



Blue Jays advance at state

Plato 10-runs Fergus Falls in Class C tourney

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Glencoe man in high-speed chase, crash

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The McLeod County

Chronicle

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August 31, 2016

County Board approves applying for Dakota Trail grant on 3-2 vote

By Lori Copley
Editor

The McLeod County Board of Commissioners voted 3-2 Tuesday to proceed with an application for \$3.6 million in Legacy funding for improvements to the Dakota Trail.

The issue had been tabled from its Aug. 16 meeting, when concerns were raised about a 20-year commitment to maintain the trail.

Commissioners Doug Krueger and Ron Shimanski both voted against the resolution for the application for funding, while commissioners Sheldon Nies, Joe Nagel and Paul Wright voted in favor.

Krueger reiterated his position from the last meeting — that while he is not opposed to applying for grant funding, he did have trouble with committing the county to fund-

ing for 20 years of maintenance.

Shimanski indicated that he had concern about maintaining the trail after that 20-year period as well as during that period. He noted that Legacy funding will expire in 2034. Part of the application is for funding to pave the trail.

“Eventually, that surface will need some rehabilitation, and may need to be repaved,” said Shimanski. And there may not be money available at that point.

Shimanski said he also is concerned about unanticipated costs, and asked about liability insurance. McLeod County Parks Director Al Koglin said the trail would be covered under the county’s insurance with the Minnesota Counties Inter-governmental Trust (MCIT).

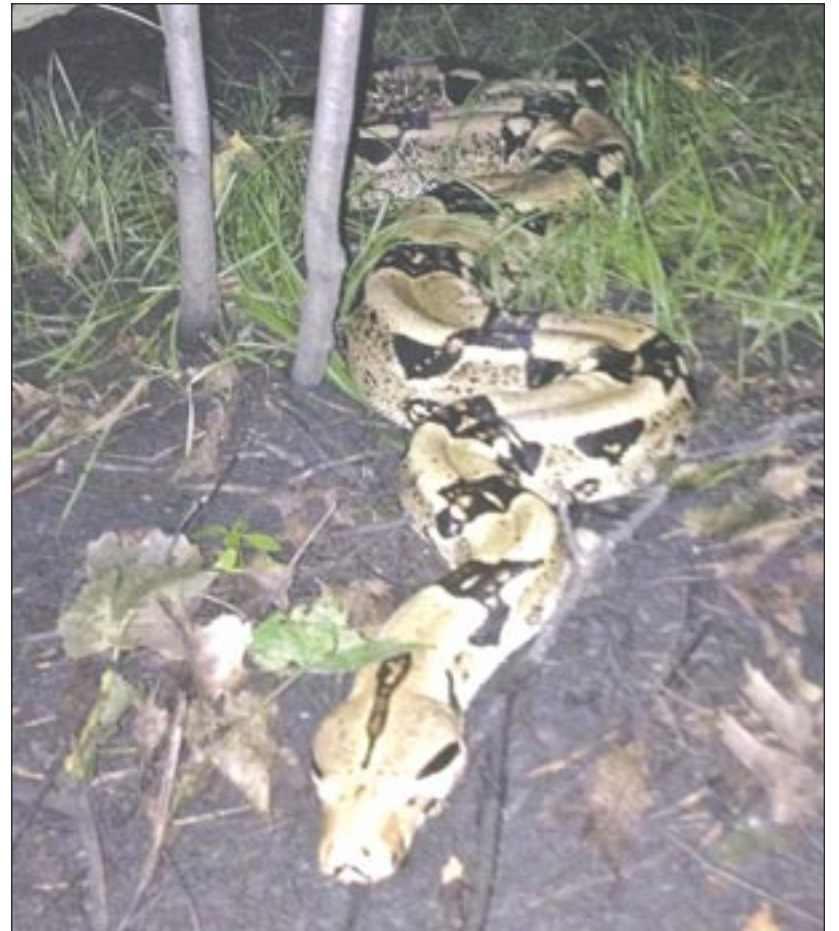
“My concern here is that there are

still some undisclosed costs that may come up,” said Shimanski.

As for the maintenance, Koglin said the cities of Hutchinson and Lester Prairie had indicated that they would take care of maintenance of the portions of the trail within their city limits. That would pare down the county’s miles of trail to maintain to 14 from 18.

Koglin admitted that it was difficult to get a handle on actual maintenance costs because most trails are owned and maintained by the DNR, not by the county. Based on costs experienced by Carver County, Koglin had estimated at the last meeting that maintenance could cost between \$14,000 to \$18,000

Dakota Trail
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Submitted photo

Paul and Danny Eckhoff were fishing for catfish and searching for mushrooms in Buffalo Creek Park near Glencoe Saturday night, but found this huge snake instead. The find has drawn statewide news coverage.

Eckhoffs find massive snake on quest for catfish, 'shrooms

By Lori Copley
Editor

Paul and Danny Eckhoff, home visiting their parents Scott and Mary Eckhoff, went to Buffalo Creek Park south-east of Glencoe Saturday night hoping to snag some catfish from the creek, and maybe hunt up a few edible mushrooms.

They didn’t catch any fish and abandoned their mushroom hunt after stumbling across something that has made statewide news — a 10-foot long redbelted boa constrictor.

Paul Eckhoff said he and his twin have been fishing the creek for catfish since they were young boys, and it is somewhat of a tradition to head out when they’re visiting their parents.

“When we first pulled up and were getting out our fishing gear, we heard something fall out of a tree,” said Paul. “We thought it was

a turkey or something like that.”

After an unsuccessful attempt at fishing, the two decided to use their headlamps and try to hunt up some mushrooms.

Paul didn’t get very far when he heard something rustling in the weeds.

“It sounded like a small dog or something,” said Paul.

It wasn’t.

It was a giant snake.

“I stopped in my tracks,” said Paul. “I really had that fight or flight thing going on for a while there.”

The brothers took some pictures of the snake, which seemed fairly docile, Paul said.

“Right away, we thought it must be a corn snake or a gopher snake,” he said. “But when we saw how big

Snake

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Chronicle photo by Lori Copley

Back to school

It’s back-to-school week for Glencoe-Silver Lake and area parochial schools. School opened Monday, Aug. 29, for most students, while Helen Baker Elementary had its first day

Tuesday. Above, students at Helen Baker board a bus bound for Lakeside Elementary in Silver Lake.

N.A. school remembered on anniversary of dedication

By Lori Copley
Editor

On Aug. 25, 1946, the community of New Auburn dedicated its new school building, erected just off Highway 22 on the north side of town.

On Aug. 25, 2016, some of the original members of the kindergarten class of 1946 gathered at the New Auburn City Hall for a time of remembrance of the school’s dedication.

The event was organized by the New Auburn Historical Society, a small group of dedicated historians, and featured lunch, a short program and a display of memorabilia from both the school and the community in general.

Kathy Ringo, a member of the historical group, said the event was inspired by an email she received from John Rivers, one of those original kindergartners.

There were six members of the

first kindergarten class to attend the school. (The building now houses The High Island Hideaway). All six are still alive, and three were able to attend Thursday’s program. There also were six first graders, and three joined the class later. One of those original first graders also attended.

Those alumni who attended were Rivers, Bruce Brinkman and Ardelle (Hahn) Hornemann of the 1946 kindergarten class, and Lottie (Kotke) Schultz of the first grade class.

The cornerstone for the school was laid in April 1946, just northeast of the former school building, known as the Metcalf School.

