



VOLLEYBALL: Moose Lake/Willow River sets off on 2021 season . **P6**



JAMIE LUND | SUBMITTED

Willow Stangeland practices boxing with her coach, Jimmy "The Bull" Barnes at Front Street Training Center in Barnum. She spends hours practicing to prepare for the Silver Glove Championship in Kansas City, Kansas, August 30 - September 2.

Area teen fights to be Silver Glove Champion

BY JAMIE LUND
NEWS@HINCKLEYNEWS.COM

Willow Stangeland is excited for the opportunity to compete at the National Silver Glove Championship in Independence, Missouri, August 30 - September 2. The petite 14-year-old from Sturgeon Lake has only been boxing for one year. She joined a class at Front Street Training Center in Barnum and won both state and regional championships in the 110 weight class in 2021 in her first visit to the

competitions.

Stangeland's brown eyes sparkle as she talks about her chosen sport.

"Boxing is a pretty girly sport," Stangeland said as her coach laughed. "It's not as difficult as it seems. It takes brains and brawn."

She explained that she anticipates her opponents' moves quickly and reacts with her own moves equally fast. Her favorite part is sparring.

Stangeland said even though she is excited, she is also a little nervous about

competing at the national level.

"I always pray on the day of a fight competition," Stangeland said.

Her coach, Jimmy "The Bull" Barnes, listens as she talks. The 33-year-old purchased the space in Barnum when the pandemic hit in 2020. Barnes is a world-ranked professional Mixed Martial Arts boxer and has appeared on ESPN and at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, Nevada. He wanted to ensure that he could continue prac-

ticing after many businesses were ordered to close, including gyms.

The Pine County resident is a certified personal trainer. He decided to open his gym to the community and offer classes once businesses were allowed to reopen. The majority of his students range in age from 10 to 30 years-old. He has noticed an increase in female participants, which Barnes attributes to Stangeland and her success.

Sturgeon Lake loses two council members

ALANEA WHITE
EDITOR@MLSTARGAZETTE.COM

Sturgeon Lake City Council members Adam and Jessica Langhorst tendered their resignations from the council effective immediately during a closed session at the August 17, 2021.

"We felt that we could no longer be members of the council," said Jessica Langhorst.

The closed session followed the August 17 regular Sturgeon Lake City Council meeting. This session was closed citing Minnesota State Statute 13D.03 and 13D.05 "to discuss issues that are protected under Private Data to include Staff & council performance and security issues."

According to email correspondence with City Clerk Loreale Beede-Slocum, no motions were made during the closed session. Security issues being discussed were also reported as directly relating to staff evaluations.

Shoreland ordinance stirs debate with area businesses

BY JAMIE LUND
NEWS@HINCKLEYNEWS.CO

Two Sand Lake business representatives expressed concern that a proposed shoreland ordinance is too restrictive and could have a negative impact on shoreland property owners' future expansion projects, including businesses.

"The goal is not to stop businesses from doing what they want to do," said Skip Thomson, chairman of the Pine County Zoning board.

The representatives shared their concern about the proposed Pine County Shoreland Ordinance 2021-43 and the variance mitigation process with the board during the regular meeting on Thursday, Aug. 26.

Caleb Anderson, Pine County Land and Resource Manager, said the proposed ordinance came about due to the 2017 PC Comprehensive Plan. At that

time, economic development and protecting the county's natural resources rose to the top of the county priority list.

Anderson explained that property owners who intend to expand structures that do not conform to setback requirements from lakes and rivers must receive variances to do so. The contemplated variance mitigation requirements would only affect those property owners applying for such variances, said Anderson.

Shoreland is land located within 1,000 feet from the ordinary high water level of a lake, pond or flowage and 300 feet from a river or stream, according to the shoreland management ordinance website.

County lakeshore owners responded to a survey in February and expressed a concern and desire for increased protection of area lakeshores, said Anderson.

Sand Lake Resort owner

and attorney, Mark Lambert, said he was concerned about language in the ordinance and mitigation for the variance to the Pine County Board of Commissioners at their meeting in August. He suggested some language changes, some of which were implemented, said Anderson.

The commissioners sent the ordinance back to the zoning board to look at the language again.

Moose Lake Golf Club General Manager, Josh Gamst, addressed the zoning board with concerns about the strict variance mitigation process, as did Danielle Hoffman. She is part of the legal team for Sand Lake Resort.

Sand Lake is located in both Carlton and Pine Counties. Carlton County already has a similar ordinance and variance mitigation in place, as does neighboring Aitkin County.

Hoffman said that the proposed variance is more restrictive than the state Department of Natural Resources model.

"The biggest issue is the mitigation point system," said Hoffman. She said the DNR model is more flexible and offers options to work with the land owner. There are several expansion projects planned for the resort in the coming years.

Cities, counties or townships have the option to use the DNR model to help develop new ordinances or amend existing ordinances, according to the DNR website. The DNR model is not meant to be a freestanding set of regulations, but can be adopted as separate sections in existing zoning regulations.

"This is a very big change," Hoffman said. "It could have a big effect on both business owners and homeowners."

Anderson said the goal of the variance is to allow homeowners and business owners the

opportunity to make changes that are consistent with community goals by balancing the changes. For example, if a proposed expansion includes making a structure taller or larger, the owner can offer to screen the structure with trees. The proposed variance will then go in front of the zoning board for approval.

Anderson noted that the ordinance change will not affect many residents. He said the county has had one business request a variance in five or six years and estimates that the county may see two or three requests a year.

The board voted to table the variance mitigation portion until the next meeting in September.

For more information or questions about the new ordinance or mitigation, contact Anderson at caleb.anderson@co.pine.mn.us or call 320-591-1657.



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Hemp growers look to sprout third crop option for farmers

BY MIKE GAINOR
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

On Aug. 18, Regen Industrial Hemp USA – a new Pine County business – hosted a workshop at the Kunze family farm near Hinckley to talk to local farmers about the potential hemp holds for growers and manufacturers.

Regen CEO Jane Burnes Leverenz said the business is about creating a systems approach to growing, harvesting and processing industrial hemp into useful products.

“We’re here to get acquainted with industrial hemp and the different hybrid seeds and their properties – and to find out what is the future and the next third crop for farmers in America,” Leverenz said.

Leverenz and Lois Kunze grew a 22 by 70 foot test plot with three varieties of hemp plants

on it, and invited area producers to come see how a hemp crop could develop in just 80 days of growing in East Central Minnesota.

Officials from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota Extension and other agricultural nonprofits also came to find out more and offer support and information for interested hemp growers and manufacturers.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen, a Pine County resident, noted that there was once a hemp rope factory not far from the Kunze farm. However, for decades hemp was illegal to grow in Minnesota. That changed when the 2014 Farm Bill contained a provision for states to administer hemp pilot programs, and lawmakers passed the Minnesota Industrial Hemp Devel-

opment Act in 2015.

“I worked for many years to get the legislation passed for us to even grow hemp in Minnesota,” Petersen said.

“So it’s really exciting to see this. It could be a good niche third crop for many farmers. We have about 400 farmers in the state that are growing hemp. Some are smaller plots like this, and some are a couple of hundred acres.

“We’re bringing along the processing too,” Petersen added. “Farmers are figuring out how to grow it, but we’ll have to get the processing going along with it.”

While hemp has great potential for use in an enormous variety of products – from construction materials to clothing, and even in the fabrication of batteries – hemp growers need more companies to incorporate hemp into their goods in order to make it a reliably profitable crop.

“Early on we saw a lot of interest in CBD,” said Shannon Schlecht, executive director of the non-profit Agricultural Utilization Research Institute (AURI). “We’re seeing increased interest in the fiber, and in the food and the feed side.”

He noted that hemp still needs to be certified by the Association of American Feed Control Officials before it can be marketed as animal feed.

“It’s such a versatile crop,” Schlecht said.

“And it’s in its infancy yet. There is a lot of opportunity that exists [but] having assurances around a market, if you’re going to produce hemp, is pretty important.”

Leverenz said her company will contract with local hemp farmers and process their crops into components which can then be sent to manufacturers.

“Inside of these plants is a product called ‘bast’ which [can be made into] textiles and fiber, and ‘hurd’ which [can be made into] paper, plastics and building materials. The top is where the flowers and the biomass and the grain. So we want everybody to know what there is. What are the possibilities?”

Supporters of hemp are aware of the challenges they have to overcome, but are focused on the economic and environmental potential hemp offers for the future.

