Spencer Lilienthal, Destiney Exsted, Lillian Nikkel (straight "A") and Elise Peterson.

**Fifth grade** — Kobe Boozikee, Bethany Hagen and Grace Litzau.

**"B"**  
**Eighth grade** — Morgan Bernstein, Aubrey Giesen, Paul Lemke, Tarin Michaelis

and Taylor Schauer.

**Seventh grade** — Madison Ahlbrecht, Elizabeth Brelje, Ty Christensen, Morgan Dahlke, Emily Graupmann, Madison Mathews, Abigail Maunu, Mackenzie Stradtman, Isaac Swift and Dusty Wendinger.

**Sixth grade** — Ethan Bernstein, Max Edwards, Cole Ehrke, Katelyn Ober and Grace Schauer.

**Fifth grade** — Ashley Radke, Paul Sievert and Mitchell Voss.

## Area host families sought

International high school exchange students are preparing to arrive in the U.S. to study during the 2014-15 school year.

These students will integrate themselves into a local family with the goal of experiencing American culture as an American high school student does. In turn, they will provide insight into their own culture.

STS Foundation, a non-profit student exchange organization, is proud to help facilitate these relationships. It has been doing so for the past 28 years and looks forward to finding new host families in the Glencoe-Silver Lake area and connecting them with exchange students. These students will have their own spending money and health insurance.

The host family provides a separate bed, family meals and a loving and safe environment.

If your family is interested in being a host family please call Kari Becker at 320-234-3475 or by e-mail to karibeckersts@gmail.com For more information visit www.stsfoundation.org.

## Glencoe VFW Auxiliary meets with 16 present

The regular meeting of the Glencoe VFW Auxiliary was called to order March 10 by President Angela Johnson with 16 members present. The draping of the charter was held for sisters Irene Hagg, Ella Trippel and June Howe. The group received a \$200 donation from the June Howe family.

The opening ceremony was held and roll call was taken. The secretary's minutes were read and approved and the treasurer's report was approved and filed subject to audit. Bills were presented. General orders and communications were read. Chairman reports were given. The POW flag and candle were displayed and a moment of silence was held.

Unfinished business — year-end reports are due. The unit will be meeting March

11 to work on the year-end reports. Pillow cleaning will be held May 2. It was approved to purchase a large coffee maker for \$140 and three small bowls and three medium bowls for \$24 for the kitchen from family donations the auxiliary has received.

New business — Election of officers and the audit will be in April. May 15 has been set for the poppy luncheon. New knives are needed for the kitchen. A quilt was donated to the auxiliary. A permit for a raffle will be looked into and discussed next month.

The lunch committee for April 14 will be Mary Ann Ardolf, Lois Stuedemann, Kaaren Scharpe and Dorothy Voigt.

The meeting was adjourned until April 14.

## Corrections & Clarifications

GSL Schools inadvertently omitted one name from the Lincoln Junior Honor Roll published last week. Cadi Brooks, eighth grade, should have been included on the "A" honor roll.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

The McLeod County Chronicle strives for accuracy in its reports. If you find an error, bring it to our attention. Call 320-864-5518 and ask for Rich Glennie, editor.

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**CAPTAIN AMERICA: The Winter Soldier(3D) PG-13**  
 Sorry, No Passes Or Discount Tickets.  
 3D Surcharge Applies! Fri 3:45 6:45 9:35; Sat-Sun 12:45 3:45 6:45 9:35; Mon-Thurs 3:45 6:45 9:35  
**NOAH PG-13**  
 Fri 3:50 6:50 9:40; Sat-Sun 12:50 3:50 6:50 9:40; Mon-Thurs 3:50 6:50 9:40  
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**God's Not Dead PG**  
 12:15, 2:25, 4:45<sup>1</sup>, 7:05<sup>1</sup> & 9:15  
**Draft Day PG-13**  
 12:30, 2:45, 5:00<sup>1</sup>, 7:15<sup>1</sup> & 9:25  
**Noah PG-13**  
 12:50, 4:25<sup>1</sup>, 7:05<sup>1</sup> & 9:45  
**Captain America PG-13**  
 12:00, 2:25, 4:50<sup>1</sup>, 7:20<sup>1</sup> & 9:45  
<sup>1</sup>Show Times for Mon-Thurs, April 14-17



Glencoe Lions Club Annual  
**Spring Brunch**  
 Menu Includes: Pancakes, sausage, ham, eggs, fruit, milk, juice & coffee  
**All you care to eat!**  
**Sun., April 13 • 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
**Pla-Mor Ballroom • Glencoe, MN**  
 Adult (11 & up) - \$9 • At Door - \$10  
 Children ages 4-10 - \$5 (children's tickets available at door only)  
 Children 3 & under - Free  
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## Obituaries

### Robert David Adams, 82, of Glencoe

Funeral services for Robert "Bob" David Adams, 82, of Glencoe, were held Saturday, April 5, at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glencoe. The Rev. Ronald Mathison officiated.



Robert Adams

Mr. Adams died Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis.

The organist was Dawn Wolter, and soloist Justin Riererson sang "The Lord's Prayer." The congregational hymns were "Rock of Ages" and "Just As I Am."

Pallbearers were Bruce Bargmann, Douglas Meyer, Brian Jungclaus, Tom Beringer, Myron Fehlandt and Tim Haag. Interment was in First Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery in Glencoe.