The school was built at a cost of about \$25,000, and was 30 feet by 22 feet, with a library, two modern classrooms, and a gym, auditorium with a stage and a kitchen in the sub-basement.

Dedication

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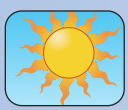


Submitted photo

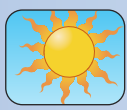
Pictured above are the six members of the kindergarten class that started in New Auburn’s new school building in fall 1946. From left to right are Bruce Brinkman, John Rivers, James Borchert, Judy (Frauendienst) McGannon,

Ardelle (Hahn) Hornemann and La Von (Svoboda) Squier. All six are still alive, and three helped celebrate the 70th anniversary of the school’s dedication on Thursday, Aug. 25.

Weather



Wed., 8-31
H: 78°, L: 54°



Thur., 9-1
H: 76°, L: 54°



Fri., 9-2
H: 76°, L: 59°



Sat., 9-3
H: 78°, L: 63°



Sun., 9-4
H: 76°, L: 64°

Looking back: The unseasonably wet weather continued with some rain on four of the seven days of last week.

Date	Hi	Lo	Rain
Aug. 23	85	63	1.36
Aug. 24	81	64	0.01

Aug. 25	75	57	0.00
Aug. 26	75	53	0.00
Aug. 27	70	59	0.33
Aug. 28	86	58	0.33
Aug. 29	86	65	0.00

Temperatures and precipitation compiled by Robert Thurn, Chronicle weather observer.

Chronicle News and Advertising Deadlines

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

Glencoe man in high-speed chase

A Glencoe man is facing charges after a high-speed chase in Sibley County Monday night.

Matthew Stanley Fillbrandt, 22, of Glencoe, is facing pending charges of fleeing police in a motor vehicle.

According to the Sibley County Sheriff's Office, at about 8:39 p.m. Monday, a deputy clocked a vehicle speeding on Highway 22 about two miles north of

Gaylord. The deputy attempted to stop the vehicle, but it fled northbound.

According to the sheriff's office, speeds were clocked at up to 125 mph. After a three-mile pursuit, the vehicle went into a ditch and rolled. The crash took place about one-half mile south of New Auburn on Highway 22.

Fillbrandt was found in the vehicle and was wearing his seat belt. He was taken by

ambulance to the Glencoe hospital, where he was treated for non-life-threatening injuries and released. He was later brought to the Sibley County Jail on pending charges.

Assisting the Sibley County Sheriff's Office were the Gaylord Police Department, Minnesota State Patrol, New Auburn Fire and Rescue and Allina Ambulance.

IRS warns against telephone scam

The Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration continue to hear from taxpayers who have received unsolicited calls from individuals demanding payment while fraudulently claiming to be from the IRS.

Based on the 90,000 complaints that TIGTA has received through its telephone hotline, to date, TIGTA has identified approximately 1,100 victims who have lost an estimated \$5 million from these scams.

"There are clear warning signs about these scams, which continue at high levels throughout the nation," said IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. "Taxpayers should remember their first contact with the IRS will not be a call from out of the blue, but through official correspondence sent through the mail. A big red flag for these scams are angry, threatening calls from people who say they are from the IRS and urging immediate payment. This is not how we operate. People should hang up immediately and contact TIGTA or the IRS."

Additionally, it is important for taxpayers to know that the IRS:

- Never asks for credit card, debit card or prepaid card information over the telephone.
- Never insists that taxpayers use a specific payment method to pay tax obligations
- Never requests immediate payment over the telephone and will not take enforcement action immediately following a phone conversation. Taxpayers usually receive prior

notification of IRS enforcement action involving IRS tax liens or levies.

Potential phone scam victims may be told that they owe money that must be paid immediately to the IRS or they are entitled to big refunds.

Other characteristics of these scams include:

- Scammers use fake names and IRS badge numbers. They generally use common names and surnames to identify themselves.
- Scammers may be able to recite the last four digits of a victim's Social Security number.
- Scammers spoof the IRS toll-free number on caller ID to make it appear that it's the IRS calling.
- Scammers sometimes send bogus IRS emails to some victims to support their bogus calls.
- Victims hear background noise of other calls being conducted to mimic a call site.
- After threatening victims with jail time or driver's license revocation, scammers hang up and others soon call back pretending to be from the local police or DMV, and the caller ID supports their claim.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS, here's what you should do:

- If you know you owe taxes or you think you might owe taxes, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. The IRS employees at that line can help you with a payment issue, if there really is such an issue.
- If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to

think that you owe any taxes (for example, you've never received a bill or the caller made some bogus threats as described above), then call and report the incident to TIGTA at 1-800-366-4484.

You can file a complaint using the FTC Complaint Assistant; choose "Other" and then "Imposter Scams." If the complaint involves someone impersonating the IRS, include the words "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

Taxpayers should be aware that there are other unrelated scams (such as a lottery sweepstakes) and solicitations (such as debt relief) that fraudulently claim to be from the IRS.

The IRS encourages taxpayers to be vigilant against phone and email scams that use the IRS as a lure. The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as text messages and social media channels. The IRS also does not ask for PINs, passwords or similar confidential access information for credit card, bank or other financial accounts. Recipients should not open any attachments or click on any links contained in the message. Instead, forward the email to phishing@irs.gov.

For more information or to report a scam, go to www.irs.gov and type "scam" in the search box.

More information on how to report phishing scams involving the IRS is available on the genuine IRS website, IRS.gov.

Record

Glencoe Police

TUESDAY, AUG. 23

4:14 a.m. — An officer checked on a vehicle parked at Oscar Olson Park on Union Avenue, and advised the occupant of park hours.

8:03 a.m. — Officers responded to a minor accident on 11th Street W.

9:04 a.m. — Officers assisted the ambulance with a medical on McLeod Avenue N.

1:54 p.m. — An officer responded to a report of harassment on 20th Street E.

2:07 p.m. — Officers assisted at a medical on Newton Avenue.

4:23 p.m. — A person on Pryer Avenue reported that someone had stolen six gallons of gas from a vehicle the previous week, and asked for extra patrol in the area.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 24

1:11 a.m. — An officer checked on a vehicle parked at Oscar Olson Park, and advised the driver of the park hours.

8:01 a.m. — A person had a truck with expired tabs parked on city property on Glenmoor Lane. The owners were asked to move the truck.

9:19 a.m. — Officers responded to a disturbance on 15th Street W.

11:19 a.m. — An officer responded to a harassment complaint on 16th Street E.

12:13 p.m. — An officer responded to Baxter Avenue N, where one child was reported to be on the roof of a garage and another on the roof of a fish house. The children admitted they should not have been up there, and the officer explained the dangers of climbing on roofs.

1:22 p.m. — An officer responded to a complaint of a barking dog with poor living conditions on Seventh Street E.

2:14 p.m. — A black-and-white Husky was reported running loose on 14th Street E. The dog returned home on its own.

8:53 p.m. — A CH-47 Chinook helicopter was grounded in the grassy area north of the runway at the east end of the Glencoe Airport. When officers spotlighted the helicopter, it took off. It was later found that it was a military helicopter on an exercise.

10:01 p.m. — Officers and Allina Ambulance responded to Chandler Avenue N for an adult male lying in a parking lot. He

was taken by ambulance to the emergency room.

THURSDAY, AUG. 25

7:28 a.m. — A citation for a railroad crossing violation was issued on Union Avenue near 14th Street.

11:46 a.m. — An officer responded to a dog complaint on Ninth Street E.