“It’s going to open up a third crop for the farm-



MIKE GAINOR | SUBMITTED

A group gathered at the Kunze Family Farm near Hinckley to learn more about growing hemp at a workshop. They gathered to examine a test plot of hemp planted at the farm.

ers,” Lois Kunze said.

“Instead of corn and soybeans – hemp. And that would be just wonderful. It’s for the farmers.”

Leverenz said she hopes to open a hemp processing center in Hinckley, and is also in contact with the city of Sandstone about the possibilities of having manufacturers utilize their industrial park.

“Farmers have figured out how to grow [hemp],” Petersen said. “We’ve got to figure out and move our processing along in this state. We need people that are innovative and leaders like some of the folks here today.”

Find a video edition of this story at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qeyxoy-SD4>.

Historical Reflections



This week’s history photo:
Do you recognize either of the ladies in this photo?

Answer to the history photo from the previous edition:
On August 25, 1955 the two Lees brothers were reunited after 55 years apart.

Star-Gazette photo

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Squirrel hides winter stash in squad

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

The Pine County Sheriff’s Office reports that an encounter between a deputy and a small woodland animal got a little nutty this week.

According sheriff’s press release, an officer was driving down the road when a squirrel popped up out from underneath the computer on his squad vehicle and jumped out onto the dash.

The officer said the squirrel gave him a quick stare down, then it ran across the dash and along the drivers’ side window – which was closed – and went somewhere behind

him.

The officer pulled over and opened all of his doors to get the squirrel out, but it was nowhere to be found.

However, further investigation revealed that apparently that the squirrel believed that the back of the patrol unit was a good place to store its winter food.

“These nuts have now been placed in evidence,” read the press release.

“If anyone sees a squirrel looking for his food, we are looking for said squirrel for questioning in relation to this incident.”

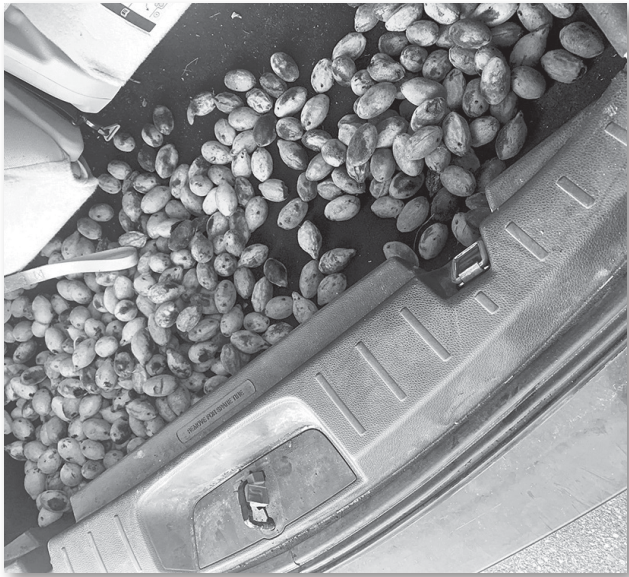
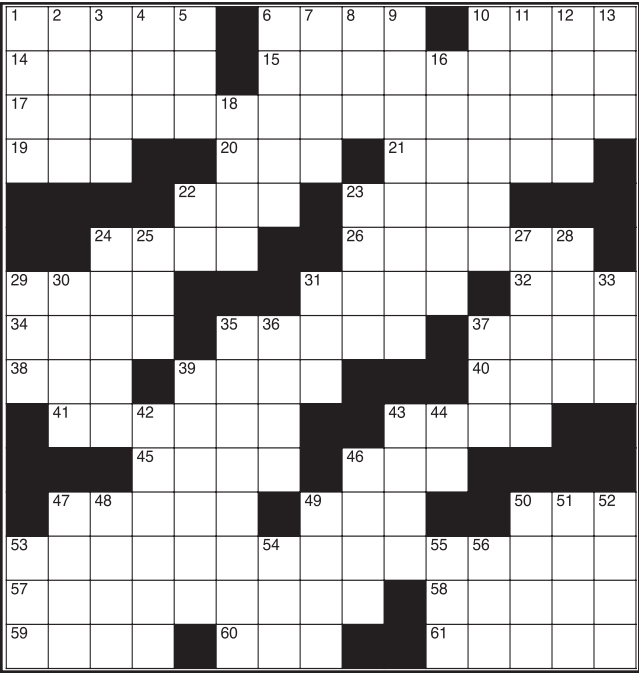


PHOTO PROVIDED

An officer of the Pine County Sheriff’s Office discovered what is believed to be a squirrel’s winter stash in the back of his patrol unit. The squirrel under suspicion made a clean getaway from the vehicle and is still at large in Pine County.



CLUES ACROSS

- Secret clique
- Earliest in and out
- Ancient Egyptian symbol of life
- Olfactory property
- Kidnapping
- Golf prize
- Helps little firms
- Cast a spell on
- Panama is one
- Dishonorable man
- Sea eagle
- Part of the healing process
- Vin’s last name
- Wings
- Made older
- Political device
- Looks like a rabbit
- Gurus
- Philippine Island
- Not or

- Hindu model of ideal man
- Exam
- Making less difficult
- Without
- Dravidian ethnic group
- A baglike structure
- Buenos Aires capital La __
- Dab
- Singers who perform together
- Pirates’ saying
- OK to allude to
- Somaliland diplomat
- Has to pay back
- Felix is one
- Intestinal pouches

CLUES DOWN

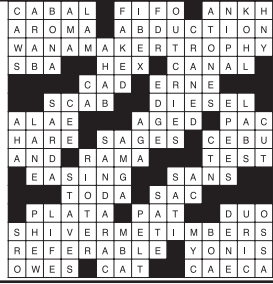
- Harsh cries of a crow

- Type of horse
- __ fide: authentic
- Doctors’ group
- Fugitives are on it
- Forged
- Wild goat
- Influential American president
- Calls for help
- Repents
- Palm tree with creeping roots
- Black powder used in makeup
- Happy New Year
- Stretched out one’s neck
- Whale ship captain
- Atomic #20
- Border
- River that borders India and Nepal
- After B

- Fencing swords
- Where researchers work
- Expression of satisfaction
- Broadway actor Nathan
- Heavy, heat-retaining stove
- A way to eliminate
- Type of tree resin
- Russian river
- Children’s TV network
- Troublemaker
- Averts or delays
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- It cools your home
- Satisfy to the fullest

- Stinks!
- Popular board game
- Attack by hurling
- A vale
- Type of acid
- Tasmania’s highest mountain
- No seats available
- Licensed for Wall Street
- Family of genes
- Constrictor snake

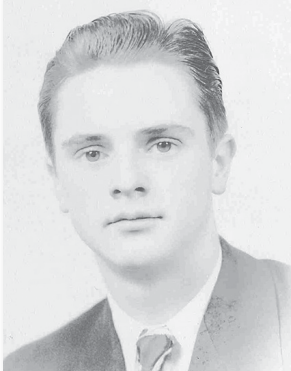
PUZZLE SOLUTION



OBITUARIES

Donald T. Naylor

Donald (Kelly) T. Naylor, of Sturgeon Lake, Minn. passed away on January 19, 2021, in Yuma Ariz. with daughter Molly at his side. He was 90 years young.



Don was born and raised in Willow River, Minn. he was a graduate of Willow River High in 1949, and he was a member of several school sports teams. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean War. He was employed by Wonder Bread, Smith Welding and Unisys.

Don was preceded in death by his wife of 47 years, Barbara Lois Sorving Naylor, his parents Joseph and Anna Naylor, and his siblings; Clyde, Irene, Ross, Evelyn, Walter, Esther, Grace, Joe and Rosemund.

He is survived by his daughters Nancy Naylor, Molly Naylor Olson and her husband Larry Olson, grandson Jason Knight, great-grandchildren Damian Knight and Jenna Sullivan, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial gathering will be held at his home in Sturgeon Lake, Minn. on September 11, 2021 from noon to 6 p.m. Food and beverages will be served. For more information please call (612) 327- 8869 or (763) 535-3390.

Ruth M. Bink

Ruth M. Brink, 98, Moose Lake, died Friday, August 27, 2021 in Augustana Mercy Health Care Center, Moose Lake. She was born on July 4, 1923 in Lake City to Albert and Clara Schmidt. At the age of 15, Ruth moved to Moose Lake. On June 18, 1940, Ruth married Bertel Brink in Carlton. They dairy farmed through the years. Bertel and Ruth also raised several children as their own through the years and their nephews spent a lot of time on the farm.