Mr. Adams was born May 3, 1931, in Bergen Township, McLeod County, to Orest and Leatha (Packer) Adams. He was baptized and confirmed in his faith on Feb. 9, 1945, by the Rev. A.F. Vomhof, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church parsonage in Lester Prairie.

He received his education at District 35 country school

in Bergen Township, McLeod County.

Mr. Adams joined the Minnesota Army National Guard and was mobilized during the Korean War with Company B of the 682nd Combat Engineer Battalion from Hutchinson on Jan. 16, 1951. He received an honorable discharge on Dec. 8, 1952, at Camp Rucker, Ala.

On Nov. 21, 1953, Mr. Adams was united in marriage to Lois Vera Rolf by the Rev. R.A. Ritz at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lester Prairie. They made their home in St. Paul, New Germany and Glencoe. Their marriage was blessed with three children, Gary, Dale and Karen. The Adamses shared over 60 years of marriage together.

Mr. Adams worked at the cheese plant in Lester Prairie, Hancock & Nelson Wholesale Grocery in St. Paul, Glencoe Co-op in Glencoe for over 25 years and Union 76 in Glencoe for eight years.

He was a member of First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glencoe. Mr. Adams also served on the McLeod County Fair Board, the local FEMA County Board and was a member of the Master Gardeners.

Mr. Adams was a jokester and loved to make people laugh. He enjoyed putting

puzzles together and especially watching wildlife. He loved animals, including dairy cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, chickens and his granddog, Kea. He cherished the time spent with his family and friends.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Adams of Glencoe; daughter, Karen (Kevin) Post of Glencoe; sisters, Marian Splittstoesser of Greenfield and Gladys (Glennard) Parpart of St. Paul; brother, Kenneth (Virginia) Adams of Glencoe; sisters-in-law, Carol Adams (the late Vernon Adams) of Chaska, Carol Adams of Glencoe, and Ruth Rolf of Silver Lake; nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Orest and Leatha Adams; sons, Gary Adams and Dale Adams; brothers, Maynard Adams, Howard Adams and his wife, Emma, Willard Adams, Vernon Adams and Floyd Adams; sister, Lois Streich and her husband, Loren; and brothers-in-law, Arduin Rolf and Gehardt Splittstoesser.

Arrangements were by the Johnson-McBride Funeral Chapel of Glencoe. Online obituaries and guest book are available at [www.hantge.com](http://www.hantge.com). Click on obituaries/guest book.

### Todd Michael Brede, 48, Hutchinson

Todd Michael Brede, 48, of Hutchinson, died Sunday, March 30, 2014, at Abbott-Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis.



Todd Brede

The funeral service was held Saturday, April 5, at Peace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson with the Rev. Gerhard Bode officiating.

Todd Michael Brede was born May 29, 1965, in Gaylord, to Wallace and Shirley (Henschel) Brede. He was a 1983 graduate of Gaylord High School, and then Hutchinson Technical College with a degree in auto mechanics.

Mr. Brede was united in

marriage with Cyndi Kirchoff on April 8, 2004, at Peace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson. After their marriage, they resided in Hutchinson, where he was employed at HTI and then 3M until the present. He enjoyed racing cars at Arlington Raceway, fishing, landscaping and traveling to Bermuda, Caribbean Islands, Hawaii, Las Vegas, Florida and Europe. His greatest passion was his Honda Goldwing.

Mr. Brede was talented, funny, creative, and could fix or build anything. He was always looking for a new project to do around the house.

He was a member of Peace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson.

Mr. Brede is survived by his wife, Cyndi, of Hutchinson; his father, Wallace Brede, and his special friend, Jan Schwanke, both of

Winthrop; stepchildren, Anthony, Adam, Jenna and Sara Yarand; a sister, Stacy (Scott) Herout and their children, Isiah, Zackary and Kaitlynn of Glencoe; mother-in-law, Shirley Kirchoff of Stewart; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Mitch and Becky Kirchoff of Carver, Dan and Dawn Kirchoff of Hutchinson, and Jerrod and Erin Kirchoff of Morgantown, W.V.; many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews; and by his cat and best buddy, Nash.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Shirley Brede; and his father-in-law, Loren Kirchoff.

The Minnesota Valley Lutheran Funeral Home in New Ulm handled arrangements. Online condolences and guest book are available at [www.mvfh.org](http://www.mvfh.org).

### Sharon Teschendorf, 46, of Arizona

A memorial service for Sharon Ann Teschendorf, 46, of Tucson, Ariz., will be held April 27 at Prairie Community Church UCC in Plato, with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by the service at 2 p.m.

Ms. Teschendorf died Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2014, at Pueblo Springs Rehabilitation Center.

Ms. Teschendorf, the

daughter of Donald Teschendorf and Mary Jo Nelson, was born May 25, 1967, in Minneapolis. She graduated from Glencoe High School in 1985. She moved to Arizona around 2002. She loved spending time with her friends and camping.

Survivors include her parents; four children, Cory, Cassandra, Cody and Conway Shakal; sisters, Lori

(James) Stockman and Tammy (Shawn) Bell; her grandmother, Melva Teschendorf; grandson, Jaxon Shakal; aunts and uncles; cousins, nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her grandparents, Mildred and Rudy Nelson and Marvin Teschendorf; and aunts, Marlys Bauer and DeLores Nelson.