12:22 p.m. — A loose dog was reported at Casey's on 13th Street E. The owner got the dog.

3:16 p.m. — A bike was reported missing on Ninth Street. It was found.

4:38 p.m. — A gazing ball and stand were reported stolen from a front yard within the past week from a residence on Hennepin Avenue N. The gazing ball is red and clear-striped like a marble, and the stand is black and has a shelf on the bottom with some marigolds on it.

6:07 p.m. — An officer responded to a dog complaint on Ford Avenue N. The owner put the dog in the house.

6:21 p.m. — An officer responded to a dog complaint on 13th Street E. The owner was advised of the complaint, and said they will put the dogs in the house.

7:55 p.m. — An officer responded to a report of possible illegal burning on 11th Street E. The officer spoke to the owner of the residence.

FRIDAY, AUG. 26

12:45 a.m. — Officers responded to a "pushing match" on Greeley Avenue.

1:51 a.m. — Officers responded to suspicious activity on Park Street W.

4:20 a.m. — Officers responded to suspicious activity on 10th Street E.

10:42 a.m. — An officer responded to a child custody issue on 15th Street E.

11:59 p.m. — An officer responded to a child custody issue on 14th Street E.

11:42 p.m. — A citation was issued at a traffic stop in the area of Ninth Street E and McLeod Avenue N.

SATURDAY, AUG. 27

5:31 a.m. — A citation for speeding was issued at a traffic stop in the area of Highway and Falcon Avenue.

2:52 p.m. — A citation for expired license plates was issued at a traffic stop on Highway 212 near Chandler Avenue.

6:43 p.m. — Officers respond-

ed to a disturbance on 15th Street E.

9:35 p.m. — An officer responded to a neighbor dispute regarding driving conduct on Eighth Street E. A person was warned about driving fast through the neighborhood.

9:57 p.m. — Officers assisted the sheriff's office with a python snake that was found in the county park on 100th Street. The snake was captured.

11:29 p.m. — Officers responded to a possible juvenile issue at an undisclosed location. Everything was fine.

SUNDAY, AUG. 28

12:14 a.m. — An officer responded to a barking dog in a parking lot on Ninth Street E. They were asked to leave.

3:01 a.m. — A report was received of a person "hunched over on the sidewalk in front of the bank" on 11th Street E near Hennepin Avenue N. The person was fine, just resting after skating.

10:21 a.m. — An officer assisted the ambulance with a medical on Morningside Drive.

10:37 a.m. — An officer responded to a barking dog complaint on Judd Avenue N.

8:16 p.m. — An accident was reported in the area of 13th Street E and Hennepin Avenue N. A state trooper witnessed the accident and wrote the report.

9:42 p.m. — Officers assisted the Minnesota State Patrol, which stopped a vehicle in the area of Highway 22 and 125th Street, and arrested the driver for driving under the influence.

MONDAY, AUG. 29

7:53 a.m. — A citation was issued for speeding and a verbal warning given for a stop sign violation at a traffic stop in the area of Russell Avenue N and 16th Street.

8:09 a.m. — Officers assisted the ambulance with a medical on Newton Avenue.

8:13 a.m. — Officers provided assistance to a person retrieving items on 11th Street W.

3:47 p.m. — Officers responded to a report of a missing person on Basswood St. W.

8:52 p.m. — A wallet was reported lost on 10th Street E.

9:04 p.m. — Officers assisted the sheriff's office in trying to find a suspicious person who was reported to be in the area of Dairy Avenue and Highway 212. They were unable to locate the individual.

Snake Continued from page 1

it was, we thought it must be either a python or a boa constrictor."

The boys headed home and showed their pictures to their dad, Scott, who verified that it was indeed not a corn or gopher snake.

Scott returned to the park with Paul and Danny to look at the snake himself.

Then they called the sheriff's office, and a couple of deputies came out.

"At first, they were kind of joking about who was going to have pick it up," said Paul. "No one wanted to touch it."

Then, the officers started "Googling" how to capture a snake.

"They ended up getting a blanket from one of the squad cars, and someone else ran back to town and got a dog cage," said Paul. "They ended up throwing the snake and the blanket into the cage."

Paul said it is believed that the snake was a tame pet that either had gotten loose or had been abandoned.

A few days earlier, Paul said, there had been a report of a large snake in a tree near Highway 212. They believe

the snake made its way across the creek into the park.

The sheriff's office turned the snake over to the Minnesota Herpetological Society. If the owner doesn't claim it, it will be put up for adoption.

Paul Eckhoff was probably one of very few employees who was anxious to get to work Monday.

"I couldn't wait to tell people about it," he laughed. "It was a once in a lifetime experience."

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County Board moves ahead with grant app

Our view: Grant money is preferred over local dollars, but issues remain

Residents in McLeod County seem to be pretty well split on whether developing trails should be a priority for our commissioners and our taxpayers.

If McLeod County is going to pursue trail development, we would all much rather see it done with grant dollars rather than out of our own pockets, which is why we appreciate the fact that the County Board is seeking a Legacy Fund grant for improving the Dakota Trail.

As one resident at Tuesday's meeting pointed out, if those grant dollars were not available, our commissioners would not even be talking about whether or not we should improve the trail.

Once again, much of the debate revolved around whether or not the trail should be paved. Paving was a hinge pin issue with the Luce Line Trail a few years ago, and bitterness over the \$500,000 the county committed to that project has lingered into the current proposal.

We need to remember that only a small part of the improvements planned for the Dakota involves paving. There also is a significant amount of bridge, road-bed preparation and drainage work to be done, as well as some screening in sensitive areas. Of the \$3.6 million expected costs to improve the trail, about \$900,000 is estimated for the actual paving.

Of course, nearly a million dollars is nothing to sneeze at. But it was made quite clear Tuesday that the state will unlikely fund the full request, although the state asked for a comprehensive application to prepare for future needs.

But there were some legitimate questions raised at the meeting

that need to be addressed. If the county is awarded a grant, there needs to be contingency plans in place to address those. And those plans need to start now, not when the state announces whether or not it is awarding a grant for the trail.

First, we agree that those who use the trails need to contribute to maintenance costs. If the plan is to get donations, assess a user fee or require a permit, those funding mechanisms for maintenance need to be put into place.

Second, although the Dakota Trail plan was recently adopted, the committee needs to take into consideration the concerns raised by the equestrians at Tuesday's meeting, either by adapting the plan or finding other areas in the county to meet their need to be able to ride their horses safely.

Third, if the grant is not fully funded — and there seems to be little confidence that it will be — the plan needs to be adapted for a phase-in of planned improvements.