Ruth was preceded in death by her husband, Bertel in 1996 and several sisters and brothers.

She is survived by nieces and nephews.

A private burial was held in Riverside Cemetery, Moose Lake on Monday, August 30, 2021.

Arrangements by Hamlin-Hansen-Kosloski Funeral Home, Moose Lake.

Lowell F. Zellmer

Lowell Francis Zellmer, age 72 of Moose Lake, passed away on Monday, August 23, 2021.

Survived by his longtime companion, Jody “Pete” Dougherty; son, Matt (Crystal) Zellmer; stepchildren, Amber (Will) Whelan, Cody (Justine Frank) Dougherty and Carlee (Justin) Pizzella; and grandchildren, Kenny, Jackson, Izzy, Carson, Ava and Aubree.

Lowell served in the Air Force and enjoyed gardening, spending time with his family, refinishing furniture and watching The Simpson’s.

No services will be held but memorials may be sent to 12142 State Hwy 18, Finlayson, MN 55735. His family also requests that you raise your glass one last time to honor Lowell’s memory.

Thomas W. Gunderson

Thomas Warren Gunderson 71 died peacefully on Tuesday August 24, 2021 in Cloquet, Minn.

For full obituary and zoom service arrangements find details at Thomasgunderson.weebly.com

September may cool but the clouds may stay closed

BY CBS 3 METEOROLOGIST
DAVE ANDERSON

It's been a topsy turvy summer in Minnesota. We've gone from extreme drought in parts of Koochiching County to almost normal conditions for parts of Pine County. Splitting the difference to balance both sides, I offer the stats from the Duluth Airport as our weather report card so far.

Two thirds of 2021

are over and it has indeed been a pretty warm year. We are 2.5 degrees over the normal mean temperature. Seven of the eight months so far have been warmer than normal. Only one, February, was bitterly cold.

Rain equivalent totals for the year have been way down. So far, precip is about 5.6 inches

SEE SEPTEMBER WEATHER, PAGE 8

Stanley A. Berglund

Stanley Adrian Berglund, 71, long-time resident of Mahtowa, died peacefully surrounded by his family on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 in St. Luke’s Hospice



after a hard-fought battle with esophageal cancer. He was born in Moose Lake on March 19, 1950 to Adrian and Elizabeth (Pearson) Berglund.

Stan was raised on the family farm east of Bruno and graduated from Askov High School in 1968. He played basketball and baseball throughout elementary and high school and continued to love sports throughout his life. Stan met the love of his life, Bonnie Schuppman, at Grindstone Lake Bible Camp. The two were married on November 1, 1968 in Bruno. Together, Stan and Bonnie raised four children after they settled in Mahtowa. Stan made his career working for Conwed and Potlach, and retired in 2012. Stan and Bonnie traveled all over together, especially enjoying the sights of Alaska and Sweden. Above the rest, their favorite vacation spot was with family at Little Jessie Lake each summer. Upon retirement, he volunteered many hours to Sonshine Furniture in Moose Lake and St. Croix Hospice. He loved riding his bike with family and friends while picking berries and watching wildlife along the Munger Trail. Stan served in many capacities at Mahtowa Covenant Church and was an avid supporter of all local Barnum sporting events. He loved playing games as much as he enjoyed attending them. Stan was a family man at heart who loved to spend time with his grandchildren. He will be remembered for his humble and calm ways.

Stan was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Allen Berglund; and granddaughter, Elizabeth.

His memory will be cherished by his wife of 52 years, Bonnie; children, Lorene Berglund, Julianne (David) Duesler, Nicholas Berglund, and Eric Berglund; grandchildren, Kyle, Nic, Karianna (Nate), Nathan (McKayla), Jager, Christian, Mendota, Andrew; great-grandchildren, Joey and Micah; brother, Edward (Bonnie) Berglund; sister, Carol (Bud) Headman; and numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many dearly loved friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Nazarene Well House: www.nazwellhouse.com.

A visitation will be held from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 2, 2021 in Mahtowa Covenant Church. The visitation will continue from 10:00 a.m. until the 11:00 a.m. memorial service on Friday, September 3, 2021 in Mahtowa Covenant Church. Inurnment will follow in Mount Salem Cemetery.

Arrangements are with Hamlin-Hansen-Kosloski Funeral Home

WEEKLY FORECAST

FROM CBS 3 METEOROLOGIST DAVE ANDERSON

Thursday Mostly Cloudy Wind: SE 5-15 mph 60% chance of rain 68/53	Wind: W 5-15 mph 72/53
Friday Partly Sunny Wind: S 5-10 mph 73/57	Sunday Mostly Sunny Wind: NW 5-15 mph 68/50
Saturday Partly Sunny	Monday Mostly Sunny Wind: S 5-10 mph 70/48

Moose Lake Senior Dining Menu

Serving at 11:30 a.m.
HOME DELIVERY IS STILL AVAILABLE.
Call (218) 485-4937 to place your order.
Please reserve the day before.

\$4.00, Under 60: \$7.50.

There are no income guidelines.

Carry-out meals available. Meals also include veggies, milk and dinner roll. Call Senior Dining 485-4937. Volunteer Drivers Needed.

Monday, Sept. 6- LABOR DAY- Sites Closed

Tuesday, Sept. 7 - Special of the Day, Dessert

Wed., Sept. 8 - Meatloaf Dinner, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Carrot Coin Salad, Pudding w/Topping

Thursday, Sept. 9- Ham Dinner or Alternate, Colcannon Potatoes, Mexicali Corn, Tiramisu Cake

Friday, Sept. 10 - Creamed Chicken with a Biscuit, Green Beans, Fresh Fruit

Star Gazing is a service to readers to publicize upcoming events and activities as space permits. Free events are given priority. If there is a charge or admission cost to the event, a paid ad is required.

Sept. 7 at 1 p.m.

Antique Appraisals
Moose Lake Area Historical Society is sponsoring Antique Appraisals on September 7 at 1 p.m. at the Fires of 1918 Museum, 900 Folz Blvd. Moose Lake. Please bring no more than two items per person. A donation of \$3 per person would be appreciated, no charge for society members. For information call 218-485-4159 or 218-485-4234.

Sept. 11 from 2 p.m, to 3 p.m.

Living History Walk
Moose Lake Area Historical Society is hosting a living history walk at Riverside Cemetery in Moose Lake. Come hear accounts of some of the prominent citizens of the past. Cost is \$15 either cash or check.

Sept. 12 at 2 p.m.

East Central Minnesota PFLAG Meeting
PFLAG will be having their meeting September 12, 2 p.m., at

Common Ground, United Methodist Church, 404 Cypress Street N., Cambridge, MN 55008.
East Central Minnesota PFLAG is an organization that provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning persons, their families and friends. For more information, go to www.ecmnpflag.org.

Sept. 13

Moose Lake Health Care Volunteer Service Organization meeting
The Moose Lake Health Care Volunteer Service Organization meeting will be September 13 at Hope Lutheran Church. New members are welcome, masks are optional. For more information call (218) 485- 5544.

Sept. 18 at 1 p.m,

BINGO at the Depot
Moose Lake Area Historical Society is hosting BINGO at the Depot on Saturday, September 18.

Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Yoga at the Pavillion

Yoga at the Pavilion, 11:am -12:00 noon Mondays. No yoga September 6, resuming again

September 13. \$3, gear provided. Questions call Ann Markusen 218-428-3300.

Tuesdays from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Cribbage at Senior Dining in Moose Lake
Cribbage will be held from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays at Senior Dining in Moose Lake. You must be vaccinated to attend. Everyone who loves to play is invited to join. Bring boards and cards in case we need extra.

Wednesdays in August from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Wright Senior Club
The Wright Senior Club is open on Wednesdays from 1 - 4 p.m. Cribbage on Thursdays from 6 – 8 p.m.

Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Cribbage at Caribou Coffee in Moose Lake
Cribbage will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays at Caribou Coffee in Moose Lake. You must be vaccinated to attend. Everyone who loves to play is invited to join. Bring boards and cards in case we need extra.

Being bossy

have noted something about myself in the last few weeks. Apologizing and thanking folks in abundance seems to be something that I do too often.



A Millennial Mile
Alanea White

Don't get me wrong there is nothing wrong with gratitude and feeling sympathetic or admitting you are wrong. "Thank you" and "I'm sorry" are part of polite conversation. Admitting fault and feeling thankful should remain part of everyday conversation. It takes strength of character to admit when you are wrong and apologize. Having an attitude of gratitude is just how I was raised.