### Joann Lucille Hamblin, 59, of Glencoe

Joann Lucille Hamblin, 59, of Glencoe, died Thursday, March 27, 2014, at Ridgeview Medical Center in Waconia.

Memorial services were held Friday, April 4, at Riverside Assembly of God in Hutchinson with Dr. Lee Allison officiating. Bob Scharpe was the worship leader. Musical selections were "I Am Free," "I Can Only Imagine" and "Eagle's Wings."

Joann Lucille Hamblin was born March 7, 1955, in Marshall. She was the daughter of Ernest and Viola (Hemish) Bartlow. She was both baptized and confirmed in her faith as a youth and also as an adult. She attended grade school in Tracy. When she was 14 years old, she moved

to Schuyler, Neb., with her sister. While in high school, she moved to Three Rivers, Mich., and graduated there with the class of 1974. In 1977, she moved to Glencoe.

On Feb. 2, 1980, she was united in marriage to Gale Hamblin at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Glencoe. Their marriage was blessed with twin sons, Nathan and Carl. The Hamblins shared over 34 years of marriage.

Mrs. Hamblin was known around Glencoe for her cakes; both wedding and birthday cakes were her joy to create. In 1982, she sold House of Lloyd toys through home parties for three years. She was employed part time at Ben Franklin in Glencoe, as well as at Telex Communications.

Later she drove school bus for 15 years, taking preschoolers to school, which she truly loved. She was a member of Riverside Assembly of God and loved to worship there.

She is survived by her husband, Gale Hamblin of Glencoe; son, Nathan, and his partner, Josh Booth, of St. Paul; numerous brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ernest and Viola Bartlow; and infant son, Carl.

Arrangements were by the Johnson-McBride Funeral Chapel in Glencoe. Online obituaries and guest book are available at [www.hantge.com](http://www.hantge.com).

## Deaths

### Leo Proehl, 73, of Glencoe

Memorial services for Leo Proehl, 73, of Glencoe, will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, April 11, at Good Shepherd

Lutheran Church in Glencoe. Mr. Proehl died on Saturday, April 5, 2014, at his Glencoe home.

A gathering of family and friends will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday, April 10, at the Johnson-McBride Funeral Chapel in Glencoe. Visitation continues

on Friday one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at a later date in the Glencoe City Cemetery.

An online guest book is available at [www.hantge.com](http://www.hantge.com).

### Arlene M. Lewin, 82, of Stewart

Arlene M. Lewin, 82, of Stewart, died Monday, March 31, 2014, at Glencoe Regional Health Services long-term care.



Arlene Lewin

The funeral service was Friday, April 4, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Stewart with the Rev. Steve Weston officiating.

Adline Kottke was the organist, and soloist Corrina Miller sang "The Lord's Prayer" and "On Eagle's Wings."

Casket bearers were her nephews, Gary Friauf, Wayne Friauf, Terry Duenow, Bradley Schmidt, Michael Schmidt, Troy Lewin, Lance Lewin and Lonnie Lewin.

Interment was in the church cemetery.

Arlene May (Friauf) Lewin was born Dec. 3, 1931, in Glencoe, the daughter of Arthur and Grace (Sustacek) Friauf. She was baptized and confirmed at Church of Peace in Glencoe. She attended grade school at District 22 for eight years, missing only 1-1/2 days of school. She attended high school in Glencoe and graduated in 1949. She worked at the bakery in Glencoe, and also at the Lake Marion Ballroom and Hotel.

On June 13, 1950, she was united in marriage to Leonard Lewin at the Church of Peace in Glencoe. Together, they owned and operated Leonard's Place for 33 years before Mr. Lewin suddenly passed away on June 5, 1983. Mrs. Lewin continued operating the business until 1990, for a total of 40 years in operation. Following her retirement in 1990, she worked at Green Acres for 10 years.

The Lewins were blessed with one daughter, Brenda Joy. Brenda passed away in April 1993, leaving Mrs. Lewin a grandson, Adam Lee Landin.

Mrs. Lewin was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Stewart and taught release time. She loved being with people, baking and doing crafts. She had many pen pals, and enjoyed receiving and writing cards and letters to people in England, Australia and throughout the United States. She was a faithful member of the Stewart American Legion Auxiliary for 32 years. Mrs. Lewin also had been active in TOPS, Red Cross, P.O.L.K.A. Club of America, and the Improvement Club of Stewart. She also belonged to The Lodge, and was awarded both 50-year and 75-year pins.

Mrs. Lewin enjoyed traveling, taking vacations to Alaska, Germany, Greenland,

Austria, Ireland, Czechoslovakia (her homeland), and to various areas in the United States. She was honored as the grand marshal during the Stewart summer celebration in June 1990. She loved her family, and her friendships were everywhere. Her church was important to her. "Faith and friends" is what kept her going, she always said.

She is survived by her grandson, Adam Lee Landin of Fargo, N.D.; son-in-law, Kim Landin and his wife, Debra Marquardt-Landin, of Waconia; stepgrandson, Matthew Landin; sister, Joyce Frey of Alexandria; brother, Donald (Marlys) Friauf of Glencoe; brothers-in-law, LeRoy (Sylvia) Lewin of Glencoe, Lawrence Lewin of Osakis, and Lowell Lewin of Hopkins; sisters-in-law, Lorraine Briese of Hutchinson, LaVerna Martin of Gibbon and Alice Friauf of Glencoe; many nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, other relatives, and a host of friends across this great country.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Leonard Lewin; daughter, Brenda Joy Landin; brother, Thomas Friauf; and niece, Sandra Schmidt.

