

LITCHFIELD Independent Review

\$1.50 ON NEWSSTANDS
A CROW RIVER MEDIA
NEWSPAPER
SINCE 1876

GYMNASTS SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

Dragons achieve highest
meet score since 2008 / 12



CREAMERY CRIME WAVE

75 years ago, thieves
hit area creameries / 6

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2021



Tyler Sundin, a Litchfield High School graduate, recently started a new job with a dairy delivery service, Dairy2U, bringing fresh-from-the-farm milk, as well as a host of other local products, direct to customers' doors.

STAFF PHOTOS BY BRENT SCHACHERER

One dead, two in jail following shooting

Investigation continues

BY BRENT SCHACHERER
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A rural Grove City man is dead and two Hutchinson men are in jail following a confrontation Friday night at an Acton Township residence.

Devon Rimmel, 42, died after being shot during a confrontation involving several individuals at a residence in the 26100 block of 545th Avenue, according to a news release from Meeker County Sheriff's Office. Deputies responded to a call at 10:42 p.m. and found Rimmel outside of the home with a gunshot wound. Rimmel died at the scene.

His death was ruled a homicide by the Midwest Medical Examiner's Office, according to the sheriff's office news release.

Christian Brown, 23, of Hutchinson was arrested without incident at 9:50 p.m. Monday on second degree murder and second degree assault as part of the ongoing homicide investigation.

Byron Jackson, 23, of Hutchinson was arrested Sunday and was held in Meeker County Jail on a charge of first degree assault, pending formal charges.

Hutchinson Police, McLeod County Sheriff's Office, State Patrol and Bloomington Police Department assisted the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the Meeker County Sheriff's Office with executing the warrants that led to the arrests in Hutchinson.

THE MILKMAN COMETH

Nostalgia, modern-day convenience merge with dairy delivery service

BY BRENT SCHACHERER
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He's too young to wax nostalgic over a delivery from the milkman back in his childhood.

But Tyler Sundin believes he's definitely old enough to see a good business opportunity when it comes along.

That's why the 24-year-old Litchfield High School graduate made the decision earlier this year to step into the role of milkman for Dairy2U, a company based in St. Cloud that is building its reputation on fresh local products and home-delivered convenience. And he's working on bringing the concept to Litchfield residents now.

"I was looking through ads online, and I found Dairy2U, and I just thought, 'This is cool!'" Sundin said. "I just thought it was an interesting opportunity, bringing products from local farms right to people's front door."

The company was founded in 2019 when Brad Hagfors bought out the St. Cloud area's last traditional milkman. Hagfors said he saw the



Dairy2U's marketing material relies heavily on the nostalgia of a milkman making home deliveries, but its approach makes use of online ordering and payment, and its main sales message is the fresh local products, a spokesman said.

Dairy2u to 2 >

No masking school board conflict

Former member accuses another of 'embarrassing' attendance at basketball game

BY BRENT SCHACHERER
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A simmering conflict between Litchfield School Board members – one former and one current – flared up again during the board's meeting Feb 22, with each demanding an apology from the other.



David Huhner

When Dave Huhner, who left the board when his term ended last year, spoke during the open comment period at the beginning of the meeting, he accused the "most COVID-concerned School Board member" of not following district and state guidelines when it comes to attendance at sporting events.

Though he didn't mention the board member by name during his monologue, it was quickly obvious that Huhner was referring to Greg Mathews. The two have sparred over COVID-19 guidelines almost since



Greg Mathews

the pandemic began, with Mathews choosing to "follow the science" and Huhner opposing mask mandates, school closures and other guidelines from health care agencies, as well as executive orders from Gov. Tim Walz.

Mathews, Huhner said, recently attended a basketball game at Litchfield High School. He did this despite district communication to parents that they were limited to two tickets per athlete and that total

School Board to 2 >

Township Day is grassroots democracy in action

Annual township meetings are March 9

BY STEPHEN WIBLEMO
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If you're one of approximately 914,174 residents living in one of Minnesota's 1,781 townships, your opportunity to be heard in local government is Tuesday, March 9, during Township Day.

This day marks annual meetings in which township residents meet to make their thoughts known on local issues, vote directly on annual tax levies and provide feedback to neighbors elected to make decisions at the local level regarding road work, fire protection, ditches and other concerns.

Some townships are holding elections for supervisor and treasurer positions, while others hold elections in November.

"Local government is alive and well at the grassroots level in townships," said David Gary Burdorf of Green Isle Township in Sibley County, the Minnesota Association of Townships Board of Directors president. "Voters will choose new local officers, and dedicated election judges will carry out these COVID-safe elections."

Following state guidance, masks are required at annual meetings this year, and social distancing of at least 6 feet will be observed.

To find your meeting time and location, see the list below.

Acton Township

Annual meeting: 3 p.m.

Elections: 4-8 p.m.

Supervisor election: three-year term

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