My mental flags were raised after a friend pointed out that I didn't need to apologize all the time. Once I noticed I couldn't

stop noting the number of times I apologized in a day. Taking a few days to catalogue my behavior I made a determination.

What I have noted is that I apologize or thank folks as a defense against being called bossy. Being assertive, in the business world and a lady often results in being called bossy.

Assertiveness is not something that comes naturally for me, but being effective at managing a newspaper requires being assertive on occasion. Being an assertive woman often results in being labeled as a bossy woman. Bossiness is not an ideal quality and women at work are often told they are bossy when their skills, requests or performance are being belittled.

Asking for what you need at work isn't something that you should be sorry for. Being good at your job should not be something you feel guilty for. Knowing how something should be done and asking for it is not wrong. As long as you approach situations with kindness, show gratitude when you get what you ask for and apologize when you are wrong.

Keep being grateful, admit when you are wrong, but don't let being called bossy stop you from doing the best that you can.

ALANEA WHITE is the editor of the Moose Lake Star-Gazette. She loves hearing about upcoming community events. Her email is editor@mlstargazette.com



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments tell a slightly different story at Moose Lake Schools

Dear Community Members

Today, the Minnesota Department of Education released the results of the 2021 statewide assessments, which include the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs). Statewide assessment results show declines in the number of students meeting or exceeding grade level standards compared to 2019, the last time students took statewide assessments. But here in Moose Lake, we are pleased to tell a slightly different story.

We have been working hard the past two years to update our elementary reading curriculum to better align with state standards and to meet the needs of our students. We have been partnering with experts from our MDE Regional Center of Excellence to identify gaps in curriculum, data

collection, and intervention services. This work is starting to pay off. While the rest of the state saw declines in their reading scores, we saw increases in our percent of students who were proficient on MCA reading assessments in grades 3 & 4. Not only did we have great gains from the previous time these grades were tested in 2019, we saw our scores in those grades exceed the state average in 2021. However, we still have work to do in this area. Our older grades did see some declines as to be expected with changing learning models in the past two years. Fortunately, our declines were not as steep as those seen across the state.

While our overall math and science results mirror those across the state with declining proficiency rates in 2021, our math scores in grades 6-11 and science scores in all grades tested remained at or above the state average. In fact, our secondary math and science scores are among the highest in our area. Our students historically do very well on the science tests which require higher level thinking skills, deep comprehension

of long reading passages, and the application of math skills.

With the new school year comes additional support in intervention services in reading and math through grade 8. We are implementing new reading and math screening tools to catch children with learning gaps sooner so we can intervene appropriately. We have hired additional staff to help us with our Multi-Tiered System of Support alignment and help us create better results and experiences for all children. We are anticipating further growth in reading and math achievement with these additional structures in place.

While there is a lot of uncertainty about what this new school year will bring with regards to the pandemic, we stand ready to address the unique learning needs of our students brought about by the disruption to learning in the past 18 months.

Sincerely,
Billie Jo Steen
Superintendent, Moose Lake Community Schools

LETTER GUIDELINES

The *Star Gazette* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters may be emailed to editor@mlstargazette.com mailed to Moose Lake Star Gazette P.O. Box 449, Moose Lake, MN 55767.

Letters should be typed or legibly handwritten and of no more than 250 words in length (longer letters may be edited).

To be considered for publication, all letters must be signed and include hometown and contact information for verification

purposes. Only names and hometowns will be published. Letters are published at the discretion of the editor and may be edited. Only rebuttals to previously run election-related letters will be considered for publication the week before elections. This policy also applies to endorsement of political candidates.

ELECTION/POLITICAL LETTERS

Election letters endorsing or advocating

for or against a ballot measure, party or candidate will be considered paid advertising announcements. The fee is \$25 for the first 250 words, and \$0.10 per word after that. The *Star Gazette* has the right to reject letters which don't meet publishing standards and will determine if the letter qualifies as a paid endorsement. Paid letters will be identified with a label and may or may not appear on the opinion/letters page.

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The Moose Lake Star Gazette is published every Thursday in Moose Lake, Carlton County, Minnesota. Periodicals Postage Paid at Moose Lake, MN 55767 (USPS 519-4000) (ISSN 0746-2980)
POSTMASTER: If undeliverable as addressed, please notify on form 3579

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Surviving a drought

ast month began and ended with smoke filled skies. We hope that recent rains will mean that September has better air quality than what we had last week due to a large fire in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. The winds caused the fire to spread and they also pushed the smoke further into Duluth, the North Shore and here in East Central Minnesota. Our anxiety continued to grow each sunny, hot, windy day. We started thinking about the unthinkable - what

would we take with us if we had to flee? We are surrounded by forest and it is parched. Thankfully, the rain this past weekend measured over 2". That was the largest amount of precipitation we have seen all summer and now the ground feels spongy when we walk the trails in the forest. It was far from enough to break the drought, but it still felt like a godsend. Will we get more rain or will we return to the pattern where storms approach and then mysteriously disappear? The birch trees have already had

their leaves turn yellow and fall. This is a form of self-preservation in a time of drought. The tree cannot afford to supply the leaves with moisture – and must use what it can to sustain the trunk and branches. Other deciduous trees are starting to turn color and drop leaves also – I don't think we can plan on a very colorful fall season this year. We have made extra efforts to conserve water too. We don't have a deep well and fear it going dry. So now I take clothes to the laundromat to wash. We take short showers and catch all the water in a bucket until it heats up. This can then be used to flush the toilet or water plants. People living out west are facing an even more serious water crisis, as their reservoirs shrink in the high temperatures. It astounds me when I read that the western states continue to grow in population. Don't people wonder where they're going to get their water? Even here in water rich Minnesota we are seeing streams and rivers shrivel up into rivulets and stagnant pools. They say 1976 was another bad drought year. I don't remember that, but then I was living in Minneapolis at the time and like most urban residents I just assumed the water would keep flowing out of the tap when I needed it. It's

SEE **DROUGHT**, PAGE 7

KETTLE RIVER NEWS: Quilting sessions at Holy Trinity Lutheran begins

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The Finnish Luncheon is back. The next luncheon is September 21 at 12 noon at the Kettle River Senior Center. It is being catered by the Rustic Diner. We will need at least 25 members to attend, so be sure to bring a friend with you. The next city of Kettle River city council meeting is Tuesday, September 14 at 7 p.m. at the Kettle River Senior Center. It is important for all residents of Kettle River to attend the city council meetings. If you care about the city of Kettle River, plan to

attend the meetings before it is too late. There are several issues that may adversely affect our city. School will be starting in a week. Pay attention to the laws about stopping for the school buses. Watch for children crossing the roads to and from the bus. Quilting at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church begins on Wednesday, Sept. 1 at 9 a.m. Donations of new cotton fabric is appreciated. You do not need to be a member of Holy Trinity to join us at our quilting sessions. Most of the quilts made are donated to various charities. We try to keep a majority of the quilts locally.

WILLOW RIVER NEWS: Getting ready for back to school in Willow

KATHI BENNETT HAUS
KBENNETTHAUS@GMAIL.COM

Hello All,

Volunteers needed: The City of Willow River is requesting volunteers to work on our City Park by the Rock Arch Rapids on September 11, 2021 starting at 9 a.m. to assist with getting the fence back up and to move the perma bond. They are requesting that volunteers bring their own shovels, wheelbarrows etc.

We plan to go to the Finlayson-Giese Sportsman's Annual Sunday Labor Day Picnic on Sunday, September 5 starting at 12 noon. They are planning brats and hot dogs, potato salad, beans, and more. There will be a Trap shoot, bean bag toss, bingo, kids games, saw dust pile, door prizes, raffles, and more. I can't wait.

Lost: A cute gray tabby kitten has decided to move into the bus garage at the school. She is sweet, snuggly, and playful. If you lost her, or if you are interested in giving her a home, please contact Tara at the school.

At the school: The Open House at the school will be held on Thursday, September 2, 2021 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. They will have a free spaghetti dinner, prizes for dropping off your green sheet, inflatables, and games in the big gym. There will also be a COVID-19 vaccine clinic from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. during

open house. Please see the link online to register ahead. The school is currently looking for more paras, bus/van drivers, and a community education coordinator to help lead and grow the program. September 7 – 8 is the first day of school. September 14 is the community blood drive from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Also, check out the Willow River Area School Early Childhood Programs. They have programs for every age under five years. Contact Ms. Chas at the school at 218-372-3131 extension 169.