Arrangements were with the Hughes-Hantge Funeral Chapel in Stewart. An online guest book is available at [www.hantge.com](http://www.hantge.com).

### Jace Tuman, 17 days, of Long Prairie

Jace Jordon Tuman, age 17 days, of Long Prairie, died Saturday, March 22, 2014, at CentraCare Hospital in Long Prairie.



Jace Tuman

A memorial service was held Sunday, March 30, at The Discerner Church in Plato, with the Rev. Scott Forsberg officiating.

Special music by Shannon and Eric Wegscheid included "Amazing Grace," "On Eagle's Wings" and "I Could Only Imagine."

Jamie Jackson was the urn

bearer. Honorary bearers were Riley Verly, Jaxon Verly, Reece Anderson, Asher Anderson, John Kenny, Seren Kenny, Griffin Kenny, Collin Ott and Isaac Ott.

Jace Jordon Tuman was born March 6, 2014, in Alexandria. He was the son of Ryan Tuman and Elisabeth Kellett.

Even in the short time Jace was with us, he brought us lots of joy and happiness. He will always be loved and missed. He was our perfect beautiful angel.

Jace is survived by his mother, Elisabeth Kellett; father, Ryan Tuman; brother, Justin Tuman; grandparents, Steve and Nancy Tuman, Gretchen and John Moore, and Stan and Jeanene Kellett;

great-grandparents, Marion and Dani Liebe, Ray Kellett, and Jo Liebe; aunts and uncles, Jenny and Ron Verly, Holly Tuman-Anderson, Sarah and Christopher Ott, Jessica and James Kenny, and Joshua and Roseanna Kellett; cousins, many other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his great-grandparents, Faye and Charles Browne, Jack Liebe, Dorothy and Harry Degen, and Elizabeth and Vern Tuman; and second cousin, Jeff Degen.

Arrangements were by the Dobratz-Hantge Chapel in Hutchinson. Online obituaries and guest book are available at [www.hantge.com](http://www.hantge.com). Please click on Obituaries/Guest Book.

## Menus

### April 14-18 Millie Beneke Manor Senior Nutrition Site

Monday — Swiss steak, baked potato, corn, bread, margarine, pineapple, low-fat milk.

Tuesday — Roast turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry garnish, bread, margarine, strawberry shortcake, low-fat milk.

Wednesday — Meatloaf, catsup, whole parsleyed potatoes, country-blend vegetables, bread, margarine, pears, low-fat milk.

Thursday — Ham, au gratin potatoes, Prince William vegetables, dinner roll, margarine, lemon angel food cake, low-fat milk.

Friday — Lemon-pepper fish, baked potato, carrots, bread, margarine, pie, low-fat milk.

### GSL Elementary Breakfast

Monday — Apple all sports bites, low-fat milk.

Tuesday — Vanilla sound bites, low-fat milk.

Wednesday — Blueberry muffin, string cheese, low-fat milk.

Thursday — Sunrise bites, low-fat milk.

Friday — No school.

### Helen Baker/Lakeside Lunch

Monday — Sloppy Joe on a whole-grain bun, oven-baked tator tots, celery sticks with dressing, apple wedges, pineapple tidbits.

Tuesday — Beef soft-shell tacos with brown rice, refried beans, lettuce and tomato cup, banana, applesauce.

Wednesday — Pizza casserole with bread stick, seasoned green beans, baby carrots with dressing, grapes, peaches.

Thursday — Roast turkey in gravy with whole-grain dinner roll, mashed potatoes, broccoli salad with raisins, orange wedges, pears.

Friday — No school.

### Junior, Senior High Breakfast

Monday — Breakfast pizza or Cinnamon Toast Crunch, blueberry muffin, chilled applesauce, low-fat milk.

Tuesday — Pancake on a stick with syrup or yogurt bar with fruit and granola, mandarin oranges, low-fat milk.

Wednesday — French toast sticks with syrup or whole-grain ultimate breakfast round and yo-

gurt, diced peaches, low-fat milk.

Thursday — Breakfast pizza or Cinnamon Toast Crunch and apple cinnamon muffin, mixed fruit, low-fat milk.

Friday — No school.

### Junior, Senior High Lunch

Monday — Pasta with choice of steamed vegetables, shredded cheese, bread stick, caesar romaine salad, baby carrots with dressing, apple, pineapple tidbits.

Tuesday — Whole-grain chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes and gravy, dinner roll, corn on the cob, confetti coleslaw, red-pepper strips with dressing, banana, applesauce.

Wednesday — Turkey and gravy with mashed potatoes, stuffing, dinner roll, seasoned peas, broccoli salad with raisins, jicama sticks with dressing, kiwi wedges, peaches.

Thursday — Oven-baked turkey corn dog, seasoned carrots, seasoned potato wedges,

chickpea salad, cucumber slices with dressing, orange wedges, pears.

Friday — No school.

### First Lutheran School Lunch

Monday — Pork gravy, mashed potatoes, mandarin oranges, bread, milk.

Tuesday — Beef noodle soup, ham or bologna sandwich, mixed fruit, mixed veggies, milk.

Wednesday — Italian chicken with noodles, broccoli, pineapple, bread, milk.

Thursday — Hamburgers, potato wedges, applesauce, whole-grain bun, milk.

Friday — No school.