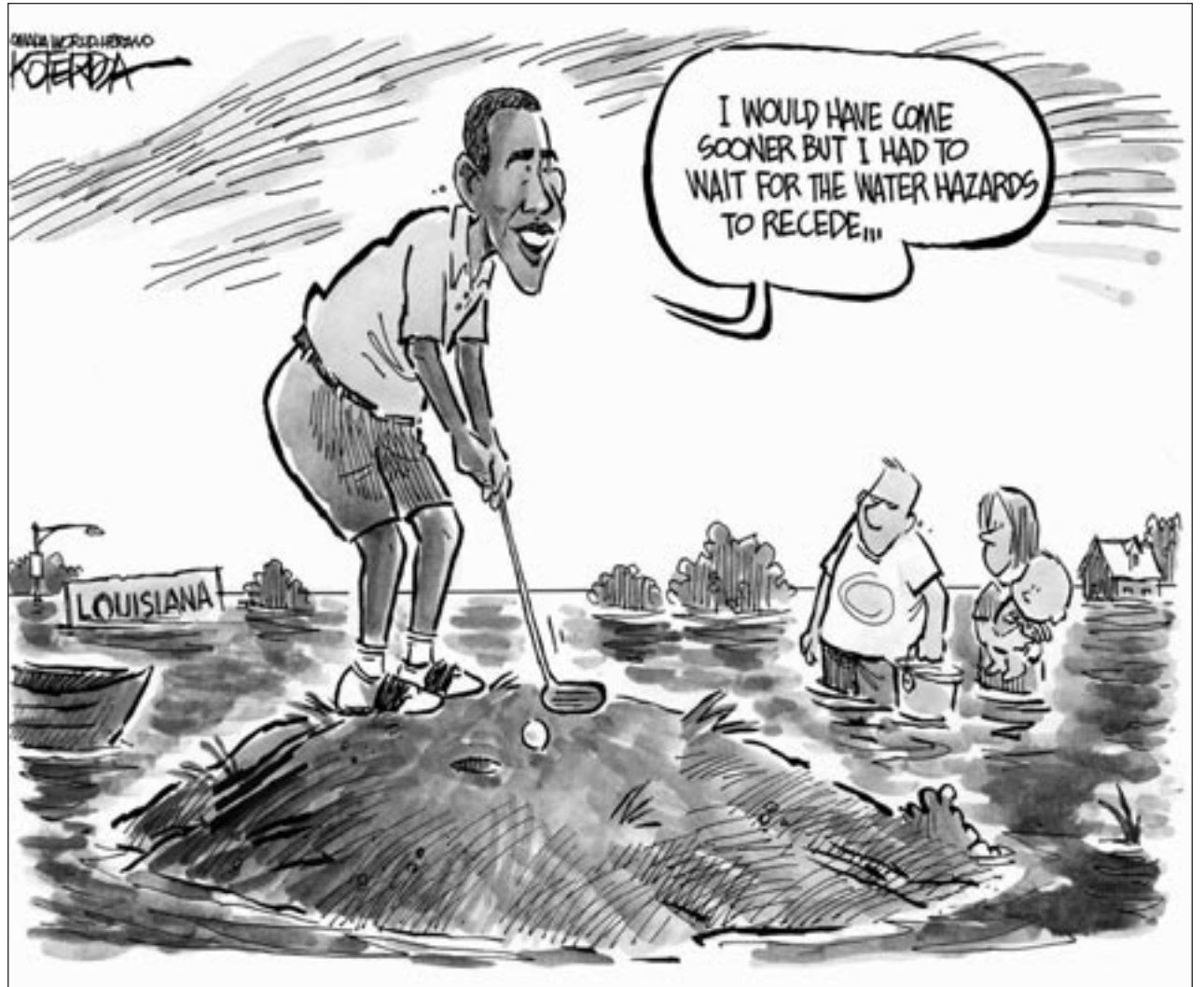
The county should have until next summer to address the issues raised at the meeting.

We do believe that recreational trails are of a benefit to many citizens, but they ought not take budgetary priority over such items as roads and bridges.

Which is why we appreciate that grant funds are being sought for trail improvements, rather than plucking dollars out of local pockets.

And we believe that the issues raised can be adequately addressed so that the planned improvements — if funded by a grant — can move forward in an orderly, economical manner.

— L.C.



Pelted by nuts; and a school update

I was standing there admiring our newest acquisition — a Weber grill from Hite Hardware. It was nice and shiny and replaces an older one that was blown over and broken in a recent wind storm.

As I was admiring the new shiny toy, it happened. A nut bounced off my head and onto the grill. My son Andrew was in stitches.

It wasn't that funny! Where's my helmet? It's not the first time it has happened, and it wasn't the last ... that day.

A bit later, we were testing the grill with hamburgers. Without my helmet, I opted to grill one-handed. One hand on the spatula, and the other covering my noggin. Sure enough, a nut from about 20 feet up fell right onto the back of my covering hand. It stung a bit, but it was better than the one that bounced off my head.

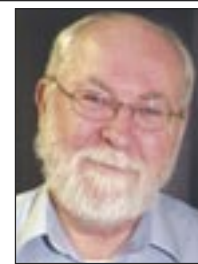
All the while I was grilling, squirrels in the overhead branches were peeling and eating the nuts off the trees, shucking the shells in my direction. The nuts and shells were everywhere, and I had just cleaned the same area.

I always vow to get even, but I know it is a false threat. The dang buck-toothed vermin have more ammo in their arsenal than I do.

Back to the drawing board, with a more urgent need to find that helmet.

Changing topics, one question I hear a lot is what's going on at the school construction site? Folks, I'm retired, remember?

But curiosity got the better of me,



Rich Glennie

so I called Michelle Sander, GSL business manager. I told her people have asked me, so I called her.

"Why don't they call me?" she replied. I had no good answer to that.

In a nutshell, the \$25 million to \$26 million addition-remodeling project at GSL has been hampered by state permits, or lack of permits, extensive infrastructure work and the rains.

Sander said the state approvals have been running about six weeks behind on all the school projects around the state, and not just GSL's project. Why? Not enough state personnel to cover them all, Sander said.

Often the GSL project gets partial permits for some of the work, and then halts until the final approval. "It's frustrating," she added.

While the public only sees mounds of dirt being moved back and forth, Sander said a lot of infrastructure work is being done, including the replacement of the boilers in both the Lincoln Junior High and high school buildings. The new boilers should be up and running by mid-

October.

Another issue is connecting the buildings, which have different elevations, she said.

Foundation block laying was supposed to start last week and the pre-cast walls were scheduled to go up this week, but that, too, may be delayed. Sander said when the 165-foot crane is on site, the walls will be going up shortly thereafter.

Asked about staying in the Helen Baker Elementary School longer than this school year, Sander admitted that may happen. "At least we have a place to stay," she added, because the building has not been sold.

As to the replaced eight-inch sewer line north and east of the high school property needed to address drainage issues, Sander said that has not been completed yet, but all the permits finally have been obtained. Now the area is too wet.

As to the city's plans to shut off the back flow of water between the city and school holding ponds near Pryor Avenue, Sander said the city's plan is not helpful.

Nor is the city's plan to charge the school district hefty water access (WAC) and sewer access (SAC) fees for the project.

WAC/SAC are generally charged for new developments. Apparently, the "spitting war" between the city and school district continues. Last I heard, both sides are dealing with our tax dollars.

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

You can
vote
online at www.glencoenews.com

Question of the week

Neighboring cities are hearing requests for dog parks.
Does the Glencoe area need one?

- 1) Yes.
- 2) No.
- 3) I don't know.

Results for most recent question:

If McLeod County is awarded a grant and paves the Dakota Trail, how should maintenance costs be paid?

- 1) Through general levy dollars — 12%
- 2) With user fees or permits — 19%
- 3) Donations from organizations — 7%
- 4) A combination of all of the above — 12%
- 5) Don't pave it — 50%

68 votes. New question runs Aug. 31-Sept. 6.



Feel strongly about an issue?

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

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

Guest Column:

The real cost of the EpiPen price hike

By U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar

There's a cost that comes with the 450 percent increase in the price of EpiPens.

Parents worry that they won't be able to afford their child's medication. They drive to pharmacies miles away from their homes just to get the best deal on EpiPens. School nurses watch as families weigh the risk of sending their child to school without this life-saving medication because they cannot afford it.