At St. Mary's/ St. Isidore's Church: St. Mary's Church has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 1 – 5 pm every Wednesday. The Legion of Mary meetings are held at St. Mary's Center every Monday at 6:30 pm. The Knights of Columbus pray the Rosary at St. Isidore's Church every 4th Sunday of each month before Mass. The next Knights of Columbus meeting will be held on September 26, 2021 at St. Isidore's Church with Rosary at 6:30 pm and meeting to follow at 7 pm. If you are interested in going to confession during the week, you may let Fr. Francis know and he will be happy to hear your confession after daily Mass or by appointment. He will be doing Confessions on First Fridays and Saturdays at 4 pm at Holy Angels.

Thursdays, September 9th and October 14th will be when the next Catholic Charities food distribu-

tion at St. Mary's Church will be held. This event will be held outside of St. Mary's Church from 10am to 11:30 am. Call for lay ministers: Calling everyone who is willing to be ministers of ushering, altar serving, reading, singing, Eucharistic ministry and musicians. For the next three weekends, for all three parishes, all who are interested and willing to be involved, please stop after Mass in the back of the churches and someone will help you get signed up to the ministry of your interest.

Family Pathways Aging Services: These wonderful programs are available to our area and surrounding areas to assist those who may be in need of a little extra help. Sadly, many of the aging population are not aware of the availability of this service. Provided are in-home social visits (non-medical), assisted transportation appointments, groceries, church, etc. Also, light house-keeping, laundry, menu planning/meal prep. There is also a caregiver consulting program. They offer caregiver support groups, a time to share and listen to others who are also caring for others. Also offered is in-home social respite, memory cafes, information and referral, education. Volunteers are needed to help with all of these programs. Please call 320-364-1115 to become part of making a difference in the lives of those in need.

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WRIGHT-CROMWELL NEWS: Celebrating a successful Carlton County Fair

BY JENNIE K. HANSON
JKH4PRESIDENT@HOTMAIL.COM

We want to thank all the folks that were involved at the Carlton County Fair over August 19– 22 weekend. I especially want to thank the folks that volunteered at the Little Red School this year. They are Bev Clemons, Rick Gresczyk, Eleanor Eskuri, Helen Kinnunen, Sue and Rocky Youngberg, Oscar Eliason, Marilyn Kiehl, Sharon Zelazny, Terri Wallock, Mary (Bush) Svengaard, Diane Lindstrom, Jennie Hanson, Lindsay Lally, Linda Dahlman, Sandy Ferguson, Sarah Sedlander, Melinda Ferry and Mary Sanders. We couldn't have done it without your help! Also, Congratulations to this year's Carlton County Outstanding Senior, Shirley Goodwin from Barnum. Bill and Judy Haapoja

will be at the Villa Vista on Monday, August 30, 6 – 7 p.m. The vaccinated public is welcome to attend! Harvest Festival Update- September 10-11-12, 2021: Scarecrow Contest judging Monday, Sept. 6 at 6 p.m. Medallion Hunt clues begin on Labor Day; will post clues to web site and Facebook. Jackie will post individual events on Facebook. FRIDAY: Steak Fry, 4-7 p.m. \$15 per steak; \$5 hot dog plate. Ice Cream Sales - Extreme Teens will sponsor this. Quilt Raffle - Cardinal Quilters have donated a quilt; their members will sell tickets for drawing at 8 pm during dance. Dance to Sonny Side from 7-10 p.m.; admission \$5. SATURDAY: 9-3 Food and craft vendors in the park. Class of 1953 class reunion at the Pavilion. 9:00 a.m. Volleyball tour-

nament starts. Stand Still/Walk Around parade at Pavilion - 10:30 a.m. to 11:30. Grand Marshals are Ken Kangas and Ed Raisanen. More parade entries welcomed. Moment of Silence for 9/11 Remembrance - 12 noon by Veterans Memorial. Bill Switzer will do the presentation. High school band will play. Pie Social - 12 noon to 2 p.m. in Pavilion - Barb D. and Lindsay making pies. Will provide their own ice cream for ala mode. Free will donation. 12:15 - Kids games behind pavilion. 1:00 - Scavenger hunt for kids - Meet by flag pole. Uncle Lucky is booked for music in the park from 1-4 p.m. 3:00 Youth Corn Hole tournament and 4:00 Adult Corn Hole tournament 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Music at Muni – Taylor 8:00 - 12

midnight - Music at Muni Pie or Hot Dog Eating Contest - check with Craig F. SUNDAY: Pancake Breakfast Sunday, September 12, 8:00 - 10 a.m. - Free will donation. Community Worship Service – Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at Pavilion Riverside Drifters Horse Show - starts at noon The Carlton County Historical Society has many extra FREE copies of the book: "Stories of the 1918 Fire" including several written by area authors. Just stop in the Museum to pick up one or two and the 2022 Barn Calendars are now available. The CCHS do have a Wish List and if you can donate any of the following items, please do: New angled broom with dustpan that clips to the handle, colored card stock, paper cutter and or trimmer, foam core poster board for making

displays, stacked in-boxes for sorting documents to file, and utilitarian wall clocks for basement meeting rooms. Plans are in the works for the Annual Christmas Bazaar, Brunch, and Bake sale at Bethlehem on Saturday, December 11 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Start collecting your gently used or new Christmas/Holiday items for the sale. Homemade or handmade items are especially needed this year since they couldn't have this event last year. The Extreme Team is asking for any last-minute Calendar Submissions on their 2022 Calendar of Events, so please call Liz Kabus @ 218-428-6733 to get your items or ads posted on the calendar. This week's Trivia: Forrest left home running. He ran a ways and then turned left, ran the same distance and turned left again, ran

the same distance and turned left again. When he got home, there were two masked men. Who were they? Here's another one: I threw away the outside and cooked the inside. Then I ate the outside and threw away the inside. What did I eat? Last week's Trivia Answer: A woman has 5 cousins. The 1st was named Monday, the 2nd was named Tuesday, the 3rd was named Wednesday, the 4th was named Thursday, what is the name of the 5th Cousin? His name is "What"! That's all the news from the Edge of Wright! Watch for children as school starts on Tuesday, September 7th. Be sure to register any new students by then. Send any news to me at jkh4president@hotmail.com or call at 218-357-2385. Have a great Labor Day!



MIKE DRAHOSH | PINE COUNTY COURIER

Moose Lake/Willow River volleyball dives into season with a win

Moose Lake/Willow River (MLWR) volley ball started their season with a 3-2 win against East Central on August 30. Gabby Gamst led the Lady Rebels in kills with nine. Olivia Jutila had the highest number of set assists for the MLWR team with 18. Julia Juszczak had 18 digs, the highest number on the team for this game. Join the Lady Rebels for their next match where they face the Wrenshall Wrens on Tuesday, September 7 at 7 p.m.

Cross Country sprints toward 2021 season

SCOTT OLSON

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With the start of a new school year comes the fall sports. One of those is the Cross Country season with the schools of Moose Lake, Willow River and Barnum coming together as the Rebels. In the past Cross Country was made up of two classes, A and AA. This year the Minnesota State High School League has decided to make it into three classes, adding AAA. The Rebels have always been a class A team and will remain one in the new three class system.

With this new three class system in place teams like Proctor, North Shore, Pequot Lakes and the combination of Virginia and Eveleth Gilbert

into Rock Ridge have been moved up into class AA. These teams have been strong contenders for both team and individuals qualifying for the State meet in Section 7. With these teams leaving it will open it up for the smaller schools to have a chance at qualifying for State as a team and individuals. The one rule that has changed is that instead of the top two teams and next eight individuals going to State it is now the top two teams and next six individuals.

The Rebels have been working hard all summer and since practice started on August 16 and had a practice meet on August 26 at Chubb Lake. The coaches are very happy with what they saw at the meet but know the kids will have to keep

practicing hard together if they wish to fill one of those two team spots.