### St. Pius X School Lunch

Monday — Chicken fajita, pears, refried beans, carrots with dip, rice, milk.

Tuesday — Shredded pork in a bun, mandarin oranges, corn, veggies with dip, milk.

Wednesday — Sausage pizza, mixed fruit, lettuce, veggies with dip, milk.

Thursday — Bring a bag lunch, milk.

Friday — No school.

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Chronicle photo by Josh Randt

## 7th-grade students of month

Four seventh-grade GSL Lincoln Junior High students were named March students of the month. They include from left, John Ingeman, geography; Madison Franck, science; Olivia Lemke, pre-algebra; and Ryver Victorian, English.



Chronicle photo by Josh Randt

## 8th-grade honorees

Eighth-grade students selected as students of the month for March at GSL's Lincoln Junior High School include, front row from left, Brooke Chastek, algebra; Uilleam Armstrong, choir; and Emily Ward, band. Back row, from left, Will Mickolichuk, ag/industrial technology; Mackenzie Davis, FACS; Blake Ortloff, history; and Adam Thalmann, science. Missing was Theresa Siers, English.

# Wright County, Trailblazer haggle over potential costs

By Lori Copley  
Staff Writer

The transit systems of McLeod/Sibley counties and that of Wright county operate so differently that county commissioners are having a hard time getting a handle on how to bring them together under the Trailblazer Transit umbrella.

Two commissioners each from McLeod, Sibley and Wright counties met Friday to try to hammer out some details for a joint powers agreement that would allow Trailblazer to take over public transit in Wright County.

River Rider, a transit system that serves Wright and Sherburne counties, is dissolving July 1, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) felt that Trailblazer was the ideal organization to undertake public transit in Wright County.

Friday's discussion centered around money — who pays for what — and that topic caused a considerable amount of tension among the commissioners and Gary Ludwig, director of Trailblazer Transit.

The Trailblazer Joint Powers Board, with the backing of MnDOT, has been adamant that McLeod and Sibley counties will not subsidize service in Wright County.

That is an understandable, said Wright County Commissioner Pat Sawatzke.

On the other hand, Sawatzke said, Wright County has not been paying toward transit costs in its own county.

MnDOT pays about 85 percent of the cost of service that it approves as part of public transit plans. That leaves 15 percent to be paid locally.

Sawatzke said that in Wright County, fares collected for rides covers the 15 percent local share. Cities which request public transit service in which the 15 percent gap is not covered by fares are asked to contribute the difference, Sawatzke said.

The Trailblazer Transit system, which operates in Sibley and McLeod counties, has much of its 15 percent gap also covered by the fare box, Ludwig said.

However, Trailblazer also offers services outside the MnDOT-approved budget, and the local counties cover that extra cost with contributions toward the local share.

Ludwig indicated that the issue is that Wright County "needs to buy into the model we have" for public transit.

"River Rider has a very different structure," said Ludwig, and relying on fares would not cover the cost of Trailblazer's administration of Wright County transit.

But Sawatzke said he wants to know what Wright County will get if it has to contribute to the local share.

"For you to say we're going to pay \$200,000, or whatever that number is, when we don't know what we're getting ... well, that's just not right," said Sawatzke. "I'm not paying that kind of money to get service that I'm getting right now for nothing."

Sawatzke said if Wright County's fares are paying for the funding gap now, they should be able to in the future, also.

Wright County Commissioner Mike Potter had a different viewpoint than Sawatzke, saying that Trailblazer already established its business model, and Wright County needs to decide if it wants to participate or not.

"We came here to be partners, not to be contractors (of service)," said Potter. But, he said, Wright County may have to contract for services until the end of 2014 "until we get this hammered out."

Ludwig said that stakeholders in Wright County are asking for more service, that require some local share funding from Wright County.

"They have an excellent financial system, but it isn't serving the people," said Ludwig.

Bev Herfindahl of MnDOT said the goal is to provide Wright County with the same level of service until the end of 2014 as it currently has now, which is about six buses.

Herfindahl also noted that a difference between Trailblazer and River Rider is that River Rider provides dedicated routes within communities,

while Trailblazer provides a "dial-a-ride" service that provides transportation tailored to clients' needs.

"Trailblazer has more community-to-community service, while River Rider has more service within communities," said Herfindahl.

Sibley County Jim Swanson said he has been "disappointed" with MnDOT's participation in the process.

Swanson said MnDOT "came to us and asked us to look at extending services to Wright County" and indicated that MnDOT would "get things for us and cover bases. But once we started discussions, MnDOT went out to left field and left us holding the bag."

MnDOT also promised it would "do whatever it takes to make it work. Well, we're trying to make things work and we're not getting much help from MnDOT," Swanson continued.

The Trailblazer Joint Powers Board has a workshop session with MnDOT officials planned for today (Wednesday).

The commissioners did agree, however, on the potential make-up of the joint powers board with two commissioners from each county.

After a great deal of discussion, the commissioners agreed to another joint meeting Thursday, April 17, following the regular Trailblazer Joint Powers Board meeting.

## Lions spring brunch set for April 13 at Pla-Mor

The Glencoe Lions Club will host its annual "all you care to eat" spring brunch on Sunday, April 13, at the Pla-Mor Ballroom, Glencoe. Serving from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with take-outs available.

Menu includes: pancakes, Lions "original recipe" sausage, ham, eggs, fruit, juice, toast, coffee and milk.