I heard from one family whose child's allergy is so severe that it takes two EpiPens to treat an allergic reaction. That means the family has to pay for two EpiPens for

school, two more to have at home, and an additional two for the grandparents' home. Sure, it's expensive. But they do it because the alternative is terrifying. I experienced that firsthand.

My daughter Abigail is one of millions of Americans who suffer from a life-threatening allergy. I'll never forget the scary day we discovered Abigail's nut allergy. She had eaten a cashew and suddenly started to swell up. We were worried her throat would close as we rushed her to the emergency room. She now carries an EpiPen with her everywhere.

The EpiPen saves lives and pro-

vides peace of mind for patients and parents. However, an alarming and unjustified rise in the price of this medication has put lifesaving treatment out of reach for many of the consumers who need it most.

In 2009, two EpiPens cost \$100. Now, Mylan Pharmaceuticals is charging as much as \$600. And as anyone who relies on an EpiPen knows, that \$600 isn't a one-time expense. EpiPens must be replaced every year whether they are used or not, because the medication in the device expires.

Klobuchar

Turn to page 5

The McLeod County **Chronicle**

Founded in 1898 as The Lester Prairie News. Postmaster send address changes to: McLeod Publishing, Inc. 716 E. 10th St., P.O. Box 188, Glencoe, MN 55336. Phone 320-864-5518 FAX 320-864-5510.

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Letters
The McLeod County Chronicle welcomes letters from readers expressing their opinions. All letters, however, must be signed. Private thanks, solicitations and potentially libelous letters will not be published. We reserve the right to edit any letter. A guest column is also available to any writer who would like to present an opinion in a more expanded format. If interested, contact the editor. loric@glencoenews.com.

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

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



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

Guest Column:

Media has a role in democracy

By Lee H. Hamilton

Politicians spend a good bit of their time complaining about the media. But why should they have all the fun?

I'm going to join in, though I tend to get upset about different things than most sitting politicians do. You see, I don't actually mind when journalists — whether in print, on television or online — treat what politicians say with skepticism. That means they're doing their jobs.

But this doesn't happen nearly as much these days as it should. The media today are less objective, more ideological, and much showier than it once was. What you see can be eye-catching — both the graphics and the personalities — but it is also brash and relentlessly self-promoting. A lot of journalists don't just want to report the news, they want to be players and affect policy. They see politics as a blood sport, often exaggerating the differences among players.

As one observer said, the media are drawn to "superficiality, sensationalism, scandal, and sleaze." They're all too happy to seize on small points of contention and fan them into major points of discord. They make building a consensus — the key task of the democratic process — much harder.

The field has been moving in this direction over decades, and there's a reason for it: all these changes have been well received by the public. They draw viewers, readers and clicks. And they've encouraged consumers to pay attention only to the sources that reflect and broadcast their own viewpoint.

I don't want to be a fogey here. Yes, I grew up in the days of Edward R. Murrow and Walter Cronkite, and I still think they were solid journalists, but what I miss is not the voice-of-authority-from-on-high that's so often associated with them. Instead, what I too often find lacking now is the spirit that drove the profession in those days. I think the news media had a sense of responsibility to make representative democracy function. Journalists imbued their work with a palpable sense that they were involved in a public service.

There are still really excellent journalists out there who are doing their best to serve both their profession and the country. Every day they struggle to make sense of enormously complex events. What they understand — and what I wish more of their colleagues believed — is that democracy demands journalism that improves its workings. Properly done, journalism can bridge differences, help consensus emerge, improve the knowledge and judgment of voters, and sharpen the performance of public officials and government as a whole.

In the end, the democratic process is about overcoming disagreement. This is virtually impossible without a solid base of information and analysis.

Governing well is immensely difficult, and good journalism can keep government open and honest — which serves not just the voters, but politicians who are trying to resolve the problems facing the country. Journalists can and should be watchdogs, keeping a watchful eye on politicians — what

they do, what they say ... and what they don't do or say. They should serve not just the elites, but the underdogs and have-nots in society.

The independence of our press was hard to win, and it's vital that we sustain it. People must have sources they can rely on in order to make our system work. Our democracy needs well-informed citizens making decisions based on facts about both policies and politicians.

This means that the model of the journalist that seems to be going out of fashion — reporters who were reasonably objective, independent of outside groups, and even independent of their company's owners — is actually crucial to representative government. Curious, skeptical journalists who point out inconsistencies, draw attention to mistakes, call out misleading statements, and identify outright lies serve a larger purpose: they provide citizens what they need to know in order to be a good citizen, and public officials what they need in order to do their work well.

This is quite an ideal, especially in this age of economic turmoil within the media universe. But I don't think it's too much to hope that as the profession sorts out its future, it takes seriously its leadership role in advancing the public good, and doesn't sacrifice its part in making representative democracy work properly.

Lee Hamilton is a senior adviser for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

New educator introduces herself

It is with great honor and excitement that I get the opportunity to serve as the Extension educator in agriculture and horticulture for McLeod and Meeker counties! For those of you who I have not met yet, my name is Karen Johnson, more commonly known in this area by my maiden name of Anderson.

Strongly rooted in agriculture, I was born and raised on my family's dairy farm in Lester Prairie. We currently milk 50 registered Guernsey cows and raise approximately 160 acres of cropland. Through this foundation, I gained a strong appreciation for agriculture which led me to get heavily involved in the McLeod County 4-H program. I continued my education by attending the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities to pursue a degree in animal science. After college, I worked for other dairy farmers both in Minnesota and Wisconsin before finding my place with Extension as the Agricultural Extension educator for Rice and Steele counties in February 2014. Now, I am excited to move back to my home area to serve the communities of McLeod and Meeker counties.

I'm truly looking forward to the challenge of creating Extension programming to best fit the needs of the various crop, livestock and horticulture industries within the counties. I hope I get the opportunity to meet many of you to discuss the role of Ex-



Farm Notes

By Karen Johnson

ension and how to best address the needs of the agriculture and horticulture communities. Feel free to call with questions, comments, or to personally introduce yourself by calling the McLeod County Extension Office at 320-484-4334 or the Meeker County Extension Office at 320-693-5275.

I'm truly excited to continue the outstanding tradition of Extension in McLeod and Meeker counties!

Women in Ag seminar

Source: Pauline Van Nuden, Extension educator — Ag Business Management.

Did you know every three days a child dies in an ag-related incident and 33 children are injured every day? If you are concerned about the safety and wellbeing of your family on the farm, then plan to attend the Women in Agriculture Fall Seminar being held in Morris. University of Minnesota Extension and USDA Farm Service Agency are hosting this event on Sept. 13 at the West Central Research and Outreach Center in the Ag Country Auditorium.

The focus of this quarter's seminar is Women Run the Farm: Understanding the Business and Keeping My

Family Safe. Our focus of the day will be farm safety and we will discuss creating a culture of safety on your farm, how to balance priorities, and will provide the opportunity to tour the West Central Research and Outreach Center to get new ideas for farming practices. The day will give attendees the opportunity to learn and network with other women in agriculture from the region. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., with the seminar convening from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Registration is required by Sept. 9 for this event. Please RSVP at: z.umn.edu/SafetyReg or contact Mary Jo Fox at 320-235-0726, extension 2001, or foxxx055@umn.edu. Cost for the program is \$20. Payment can be made the day of the event via cash, check, or credit card.

For more information regarding the seminar feel free to visit: z.umn.edu/SafetyProgram.