The coaches for the Rebels are head coach Adam Whelan and assistant coaches Andy Wyman and Spencer Walton. The student managers are Jocelyn Mundell and Connor Clausen. The girls team consists of Junior; Rayna Klejeski, Sophomores; Shannon Granquist, Ella Heaton, Elle Neilsen, Lilly Petty, Freshman; Amelia Olson, Brooklyn Peterson, 8th graders; Isabel Dewey, Sophie Gunderson, Abigail Vargo, Brooklyn Wasche, 7th graders; Nia Petry and Sophie Petty. The boys team consists of Seniors; Johnny Danel-ski, Carl Halverson, Chance Lunde, Joseph Mikrot, Zach Youngs, Ju-



SCOTT OLSON | SUBMITTED

Students from Barnum, Moose Lake and Willow River have come together to create the Rebels Cross Country team for the 2021 season.

niors; Ryden Anderson, Shawn Bailey, Richie Balut, Daniel Mikrot, Murray Salzer, Gavin Thiry, Sophomore; Peter Knezevich, Freshman; Solomon Cloutier, Chet

Giersdorf-Thompson, Ray Henriquez, Max Petry, Elliot Wasche, Eli Youngs, 8th graders; Matt Bohnsack, Magnus Koecher, JJ Skalko-Olesiak, 7th graders; Ledger

Johnson and Jackson McDowell.

The Rebels first meet of the season will be Thursday, September 2 at Pincushion Mountain in Grand Marais.

ASKOV GUN SHOW

September 11-12, 2021

Pine County History Museum

6333 HC Andersen Alle, Askov, MN 55074

Sat. 9:00am-5:00pm

Sun. 9:00am-3:00pm

Admission \$5.00 – Second day free with hand stamp

Children 12 & under FREE – Must be accompanied by an adult

No pets allowed – Service animals are welcome

Law enforcement IN UNIFORM – FREE ADMISSION



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HAVE A HAPPY LAB DAY

EARLY DEADLINE NOTICE

September 9 Issue of the Moose Lake Star Gazette

Deadline is 3pm Thurs., Sept. 2

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Evaluating COVID-19 vaccines medically, not politically

Despite the availability of a safe and effective vaccine, this pandemic persists, in part due to resistance to the vaccine.



Gateway Clinic Minute
Dr. Bridget Dewey

While I do not support vaccine mandates and believe in personal freedom of choice in health matters, it is important that people make sure they are basing their decisions on sound information. Unfortunately, the issue of whether or not to be vaccinated often has been politicized, rather than being fairly evaluated medically.

The Gateway physicians and our local hospitals have cared for a number of patients with COVID-19. Most had mild cases and recovered, but a significant number succumbed to it or are left with lingering symptoms. For this reason,

I think I speak for all the Gateway physicians when I say that we strongly recommend getting a COVID-19 vaccine unless you have a legitimate medical contra-indication. The only definite contra-indication is a severe anaphylactic reaction after a previous dose or component of the vaccine. Other reasons to be cautious about the vaccine include a history of immediate allergic reaction to other vaccines or injectable therapy, or moderate to severe acute illness. I would encourage you to discuss your particular situation with your physician.

With that being said, different physicians have likely based our support for the vaccine on different sources. Even as a physician, the data and information can be overwhelming so it is helpful to rely on sources you can trust. I wanted to share with you how my husband and I came to the decisions about this vaccine for ourselves and our children. We reviewed information from

SEE COVID-19 VACCINE, PAGE 8



ALANEA WHITE | MOOSE LAKE STAR-GAZETTE

Barnum welcomes new teachers

Barnum Area Schools welcomes six new teachers. They are from left to right: Hunter Fetters, teaching Second Grade; Haley Egge, teaching Fourth Grade; Angela Tate, teaching High School English; Courtney Sieckert, teaching Elementary Special Education; Tara Kisler, teaching Elementary Special Education and Amelia Awender teaching Early Childhood Special Education.

Moose Lake School starts with no mask requirement

ALANEA WHITE
EDITOR@MLSTARGAZETTE.COM

School board meetings across Minnesota have gathered larger than normal crowds in recent weeks. As students, staff, parents and communities wait for the return to school and an answer to the question, do we need a mask or not?

Students at Moose Lake Community School are recommended, but not required to wear masks in school buildings. Masks are required on the school bus.

Concerned parents and grandparents gathered in the Moose Lake School Auditorium to share their thoughts about a mask requirement at Moose Lake Community School.

Members of the public were allowed to share their thoughts with the board during the public participation portion of the regular board meeting. Several speakers mentioned that they would have preferred to make their statements after hearing the thoughts of the board.

The focus of all discussion about masking came from the goal of keeping students safe. A majority of the parents present questioned the effectiveness of masks in protecting students from COVID-19.

At this time the decision for requiring or recommending masks has been left up to school districts. Boards across the state have been tasked with looking at current recommendations and determining which pieces to adopt. The Minnesota School Board Association provided a sample resolution on health and safety measures, specifically focusing on masking. Moose Lake passed this resolution after considerable discussion.

Masks are recommended, but not required for all staff, students and visitors to district buildings. Center for Disease Control requirements make masks required on school buses as public forms of transportation.

Board chair Steven Blondo stressed that the resolution recom-

mending masks should be taken as a strongly encouraged recommendation. Jerry Pederson, board member, made clear that the expectations for student safety were not a one way street. Pederson questioned how the board would work to prevent parents from sending students with COVID-19 to school and not following guidelines.

All members of the board clarified that this decision was based on the current information and could quickly change if case numbers increased or more guidance was provided.

As part of the discussion the board determined that they would like to see some form of decision making tool created to help them move forward. Defining levels of risk from COVID-19 and the need to change or implement practices and protocols at the school was one area none of the board members felt comfortable tackling alone. More research on what area schools, other districts and Carlton and Pine County are doing

is going to be gathered to create these levels. A meeting of Carlton County school superintendents and Carlton County Public Health for help is taking place this week. Moose Lake Board members hop this meeting sheds more light on what changes the 2021-2022 school year might bring.

Moose Lake students will start the year with no mask requirement.

OTHER NEWS

- The Moose Lake Parent Teacher Association was once again able to purchase school supplies for all students.
- According to Minnesota Department of Education guidelines the adult lunch price was set at \$4.25. Students will receive free lunch at school once again this academic year.
- Student Handbooks were updated for the upcoming school year. Changes were

- basic updates to phone numbers, room numbers, and teachers names.
- The Data Team for Moose Lake School will begin working on a presentation of

NEW TEACHERS IN MOOSE LAKE



ALANEA WHITE

Moose Lake Community Schools welcomes three new members to their staff. Anna Bjorsen, pictured on the top left, will be teaching Fourth Grade. Shelby Lonne-Rogentine, pictured above on the right, will be teaching English to grades 7 through 12. Cathy Scheetz, pictured on the left, will be joining the staff as a Reading Interventionist for grades 4 to 8.



DROUGHT: Looking forward to fall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

amazing how a person's perspective changes based on where they live.

That's enough doom and gloom for the time being. What can we look forward to in this first month of autumn? We can watch for the migration of Monarch butterflies. It's time for them to begin their long journey back to Mexico. Those leaving are the last of this year's hatchlings and will be the ones who overwinter and begin the migration next spring. The magnitude of this journey is hard to quantify, but I pray it continues for generations to come.

Joining the flight south are American Robins and many warbler species. Keep an eye on your suet feeders because they do attract the insect eating warblers. Those Robins may be stopping at the Mountain Ash trees and

eating the orange berries. Apples will be reaching maturity and filling the Farmers Markets. If Woodchucks have been a nuisance this summer fattening up on your garden greens, have faith, because soon they will retreat to their underground burrows for the duration of winter.

The average high temperature stays in the 70s but gradually it will fall into the 60s by the end of the month. I personally hope we're done with the 90s but in this challenging year I won't be surprised if we get hit with another heat wave. One of the best things about this month is seeing kids go back to school – in the classroom. Even as a grandparent I feel relief that their lives will return to a semblance of normality. And with common sense and caution so should ours.

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Tax-Forfeited Land Auction



Pine County will be offering tax-forfeited land at public auction for not less than the appraised price. **Sale commences at 10:00 a.m. September 17, 2021** at the Courthouse in Pine City, Minnesota
For a listing call (320) 216-4225 or log onto www.co.pine.mn.us



TERRY BULLOCK | HINCKLEY NEWS

Barnum, MLWR football kicks off season with scrimmage

Barnum and Moose Lake/Willow River football teams started their season with a scrimmage in Rush City.