Advance adult tickets are available at Hite Hardware &

# My first choice, Mexican meals

Mexican food has always been one of my favorite cuisines. When choosing where to eat out, if Mexican is an option, that's my first choice.

Mexican cuisine is also easy to prepare at home. Here are a couple Mexican staples done a little differently.



## My Turn Now

By Karin Ramige Cornwell

### Fast Chicken Fajitas

1-1/2 pounds chicken cutlets (about 8)  
2 tablespoons vegetable oil,  
1 teaspoon chili powder  
Coarse salt and ground pepper  
3 bell peppers, thinly sliced  
1 medium red onion, thinly sliced  
4 garlic cloves, thinly sliced  
8 flour tortillas (6-inch)  
Optional fresh cilantro leaves, sour cream, lime wedges, for serving

Heat broiler, with rack set 4 inches from heat. Arrange chicken on a rimmed baking sheet lined with aluminum foil; rub with 1 tablespoon oil. Sprinkle with chili powder, and season with salt and pepper. Broil, without turning, until chicken is opaque throughout, 5 to 7 minutes. Remove from oven; set aside.

On another rimmed baking sheet lined with foil, toss peppers, onion, garlic, and remaining tablespoon oil; season with salt and pepper. Broil, tossing occasionally, until vegetables are crisp-tender and slightly charred, 6 to 8 minutes.

Meanwhile, thinly slice chicken crosswise. Stack and wrap tortillas in a damp paper towel; microwave on high until warm, about 1 minute. Transfer chicken and pepper mixture

to a platter, and serve with tortillas, cilantro, sour cream, and lime wedges and other desired toppings.

### Taco Casserole

2 cups corn chips (coarsely crushed)  
1 tomato, chopped  
1 (2-1/3 ounce) can sliced black olives  
2 green onions, chopped  
1 cup salsa  
2 cups Monterey Jack cheese, divided  
1 (15 ounce) can refried beans  
1 (1-1/4 ounce) package taco seasoning  
1 pound ground beef

Brown ground beef and drain. Add taco seasoning and cook according to package directions, adding proper amount of water.

Put corn chips on bottom of 8x8 inch dish. Cook refried beans on stove until hot. Add 1 cup cheese and 1 cup salsa. Stir until combined.

Pour beans over corn chips in dish. Add beef to top of beans. Sprinkle remaining cheese over top. Sprinkle green onions and black olives over cheese. Bake in a 375-degree oven until the cheese is sufficiently melted.

Take out of oven and sprinkle chopped tomatoes on top. Wait 1-2 minutes and then serve.

# Homeowners with frozen pipes seek help with bills

By Rich Glennie  
Editor

As the spring weather finally takes hold, the harsh winter conditions endured this year have not been forgotten.

At Monday night's Glencoe City Council meeting, the issue of frozen water pipes surfaced, and requests were made by several homeowners to get relief from higher-than-normal water and sewer bills.

But City Council only took the requests under advisement to determine whether changes to the 1897 ordinance are required if relief is to be granted.

There were seven reported incidents of frozen water lines this winter, and the city ordinance indicates it is the homeowners' responsibility for the line from their home to the water main in the street.

Larson said, in his 25 years as city administrator, there have not been many issues with frozen water lines.

But Mike Drew, public director of streets and parks, said there were a lot of frozen pipes in the mid-1960s in Glencoe.

Randy Eggersgluess, a resident with frozen pipes this winter, asked that if the city would not grant relief on the water bill, at least it should on the sewer bill.

"The current ordinance will not allow us," replied Mayor Randy Wilson. "We will need to change the ordinance," which would require three readings.

Council member Lori Adamietz asked about the increases in the water and sewer bills.

Eggersgluess said he was not sure of the extra costs until the monthly utility bill arrives.

Gary Schreifels, public works director for water and wastewater, estimated the additional costs about \$100 a month just for water after it

was advised homeowners continually run a "pencil-thin stream" of water at all times to prevent pipes from freezing.

The frozen pipe issue was a statewide problem this winter, and communities have handled the additional costs to homeowners in different ways.

John Popelka, another Glencoe homeowner affected, said he had been in his home for 11 years and as a single man and a low user of water, his pipes froze this year.

It was estimated he uses about 450 gallons of water a day, and he asked that the city spread out the additional costs in water and sewer "over a couple of months for retired people."

He said he ran water constantly for about three weeks and indicated his water line had frozen under the street leading to the water main.

Some of the frozen water lines may have been the result of snow-cleared sidewalks and streets during the prolonged sub-zero conditions this winter.

Larson said the current ordinance requires the water line to be at least seven feet deep, so to freeze this winter, the frost had to go that deep

into the ground.

Drew said recent looks at city grounds indicated frost remains in the ground. He said in some areas of the cemetery, there is no frost where snow was deepest to four feet of frost where the snow was shallow.

The ball fields at Oak Leaf Park still have six to eight inches of frost, Drew added.

Schreifels said there are 2,100 water/sewer accounts in Glencoe and with seven homeowners impacted, "that is a small percentage."

Wilson asked Schreifels to look at the water and sewer bills of those impacted homeowners and bring that information back to the April 21 City Council meeting.

"The way the ordinance is written now, we can't do anything," Adamietz said.

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These are the grades 11-12 band and choir students at Glencoe-Silver Lake who competed at the State-

Section Solo/Ensemble Contest at Minnesota State University at Mankato on April 5.