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

Klobuchar Continued from page 4

So what caused this dramatic price increase? Here's one possible answer: It's happened at the same time that Mylan has gained more market power.

Last fall, a competing drug was recalled from the market, and a generic version failed to receive approval this spring. That leaves people with severe allergies with no practical choice but the EpiPen. That's why, as ranking member of the Antitrust Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I have called on the committee and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to investigate these outrageous price increases.

Days after I called for these investigations, Mylan announced it would expand its EpiPen patient assistance programs. While this action by Mylan is welcome relief to many who are struggling to afford this lifesaving medication, it won't fully address the

root of the problem.

The burden of the EpiPen price increases and other prescription drug increases — including vital medications like insulin and Naxalone — persists for American families, taxpayers, and employers. We cannot rely on public outcry as the only solution to high prescription drug prices. And I've introduced multiple pieces of legislation that would help protect American consumers from the rising prices of prescription drugs.

EpiPen packs cost hundreds of dollars less in Canada; Sen. John McCain and I have introduced legislation that would help Minnesota families save money. The Safe and Affordable Drugs from Canada Act would require the Food and Drug Administration to establish a personal importation program that would allow people to import a 90-day supply of prescription drugs from an

approved Canadian pharmacy.

Other bills I've introduced would change current laws that give pharmaceutical companies the upper hand in bargaining prices for prescription medication, expand access to cost-saving generic drugs, and deter pharmaceutical companies from blocking cheaper generic alternatives from entering the marketplace.

It's this simple: If you have a life-threatening illness then you should have access to affordable lifesaving medicine. But with the price of EpiPens on the rise, that's not the case for many who suffer from severe allergies. The cost for families is too high. That's why I'm going to keep fighting to bring the price of prescription drugs down.

Amy Klobuchar, is a U.S. senator from Minnesota.



Submitted photo

GHS class of 1961 reunites

The 1961 graduating class of Glencoe High School met Saturday, Aug. 13, at Dubbs Grill and Bar to celebrate their 55-year class reunion. Those attending were, front row from left, Barb (Drew) Oelfke, Rosalyn (Wagener) Bailey, Marge (Proehl) Schmidt, Bob Schuetz, Pete Stibal, Betty (Winter) Haubner, Carol (Stuedemann) Heldt and Mary

(Wuetherich) Fylling; middle row, Larry Olson, Ken Oelfke, Rich Cohrs, Karen (Schwartzrock) Schultz, Darrel Alesleben, Elaine (Cohrs) White, Ed Schmidt, Diana (Lindeman) Meyer and Jan (Schlueter) Klockner; and, back row, Howard Schuette, Gary Schuff, Phyllis (Henschel) Christensen, Don Wolff and Jerry Wolter.

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

People

Son born to Glencoe family

Lizzet and Guadalupe Hernandez of Glencoe announce the arrival of a son, Ismael E. Hernandez, born Aug. 19, 2016, at Hutchinson Health. Ismael weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 19½ inches long at birth. He is welcomed home by siblings Laysha, Franky and Brandon. Grandparents are Maria and Ruben Arandia of Glencoe and Juana and Juan Hernandez of Brownsville, Texas.

Konen wins \$5,000 in lottery

Shannon Konen of Silver Lake won \$5,000 playing the Big Money game in the Minnesota State Lottery. Konen claimed the prize on Aug. 24. The winning ticket was purchased at Watertown Fuel & Food.

Daughter born to Ortloffs

Tyler and Kaitlyn Ortloff of Glencoe announce the birth of a daughter, Brooklynn Elizabeth Ortloff, born Monday, Aug. 22, 2016, at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Brooklynn weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces, and was 18 inches long at birth. She joins a sister, Josephine. Grandparents are Jim and Kelly Majchrzak of Litchfield, Jackie and Jamie Hicks of Litchfield, and Kimberly and Thomas Wilson of Rapid City, South Dakota.

Son born to Vollmer family

Darren and Joelynn Vollmer of Buffalo Lake announce the arrival of a son, Liam John Vollmer, born Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2016, at Glencoe Regional Health Services. Liam weighed 9 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 20½ inches long at birth. He joins siblings Blayke and Jesse Vollmer. Grandparents are Darrol and Karmel Vollmer of Brown-ton and John and Mary Betker of Stewart.

Samantha Rudy graduates

Samantha H. Rudy of Glencoe graduated from the University of Central Missouri in May. More than 1,000 students met their graduation requirements and were eligible to participate in the ceremonies. Rudy graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

Popelka, Jacques attend CUF convention Aug. 6

Carmen Popelka and Joanne Jaques represented the Holy Family Catholic United Council of St. Pius X Church in Glencoe at the 133rd convention of Catholic United Financial (formerly Catholic Aid Association) Aug. 6. The convention was held at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, and there were 260 delegates present.

Bishop John LeVoi of New Ulm opened the convention with Mass, followed by reports from Harold Bormann, president and chair of the board.

The keynote speaker was Joe Schmit, sportscaster for KSTP-TV, Channel 5, who spoke about his new book, "Silent Impact," saying, "we make our biggest impact when we're not trying. We must live a life of integrity

and values."

Catholic United Financial (CUF) had a good year despite low interest rates. Membership in CUF gives access to insurance and a variety of financial products.

Members volunteer in a variety of ways, fundraising for Catholic churches and schools, packaging personal care products for those affected by natural disasters and the homeless, and cleaning up after natural disasters and floods. Members also are eligible for scholarships and seminarians can receive grants.

The afternoon included interesting workshops and the election of three people to the board: Jean Hart of Cold Spring, Robert Krattenmaker of New London and Marty Seifert of Marshall.

Death

Brandon Randt, 29, of Garfield

Brandon Randt, 29, of Garfield, formerly of Hutchinson, son of Darryl Randt of Madison Lake and Christine and Jon Carrigan of Hutchinson, died Saturday, Aug. 27, 2016.

The funeral service will be Thursday, Sept. 1, at 1 p.m., at Zion Lutheran Church in Alexandria, with interment in Evergreen Cemetery in Alexandria.

Visitation will be Wednesday, Aug. 31, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Anderson Funeral Home in Alexandria, and one hour prior to the service at the church on Thursday.

19 Brownton seniors met on Monday

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

Winning at cards were Bernetta Alsleben, first, and Gladys Rickert, second, 500; Leone Kujas, first, and Ruby Streich, second, pinochle; and Lowell Brelje, first, and Harriett Bergs, second, sheephead.

Verona Katzenmeyer won the door prize. Ordell Schmidt served refreshments.



Submitted photo

Senior queen and king

Loretta Ide and Sam Shimanski, back row, past queen and king of the McLeod County Senior Citizens, crowned Alice Olson and Archie Diehn, seated, the 2016 king and queen at the annual summer potluck and meeting July 20 at Lester Prairie. Seniors from the Brownton, Silver Lake, Lester Prairie and Glencoe senior clubs were represented at the event.

Business

Dammann joins MidCountry Bank as mortgage sales rep

Greg Krenz, president of MidCountry Mortgage, announces the newest member of the MidCountry Bank Mortgage team, Ryan Dammann.



Dammann

As a mortgage sales representative, Dammann will concentrate on providing hands-on guidance for customers to make their experience like no other. His expertise with a wide range of mortgage options from first-time home buyer programs to portfolio products positions him to find just the

right mortgage for each customer.

"Ryan is committed to collaborating with, and listening to the customer," said Krenz. "His broad product knowledge and his ambition to find the right product for each customer make him a great asset to our mortgage team and a superior guide for the customer."