SEPTEMBER WEATHER: Heatwave will break, drought continues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

less than normal. Only March and April ran a rain surplus. The other six months have fueled the drought that affects us now. For September, we'll get 50% relief. Long range forecasters think the heatwave will break. But, the drought will continue. It is thought we will average one degree below normal for September's temperature. The thought unfortunately also feels rain will be at least two inches shy of normal. The September forecast

starts with just a little rain and lingering warmer than normal temps from the first to the sixth. The seventh to the eleventh will be sunny dry and warm. The twelfth to twentieth, though, should turn cloudy, showery and cool. The twenty-first to twenty-sixth may kick up an autumn warm spell. That will be followed by a cold snap to finish the month from the twenty-seventh to thirtieth. Some forecasters feel October will follow a similar pattern.

Off-highway vehicle riders should prioritize their safety

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

As the busy fall season for riding off-highway vehicles (OHV) approaches, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds all riders to prioritize safety.

Like 2020, when the number of OHVs registered in Minnesota increased markedly, DNR conservation officers report this year has been an exceptionally busy one throughout the state. While there's plenty of OHV activity year-round, there tends to be a September surge that lasts until the snow starts falling. And, unfortunately, people die every fall in OHV-related crashes.

"Our goal is that every rider return home safely at the end of every ride," said Capt. Jon Paurus, safety training education manager for the DNR Enforcement

Division. "Riding an OHV is a great way for people of all ages to experience Minnesota's outdoors, but riders have to prioritize safety at all times during every ride."

Twelve people had died in OHV-related crashes as of Aug. 19. The majority of those were on Class 1 all-terrain vehicles (ATV), but four were riding the larger Class II vehicles that are becoming increasingly popular. The number of fatalities is up from the 10-year average of about 11 at the same time of year.

Among the most common violations conservation officers have seen this year is youth riders not wearing helmets. All riders under the age of 18 must wear a DOT-approved helmet, and it's recommended all riders wear one. Other ways riders can help ensure a safe ride include:

- Ride only on designated

trails. Stay to the right and travel at a safe speed.

- Ride sober.
- Wear protective gear including goggles, long sleeves, long pants, over-the-ankle boots, gloves and a DOT-approved helmet.
- If an OHV comes with factory installed seatbelts, wear them.
- Avoid riding on paved roads except to cross. Do it safely and ensure it's permitted by law.
- Actively supervise young riders as OHVs aren't toys.
- Complete a safety education course.
- Ride on trails and avoid parking over dry grass to reduce the risk of inadvertently starting a wildfire.

For more tips on safe riding, see mndnr.gov/ohv/atv-safety.html

COVID-19 VACCINE: Consider four questions to assess the vaccine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

the CDC, and sought input from trusted colleagues and organizations such as the Catholic Medical Association and American College of Pediatricians.

There were 4 questions we felt were important to consider for these vaccines, and perhaps in many other areas of medicine and life:

- Is it safe?
- Is it effective?
- Are there any moral reasons to refuse it?
- Is it necessary?

1-Are they safe? Despite these being "new" vaccines seemingly quickly developed due to the pandemic, the safety of the mRNA vaccines has been extensively studied as they have been in development since the 1970's. Just to briefly summarize how all vaccines work- they stimulate our own immune system to develop antibodies against the disease. Other vaccines have used live or inactivated viruses or part of the virus to accomplish this. These vaccines are a little different in the way they stimulate the immune system.

The Pfizer and Moderna use messenger RNA wrapped in a coating. When it is injected, it gives cells instructions to make a "spike protein" that stimulates the body to build T and B lymphocytes against the protein and hence against the virus. The body's cells then destroy the genetic material from the vaccine. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine uses an altered adenovirus to accomplish the same end.

Mild side effects are common. Cases of anaphylaxis have been reported very rarely and for this reason all patients are monitored after receiving the vaccine. More serious side effects including inflammation around the heart are rare and do not seem to cause long-term symptoms. Rare cases of Guillain-Barre syndrome (164 cases/19.5 million doses) and thrombosis (7 cases/1 million doses) after administration of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine have also been reported. Deaths have been reported but not proven to be linked to the vaccines. Even if all the reported cases of death were directly due to the vaccines, it would be a fatality rate of

.0019%.

2-Are they effective? The vaccines were first studied in animal trials, then human clinical trials and now of course more data is available as the vaccines have been widely administered. All data has demonstrated between 69-95% efficacy against symptomatic lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases in adults age 18 and above. In addition, the Pfizer vaccine has shown high efficacy in ages 12-17. Studies also showed >89% efficacy against severe infection and no deaths in vaccinated individuals in the trials. These numbers are being borne out in larger population studies. The vaccines do not seem to be quite as effective in preventing infection with some of the new variants, but still are quite good at preventing severe infections and death. In comparison to other vaccines, this efficacy data is quite good.

3-Are there any moral reasons to refuse it? The main concern here is that historically, parts of aborted fetuses have been used in the development of some vaccines. For those who have a moral

objection to abortion such as myself, this was an important consideration. I would encourage all to discuss with their own spiritual advisors, but I was reassured by this statement from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. "...those who are vaccinated can do so in good conscience with the certain knowledge that the use of such vaccines does not constitute formal cooperation with abortion."

To be clear, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines do not use any of the cells from aborted babies in their manufacture. There are vaccines being developed with no reported relationship to aborted fetuses which is encouraging and those who are concerned about this issue should support those efforts.

4-Is the vaccine necessary? This was an important question we considered. As physicians who were offered the vaccine very early on, we felt it was our duty and was necessary so we could continue safely caring for patients. For our children, the issue was not so clear given that the disease poses a very low risk to them. However, considering

all of the above, as well as the fact that they could potentially spread the disease to someone who was not protected, swayed us in favor of encouraging them to get the vaccine also. Those individuals who are not protected include those who have a legitimate reason for not getting the vaccine, as well as those who are immune-compromised and might not have good protection despite getting the vaccine.

In summary, I am confident that these vaccines are safe and that the rare serious side effects are an acceptable risk given the known morbidity and mortality of this disease. To address other concerns that have been raised, there is no evidence that these vaccines lead to fertility problems, or that they can alter an individual's DNA. Again, I would encourage you to continue educating yourself and discuss any concerns with your physician.

DR. BRIDGET Dewey is a physician of internal medicine and pediatrics at Gateway Family Health Clinic in Moose Lake and Sandstone, Minnesota.

**Notice of Sheriff Execution Sale
Real Property**

Under and by virtue of an Execution out of and under the seal of the District Court of the State of Minnesota, in and for the Third Judicial District and County of Rice, upon a Judgment entered November 1st 2011 and docketed on November 1st 2011 in said Court and County, wherein Harvey Braun was the Plaintiff and Timothy Filipek was Defendant, in favor of said Plaintiff and against said Defendant in the sum of \$47,587.07, as it appears in the Judgment filed in the office of the Clerk of said District Court for the County of Rice, and whereas, said Judgment was docketed in the District Court of Carlton County, Minnesota, on the 2nd day of June, 2021, for the original principal amount of sum of \$47,587.07. The total sum of \$66,168.68, including accrued costs and interest is now actually due thereon plus additional interest computed up to and including the date of the sale and all fees, costs, and disbursements of levy and sale, and whereas, an Execution issued out of and under seal of said District Court of Rice County, Minnesota, to the Sheriff of Carlton County has been duly directed and delivered, said Sheriff of Carlton County has under and by virtue of said Execution levied upon and will sell at public auction to the highest cash bidder at the main lobby of the Carlton County Sheriff's Office: 317 Walnut Avenue, Carlton, MN 55718, in said County of Carlton on the 4th day of October, 2021, at 10:00 AM, on that day, all right, title and interest of the above named Judgment Debtor in and to the real estate located in Carlton County, Minnesota, hereinafter described as follows:

The East one half of the Northeast Quarter of the North- west Quarter and the East one half of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter and the East one half of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter all in Section 15, Township 47, Range 21, Carlton County, Minnesota. (Tax Parcel ID# 36- 010-2315 and Tax Parcel ID# 36-010-2345 and Tax Parcel ID# 36-010-2365)

Dated: July 23, 2021
by: Sargent Doug Rotta,
of Carlton County, Minnesota

Attorney for Judgment Creditor:
Scott A. Marek
PO Box 2
205 First Street South
Montgomery, MN 56069
Phone# 507-364-8616

(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Aug. 12, Aug. 19, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, Sept. 9 and Sept. 16 2021)

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF CARLTON
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
Court File No. 09-PR-21-1246
Case Type: Informal Probate
NOTICE OF INFORMAL
APPOINTMENT OF PERSON-
AL REPRESENTATIVE AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(WITHOUT A WILL)**

**Estate of
Llewallen M. Landsverk, also
known as Llewallen Maynard
Landsverk,
Deceased.**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PER-
SONS AND CREDITORS:**

Notice is hereby given that an application for informal appointment of personal representative has been filed with the Probate Registrar. No will has been presented for probate. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Probate Registrar has informally appointed the following:

Name
Brenda Leno
Address
329 6th Street
Cloquet, MN 55720

as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as Personal Representative, or may object to the appointment of the Personal Representative. Unless objections are filed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-607, and the court otherwise orders, the Personal Representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Notice is also given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this Notice, or the claims will be barred.