Above are the grades 9-10 State-Section Solo/Ensemble contest participants from Glencoe-Silver Lake High

School who garnered a variety of superior and excellent ratings from the contest judge.

Submitted photos

## GSL band/choir members garner superior, excellent ratings at State-Section contest

On April 5, 84 members of the Glencoe-Silver Lake High School bands and choirs participated in the State-Section Solo/Ensemble Contest at Minnesota State University-Mankato.

This contest is sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League and allows students to perform instrumental and vocal solos and small ensembles before a certified adjudicator, said Peter Gepson, GSL band director.

Rachel Bonderman received a "best in site" award for her vocal solo of "Porgi, Amor" by W.A. Mozart, while Jazz I also received a "best in site" award for its performance of "Round Midnight" and "Frankenstein."

The following individuals and groups received superior ratings:

- Solos: Robin Swift, euphonium; Mark Broderius, tuba; Alyson Winn, clarinet; Ethan Bass, tenor saxophone; and Erica Hecksel-flute.
- Concert Band Saxophone Ensemble (Piper Davis, Ashley Alsleben, Ethan Bass, Wyatt Ackerson, Richard Wilson).
- Jazz I (Piper Davis, Ashley Alsleben, Ethan Bass, Lili Mallak, Richard Wilson, Maddie Kuehn, Layne Herrmann, Jack Gepson, Emily Oberlin, Mariah Guldemann-Chiariello, Robin Swift, Jake

Vasek, Mark Broderius, Austin Cooper, Alyson Winn, Chandler Swift, Noah Tankersley).

- Concert Band Woodwind Ensemble (April Brady, Alyson Winn, Lizzy Gran, Darin Emery, Arin Thayer, Lili Mallak, Richard Wilson).

- Concert Band Percussion Ensemble (Jacob Wawrzyniak, Tina Bonillo, Rachel Rusten, Chris Ross, Austin Stream, Austin Cooper, Piper Davis, Chandler Swift, Alyson Winn, Vanessa Villareal).

- Concert Brass Ensemble (Layne Herrmann, Maddie Kuehn, Sam Johnson, Josie Schmitt, Allison Johnson, Patrick Fehrenbach, Mariah Guldemann-Chiariello, Cody Becker, Erin Nowak, Mark Broderius, Wyatt Ackerson).

- 9/10 Flute Trio 1 (Maggie Petersen, Grei Butterfield and Morgyn Robinson).

- 9/10 Flute Trio 2 (Maggie Petersen, Marissa Kirchoff and Erica Hecksel).

- Vocal solos: Brooke Noeldner, Mariah Guldemann-Chiariello, Sadie Paumen, Rachel Bonderman, Becca Green, Alicia Fenner, Payton Lilienthal, Katy Kunkel, and Kayla Williams-Schwarze.

- Vocal duet (Lili Mallak and Samantha Johnson).

- Vocal duet (Rachel Bonderman and Leah Peterson).

- Vocal trio (Rachel Bonderman, Leah Peterson, and Sadie Paumen).

- Women's Ensemble No. 1 (Dannielle Wemhoff, Kelli Bailey, Emily Oberlin, Amanda Husted, Marissa Kirchoff, Robin Swift, Erica Hecksel, Brandi Pikal, Brooke Noeldner, Katie Twiss and Daria Fegley).

- Senior Women's Ensemble (Steph Chastek, Danielle Mathews, Jenny Rose, Angela Schmitz, Christina Helmbrecht, Jessica Fegley, Kayla Williams-Schwarze, Alicia Fenner, Erin Nowak and Samantha Johnson).

- Women's Ensemble No. 4 (Jenna Lokensgard, Lindsay Wedin, Jordan Doolittle, Julia Gomez and Payton Lilienthal).

- Junior Women's Ensemble No. 1 (Sadie Paumen, Courtney Zajicek, Katilyn Susdorf, Layne Herrmann, Ashley Miller and Keisha Prafke).

- Men's Ensemble No. 2 (Austin Cooper, Samantha Johnson, Noah Tankersley, Eric Steffel, Cody Becker, Eric Arandia, Jordan Tessmer, Ethan Wolff and Mark Broderius).

The following received excellent ratings:

- Kyle Wanous, tuba solo.
- Maddie Kuehn, trumpet solo.
- 9/10 Brass Ensemble

(Chandler Swift, Emily Oberlin, Jake Fehrenbach, Kelli Bailey, Gabe Schweikert, Blake Dahlke, Isabell Mallak, Michaela Neyers, Jake Vasek, Robin Swift and Kyle Wanous).

- 9/10 Woodwind Ensemble (Rachel Reichow, Dini Schweikert, Hannah Kunkel, Cora Kuras, Shawna Goettl, Brandi Pikal and DJ Wemhoff).

- 9/10 Flute Quartet (Alfredo Pena, Erica Hecksel, Daria Fegley and Marissa Kirchoff).

- Vocal duet (Payton Lilienthal and Katy Kunkel).

- Junior Women's No. 2 (Lili Mallak, Becca Green, Stephanie Ross, Maddie Kuehn, Mariah Guldemann-Chiariello, Jenessa Urban and Vanessa Villarreal).

- Men's No. 1 (Kyle Wanous, Jacob Fehrenbach, Chandler Swift, Peyton Sell, Quinten Proehl, Freddy Pena, Ethan Wolff, Jacob Vasek and Jordan Tessmer).