Dammann has over 10 years of experience in the mortgage industry, most recently in consumer and mortgage lending with First Minnesota Bank in Hutchinson.

MidCountry Bank is a full-service bank with administrative headquarters in Bloomington and a regional presence in Minnesota, Southern Illinois and Nevada.

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Weather Corner

By Jake Yurek

It seems like the weather gods have had their timing off lately as the work weeks have been great with the weekends being slightly suspect. That trend will unfortunately continue for this extended holiday weekend as rain chances increase late Saturday into Sunday and Monday.

Let me touch on the good part of the forecast first. Highs from Tuesday through Friday should stay in the 70s to 80, with plenty of sun and lower humidity than we saw over this past weekend.

Then, as we move into the weekend, our high-pressure ridge will move off and allow for more moisture to filter back into the area. Late Saturday through early next week could be an active period, but it will all depend on timing of individual systems and what time of day they come through. Some models are hinting at 1 to 2 inches of rain from Saturday night through Monday, so I'm hoping that can push a little further south like models are trending to do. A good chunk of Saturday is looking AOK, though, so hopefully we can salvage that day and maybe get lucky with a pattern change from the time I'm writing this to the weekend.

Sorry for the not-so-pleasant news on this Labor Day weekend, you just can't win 'em all, I guess. Have a great week, everyone; enjoy the long weekend. Area schools are sort of all over the place with when they start so I'll just say this week ... welcome back to school!

Ma dobry weekendem

Mit dobry vikend

Wednesday night — Lows 52-58; clear.
Thursday — Highs 71-77, lows 54-59, mostly clear.
Friday — Highs 71-77, lows 57-63; mostly clear.
Saturday — Highs 75-82, lows 60-66; partly cloudy with a chance of late thunder.
Sunday — Highs 75-83; clouds with rain and thunder (into Monday as well).

Weather Quiz: We're heading towards a La Nina winter — what does this mean for us and others around the country?

Answer to last week's question (What are some of September's weather extremes?): Highest temperature, 104 degrees on Sept. 10, 1931; lowest temperature, 26 degrees in 1939, 1942 and 1974; most precipitation, 4.96 inches on Sept. 12, 1903; most snowfall, 1.7 inches on Sept. 26, 1942. The average high goes from 77 degrees at the start of the month to 65 degrees by month's end.

Remember: I make the forecast, not the weather!

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Community Calendar

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

Mon., Sept. 5 — **LABOR DAY;** Tops Weigh-In mtg., 5-5:30 p.m.

Tues., Sept. 6 — Brownton City Council, 7 p.m.

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

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Obituaries

Darvin D. Zieman, 77, of Hutchinson

Darvin Dale Zieman, 77, of Hutchinson, died Saturday, Aug. 20, 2016, at Glencoe Regional Health Services Long Term Care.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Aug. 25, at Peace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson with the Rev. Gerhard Bode officiating. Dr. Joan DeVeve Dixon was the organist. Soloist Bobbi Ludewig sang "What a Wonderful World." Congregational hymns were "Here I Am, Lord" and "On Eagle's Wings."

Casket bearers were Rick Karl, Bob Barka, Ryan Zieman, Jake Zieman, Norain Peterson and Arlan Riebe. Honorary bearers were the Hutchinson Fire Department.

Interment was in Oakland Cemetery in Hutchinson.

Darvin Dale Zieman was born Sept. 14, 1938, in Hutchinson, the son of Martin and Mabel (Kottke) Zieman. He was baptized as an infant and was confirmed in his faith as a youth at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Stewart. He received his education in Stewart.

On July 15, 1961, he was

united in marriage to Carol Ann Malchow at the St. Anastasia Catholic Church Library in Hutchinson. Their marriage was blessed with three children, Dale, Debra and Rick. The couple resided in Hutchinson, and shared 55 years of marriage.

Mr. Zieman was employed as an outside plant employee for Hutchinson Telephone Company in Hutchinson for 38 years. He retired in 2003. He was a member of Peace Lutheran Church in Hutchinson. He also was a member of the McLeod County Fair Board for 42 years, a volunteer member of the Hutchinson Fire Department for 23 years, a lifetime member of the Gopher Campfire Club in Hutchinson, and a lifetime member of the Harley Owners Group.

He loved being outdoors and took pride in their "Sunny Acres Game Farm" in rural Hutchinson, where he raised deer and game birds and farmed for years. He also took time out to enjoy his hunting, fishing, camping and bowling trips. He also enjoyed playing cards, motorcycling and classic cars. He was a member of the Saturday Night Cruisers and Gas Holes Car Club. He especially enjoyed the time spent with his wife, children, grandchildren and great-granddaughter.

He is survived by his wife,

Carol Ann Ziemann of Hutchinson; children, Dale (Shari) Zieman of Hutchinson, Debra (Brett) Guthmiller of Maple Grove and Rick Zieman and his significant other, Sarah Gray Johnson, of Chaska; grandchildren, Bradley Zieman, Jessica Zieman, Breanna Guthmiller, Chantle Guthmiller, Derek Guthmiller, Kassandra Zieman and Benjamin Zieman; great-granddaughter, Keola Guthmiller-Burns; stepmother, Marilyn Zieman of Hutchinson; sisters and brothers-in-law, Janice and Delbert Klabunde of Spring Park and Patricia and Charles Schmidt of Hutchinson; brother and sister-in-law, Curtis and Pamela Zieman of Florida; sister-in-law, Sharon Zieman of Hutchinson; stepsisters and their husbands, Debra and Kevin Klima, Catherine and Robert Boettcher, Sandra and Troy Fregine, Tammy and Mark Fisher, Lynn and Kevin Lewis and Susan and Bruce Olsen; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Martin Zieman; mother, Mabel Zieman; and brother, Gary Zieman.

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

by his first wife, Gladys G. Fontilla (neé Jerabek); son, Jonathan J. Fontilla; parents, Joseph and Mary Fontilla; infant sister, Helen Fontilla; sisters, Anna Mickelson, Julia Gardner and Mary Kostelnik; and brothers, Joseph L. Fontilla and Michael Fontilla.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Glen Cary Lutheran Church.

Arrangements were with the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake.

Lawrence Albert Biermann, 88, of NYA

Lawrence Albert Biermann, 88, of Norwood Young America, died Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2016, at his home at The Harbor in Norwood Young America.

Funeral services were held Friday, Aug. 26, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Norwood Young America with the Rev. Eric Hutchison officiating. Rita Luecke was the organist. Soloist Todd Bentz sang "The Lord's My Shepherd" and "The Lord's Prayer." Special music was "How Great Thou Art" with Doug Stuedeman playing the saxophone and Linda Stuedeman playing the piano. Congregational hymns were "Softly and Tenderly" and "Amazing Grace."

Casket bearers were Adam McDonald, Christopher Biermann, Jonathan Biermann, Aron Teppo, Justin Schuster, Quintin Biermann, Spencer Biermann and Lincoln Biermann.

Interment was in the St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery in Helen Township, Glencoe.

Lawrence Albert Biermann was born July 13, 1928, in Glencoe, the son of Albert and Minnie (Templin) Biermann. He was baptized Aug. 5, 1928, and confirmed in his faith March 29, 1942, both by the Rev. Dysterheft at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Helen Township. He grew up on the family farm and attended school in District 39.