## GRHS budget Continued from page 1

the nursing home or assisted living; no, we are not closing the OB department," said Braband.

The one department that will no longer be in existence is the intensive care unit (ICU).

Braband said that a study of the unit shows that the ICU only averages one patient every five days, even though it is staffed by registered nurses "three shifts a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year."

Braband said those nurses help out in other areas when the ICU is not busy, but they cannot be assigned to specific patients in case someone needs ICU care.

And, he said, the average stay in the ICU is 10 to 12 hours; after that, the patient is either moved to a different unit, or sent to another hospital for more specific care.

Despite the cuts, Braband said GRHS remains committed to providing its clients with uninterrupted, quality care.

And the response from the community has been mostly supportive, Braband said.

"We hear, 'this must be tough, we feel bad for you,'" Braband said.

"I'm comfortable that this (the cuts) will not negatively impact our quality of care," Braband added.

### Employee impact

Making the cuts has been hard, Braband acknowledged.

"We value the folks we've had working for us, and it's hard to say goodbye," he said. "It's painful for the people who left, and it's painful for us."

Braband said GRHS cut in excess of its \$2 million loss because "we didn't want to cut too much, and we didn't want to cut too little. And we certainly didn't want to have to come back and do it again. We need to look to the future."

GRHS first asked for volunteers who would be willing to retire early, leave the organization, or take a reduction in hours.

About 30 people came forward, but GRHS could not accommodate them all without leaving some areas understaffed, Braband said, and could only accommodate about eight of those volunteers.

GRHS then had the harsh task of involuntary cuts.

"We looked at all our service areas and their volumes," said Braband. "We knew it would not be without pain, but we need to look at ways to retool, relook and redeploy and still meet the needs of our patients."

Along with the eight original volunteers who are no longer with GRHS, another 23 "no longer work with us," Braband said, for a total 31. The remainder of the cuts came in the form of reductions in hours.

### The future

Braband said GRHS' situation is not unique. Changes in reimbursement has affected everyone from large health-care organizations and hospitals in the metro to smaller communities like Willmar,

Glencoe and Staples.

Some smaller organizations have elected to sell out to larger "fish in the pond," said Braband, but that was not an option GRHS wanted to put on the table.

"We want to stay here, and we want to stay independent," said Braband.

But, he added, GRHS will continue to work with a variety of partners, from Abbott Northwestern, to Health East, Park Nicollet and others to continue to provide the best care possible for its patients and clients.

GRHS also is looking for new niches to fill, Braband noted.

It recently "soft-started" a new urgent care unit for those who need immediate care, but not necessarily an emergency room visit, said Braband.

Wanting to make sure any bugs got worked out, the new urgent care unit was not heavily advertised before it opened. But it still proved popular, averaging about 25 to 30 patients a day.

Another new venture will be the addition of a "transitional care" unit, which will accommodate post-surgical or post-medical patients (both from GRHS and other facilities) who need more care than a nursing home, but not full ICU care, Braband said.

The transitional care facility will utilize the hospitals' "swing-bed" capacity.

GRHS also has been tapped for a unique program regarding ventilator care, said Braband.

Patients who are on ventilators will be placed in the unit until they can either be "liberated" from their ventilators or can be placed on portable ventilator devices, which allow them to "wear street clothes, go places, etc.," said Braband.

Another potential change is that GRHS may contract for ambulance services with Allina, which currently provides ambulance service in the Hutchinson area.

Again, Braband said, Allina is a "bigger fish in the pond" and can spread its costs over a larger organization.

Although an agreement has not been finalized, the goal is to continue to base ambulances in Glencoe and have Allina hire the GRHS personnel for its staff and meet "performance metrics for response time, etc.," said Braband. "The goal is to provide as good of, if not better, service to our patients."

The ambulances will be "branded" with both the GRHS and Allina logos, Braband said. GRHS would continue to hold the license for the trauma care.

Braband said the Allina agreement has not been finalized, but "that's the likely trajectory."

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Braband said GRHS hopes that the cuts and restructuring are a one-time event, and that the local health-care organization can continue to focus on its current and future goals.

"We plan to be here to serve our community for a long time to come," said Braband.

## Child Print program set for April 22-25

The McLeod County Sheriff's Department will conduct its annual Child Print program April 22-25.

The sheriff's office takes fingerprints of all children in kindergarten and sixth grade in the county, with the exception of Glencoe, which are printed by the Glencoe Police Department. Letter will be sent to all parents explaining

the program.

The schedule is as follows:  
 Tuesday, April 22 — West Elementary, Hutchinson, 9 a.m.; Immanuel Lutheran, Hutchinson, 10 a.m.; Our Savior's, Hutchinson, 11 a.m.; and New Discoveries Montessori, Hutchinson, 1 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 23 — Winsted Elementary, 9 a.m.;

Winsted Holy Trinity, 10:30 a.m.; and St. Anastasia Catholic, Hutchinson, 1 p.m.

Thursday, April 24 — GSL Lakeside in Silver Lake, 9 a.m.; Lester Prairie Elementary, 11:15 a.m.

Friday, April 25 — Northwoods Elementary, Hutchinson, 10:45 a.m.; Park Elementary, Hutchinson, 11:50 a.m.

## Introducing Dr. Thomas Nelson to our Orthopaedic team.



Dr. Thomas Nelson  
Orthopaedic Surgeon



Paul Coleman,  
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