He was united in marriage to Ruth Horrmann on Nov. 21, 1946. They made their home on Mr. Biermann's family farm in Helen Township, where he engaged in farming with his father and

also served as the township constable. The couple was blessed with five children, Bruce, Kathleen, Bradford, Patrice and Brian, and enjoyed nearly 70 years of marriage.

From 1958 to 1963, the couple owned and operated Lawrence's Bar in Glencoe, where they had countless good times with friends and family, the stories of which he told for decades to come. In 1963, Mr. Biermann began work as a boiler man and engineer for Bongards Creamery, where he worked until retirement. The family moved to their home in Norwood in 1967, and the couple moved to The Harbor at Peace Village in 2014.

Mr. Biermann loved to hunt and fish, and eagerly looked forward to deer hunting in Cook, a trip that took place every year for over 50 years. As a youth, he was actively involved in 4-H, and continued to serve as a leader as an adult. As a proud father and grandfather, he attended countless numbers of band and choir concerts, theater productions and sporting events. His pride in his children and grandchildren was made evident by his loud cheering, his laughing smile and his teary eyes. He enjoyed going dancing with his wife, spending time at the family cabin on Lake Koronis, having morning coffee at Midtown Café, and visiting with everyone he met, whether it was at the post office, the grocery store or, most frequently, on the front porch of his home.

More than anything, Mr. Biermann was a servant of the church. He was blessed with a magnificent singing voice, which he shared as a soloist for over 1,000 funerals and 850 weddings. He served two terms as the chairman of the congregation at St. John's Lutheran Church in Young America, where he also was

chairman of the building committee and chairman of the stewardship committee. He also served as chairman for the Crusader Crusade, and faithfully supported Mayer Lutheran High School.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Biermann of Norwood Young America; children, Bruce Biermann of Hopkins, Kathleen (John) Kearney of Prior Lake, Bradford (Sara) Biermann of Mound, Patrice Thomas of Litchfield and Brian (Kari) Biermann of Hamburg; eight grandchildren, Jessica (Adam) McDonald of Shakopee, Christopher Biermann (fiancee Sehaj Sethi) of Astoria, New York, Jonathan (Laura) Biermann of Hopkins, Valerie (Aron) Teppo of Petersburg, North Dakota, Stephanie (Justin) Schuster of Buffalo, Quintin Biermann (fiancee Meghan Dohman) of Roslyn, South Dakota, Spencer Biermann of Fort Bliss, Texas, and Lincoln Biermann of Roslyn, South Dakota; great-grandchildren, Duncan McDonald, Jaemon McDonald, Ewan McDonald, Caroline McDonald and Jasper Biermann; sister, Rose Kroeger of Lake Crystal; sister-in-law, Harriett Bergs of Glencoe; nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Minnie Biermann; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Paul and Lila Horrmann; son-in-law, Lane Thomas; siblings and their spouses, Helen and Otto Lindeman, Luvena and Arnold Thiesfeld, Marie and Hillard Boltmann and Allen and Corrine Biermann; and brothers-in-law, Martin Kroeger and Maynard Bergs.

Arrangements were with the Paul-McBride Funeral Chapel in Norwood Young America. Online obituaries and guest book are available at www.hantge.com.

John Vernon Fontilla, 85, of Ham Lake

John Vernon Fontilla, 85, of Ham Lake, died peacefully Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Aug. 30, at Glen Cary Lutheran Church in Ham Lake with the Rev. Gary Guptill officiating. Interment with military rites was held at the Presbyterian Cemetery in Silver Lake.

John Fontilla was born Sept. 7, 1930, in Byesville, Ohio, the son of Joseph and Mary (Sulin) Fontilla.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Storlie-Fontilla; children, Deborah L. (Daniel) Creelman, Julayne G. (Patrick) Jin and Dwight D. (Michiko) Fontilla; stepchildren, Jody (David) Higgins, Mark (Cindy) Storlie; eight grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; one stepgreat-grandchild; sister, Pauline Parry; and many nieces, nephews, family and friends.

He was preceded in death

by his first wife, Gladys G. Fontilla (neé Jerabek); son, Jonathan J. Fontilla; parents, Joseph and Mary Fontilla; infant sister, Helen Fontilla; sisters, Anna Mickelson, Julia Gardner and Mary Kostelnik; and brothers, Joseph L. Fontilla and Michael Fontilla.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Glen Cary Lutheran Church.

Arrangements were with the Maresh Funeral Home in Silver Lake.

Outdoor Club meeting set for Sept. 11

Grace Bible Church of Silver Lake will host a special Outdoor Club meeting Sunday, Sept. 11, at 1 p.m., at the church.

This free informal get-together, titled Bow Hunting 101, will include the sharing of bow hunting tips by Jim Richardson and Dr. Tom Rakow. Neither would claim to be experts, but have spent a considerable amount of time in the field. Richards is a level two archery instructor

who has been hunting with a compound for over 25 years, and Rakow with either a recurve or longbow for about 45 years.

Bow Hunting 101 is especially designed for the person who wants to know how to get started bow hunting, or pick up some helpful hunting tips with regard to scouting, stalking, stand placement, and more. In addition, Richard McConnell will give a brief introduction to hunt-

ing with a crossbow.

The seminar will last about 1½ hours and includes a brief devotional time, presentation on the topic, a time for input, questions, and door prizes. Anyone any age is invited to attend, and there is no charge. The church is located in Silver Lake at 300 Cleveland St., next to the city water tower. The website is www.silverlakechurch.org.



I'm getting the flu vaccine.

— LuAnn Kalis, LPN
Glencoe Clinic

Getting a flu vaccination every fall makes it less likely that you'll get sick or pass the virus to others during the flu season ahead.

Flu vaccination dates:

Glencoe Clinic
1805 Hennepin Ave. N.
Mon., Sept. 19 5 pm – 7 pm
Mon., Sept. 26 5 pm – 7 pm

Stewart Clinic
300 Bowman St.
Wed., Sept. 21 5 pm – 7 pm

Lester Prairie Clinic
1024 Central Ave.
Thurs., Sept. 22 5 pm – 7 pm

Appointments are required. To schedule call 320-864-7816 or toll-free 1-800-869-3116. For more scheduling options visit grhsonline.org/flu.

Flu shots are covered at 100% under most insurance plans, including Medicare Part B.

Children over 6 months and under 9 years of age who have never received a flu vaccination before will need two doses administered at least four weeks apart. Please let our scheduler know if your child will be receiving the vaccine for the first time.



Glencoe Regional Health Services

GRHS0821A (8/16)

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Chronicle photo by Lori Copler

A new year at Faith Preschool

Faith Preschool in Silver Lake opened its new school year Monday with six students enrolled. From left to right are Lucas Schauer, Payton Lee, Karlson Buboltz, Kinsley Morris, Logan Just and Curtis Gilhousen.

Chronicle photos by Lori Copler

GRHS has disaster drill

Glencoe Regional Health Services conducted a disaster drill involving injuries to a large number of people on Tuesday, Aug. 23. The scenario involved a tornado touching down at Oak Leaf Park, injuring several Girl Scouts who were camping. Members of the Glencoe Area Girl Scouts agreed to act as patients. They were assessed by ambulance and hospital personnel and moved to appropriate areas for treatment. Above, a social worker responds to questions from parents Alisa Hanson, Cindy Patnaude and Stacy Dose. At right, personnel attend to "victim" Ellie Sonju. After the drill, personnel gathered and talked over ways to improve their responses if an actual disaster ever occurs.



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McLeod County
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West Conference Room, Glencoe City Center, 1107 11th St. E.



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