Dated: August 10, 2021
/s/ Robert Macaulay
Judge of District Court
Amy Turnquist // Janet Riegler,
Deputy Court Administrator
(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Sept. 2, 9, 2021)

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF CARLTON
DISTRICT COURT
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File No.: 09-PR-21-
1402**

**ORDER FOR HEARING
In Re: Estate of
John H. Minkinen, a/k/a
John Henry Minkinen
Decedent,**

The petition of John R. Minkinen, dated August 2, 2021, having been filed in this Court representing that the above named decedent has been dead for more than three years leaving certain property therein described, and requesting the probate of the last will of each decedent, if any, and the descent of said property be determined and assigned by the Court to the persons entitled thereto.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that said petition be heard on the 23rd day of September, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., by the above named Court at the Carlton County Courthouse, City of Carlton, County of Carlton, State of Minnesota. If you have an objection to this case, please contact Court Administration at (218) 221-7560 option# 8 for further instructions as these hearings are currently held remotely due to the pandemic.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the petitioner give notice of said hearing in the manner prescribed by M.S.A. 524.1-401 to all persons entitled to notice pursuant to M.S.A. 524.3-403 and to all persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to M.S.A. 524.3-204.

Dated: Aug. 13, 2021
/s/ Rebekka Stumme
Judge of District Court
Amy Turnquist,
Court Administrator
Chelsea Opdahl,
Deputy Court Administrator
John M. Warp, ID #114674, of
John M. Warp, PA
Attorneys for Petitioner
302 Elm Avenue,
P.O. Box 280
Moose Lake, MN 55767
218/485-4489
(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 2021)

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF CARLTON
DISTRICT COURT
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File No.: 09-PR-21-
1389**

**ORDER FOR HEARING
In Re: Estate of
Harold C. Newman,
Decedent,**

The petition of James A. Newman, dated August 4, 2021, having been filed in this Court representing that the above named decedent has been dead for more than three years leaving certain property therein described, and requesting the probate of the last will of each decedent, if any, and the descent of said property be determined and assigned by the Court to the persons entitled thereto.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that said petition be heard on the 23rd day of September, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., by the above named Court at the Carlton County Courthouse, City of Carlton, County of Carlton, State of Minnesota. If you have an objection to this case, please contact Court Administration at (218) 221-7560 option# 8 for further instructions as these hearings are currently held remotely due to the pandemic.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the petitioner give notice of said hearing in the manner prescribed by M.S.A. 524.1-401 to all persons entitled to notice pursuant to M.S.A. 524.3-403 and to all persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to M.S.A. 524.3-204.

Dated: Aug. 10, 2021
/s/ Rebekka Stumme
Judge of District Court
Amy Turnquist,
Court Administrator
Chelsea Opdahl,
Deputy Court Administrator

John M. Warp, ID #114674, of
John M. Warp, PA
Attorneys for Petitioner
302 Elm Avenue,
P.O. Box 280
Moose Lake, MN 55767
218/485-4489
(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 2021)

NOTICE FOR SERVICE
Independent School District #577, Willow River Area School, is requesting quotes for Service from Licensed Realtors until 1:00 pm on Friday, September 10, 2021, to sell a parcel of school owned land. If interested, please contact Superintendent Bill Peel, 8142 Pine Street, Willow River, MN 55795 at bpeel@isd577.org or (218) 372-3131 ext. 112.

(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 2021)

**Willow River Area Schools
ISD #577
8142 Pine Street
Willow River, Minnesota
55795
Unofficial Minutes for the
Regular Meeting of the
School Board
6:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 17,
2021 High School Library,
Room 139**

Call to Order- The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance by Chair David Prachar at 6:00 p.m. School Board members present were Connie Mikrot, Bruce Bohaty, Aziz Al-Arfaj, Jennifer Burlak, Sonja Roach and David Prachar. Others in attendance were Superintendent and High School Principal Bill Peel, Assistant to the High School Principal Melissa Johnson, Elementary Principal Neil Schiller, Business Manager Laura Carlson, District Administrative Assistant Tara Prachar and two visitors. There was no Student Representative present.

Comments and Requests from Visitors-None.

A motion was made by Mikrot and seconded by Roach to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Burlak and seconded by Al-Arfaj to approve the consent agenda.

- a. Minutes from the July 20, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.
- b. Bills and Claims for July, 2021.
- c. Treasurer's Report for July, 2021.
- d. Resignation of Melissa Franjen, Title I Teacher.
- e. Hiring of Tina DeRungs, Art/Intervention Teacher.
- f. Hiring of Gregg Campbell, Business/CTE Teacher.
- g. Resignation of Lori Anderson, 6th Grade Teacher.

A motion was made by Bohaty and seconded by Roach to approve the Truth and Taxation date for December 21, 2021.

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mikrot and seconded by Roach to approve the Student/Parent Handbook for 2021-2022.

Reopening Plan. Roll Call
Roll Call: Prachar-yes, Mikrot-yes, Bohaty-yes, Al-Arfaj-yes, Burlak-yes, Roach-yes.
The resolution passed.

A motion was made by Mikrot and seconded by Burlak to approve the Resolution for the land sale.

Roll Call: Roach-yes, Prachar-yes, Mikrot-yes, Bohaty-yes, Al-Arfaj-yes, Burlak-yes.
The resolution passed.

For consideration, Burlak presented and discussed, as appropriate, the six policies noted below: Policy 709-Student Transportation
No board action needed.
Policy 722-Public Data Requests
No board action needed.

Policy 520-Student Surveys
No board action needed.
Policy 416-Drug & Alcohol Testing
No board action needed.
Policy 420-Students & Employees with Sexually and Other Communicable Transmitted Infections & Diseases
No board action needed.
Policy 421-Gifts to Employees & School Board Members
No board action needed.
Reports:
Student Representative - No report.

Elementary Principal - Neil Schiller shared that Kindergarten Camp and Summer school were successful with over 40 students attending. Staff are looking forward to doing it again next year. Two new curriculums are being piloted this year: Reveal and Eureka. We are hoping one of these choices will better align to the math standards and MCA's. Top 20 social emotional learning curriculum will be implemented this year in our Elementary. Kindergarten and 1st Grade will also be implementing a new reading curriculum which aims at building early literacy skills.

Assistant to the Secondary Principal - Melissa Johnson shared that there will be three extra staff training days in August. High School will continue on the same A/B schedule as last year. Open House will be September 2nd from 4:30-6:30 p.m. 7th Grade Orientation will happen during that time.

Board Members/Committees:
Curriculum/Policy- Burlak shared that the committee discussed math pilot curriculum options, the student/parent handbook and the reopening plan. Next month they will be reviewing policies 506, 102, 214, 422, 423 and 424.

Facilities/Activities- Al-Arfaj shared that the committee discussed the football scoreboard that is nearing completion and the project list. They also discussed transportation concerns and the current driver shortage. There are concerns about subs, as well as the length of many routes.

Finance/Personnel/Negotiations - Mikrot shared that the committee had reviewed the July payments and that WREA negotiations continue. She thanked outgoing STEM teacher Melissa Fransen and 6th grade teacher Lori Anderson.

Sports Liaison - No update.
BMW - No update.
Superintendent/High School Principal - Bill Peel shared that workshop week will include a staff day of training at the Pine County History Museum in Askov. The staff breakfast is scheduled for August 31st at 7:30 a.m. Open House, September 2nd from 4:30-6:30 p.m will include a Covid-19 vaccine and flu shot clinic that will be open to the public. The ADSIS position has applicants and Jessica Youngberg will be transitioning to teaching 6th grade.

Willow River Pride:
- Thank You Amy Thompson, Jessica Engleson, Tina DeRungs, Jennifer Hoffmann, Sherry Carlson, Dawn Fjosne, and Jim Behrman for your role in helping to hold successful Elementary Summer School and Kindergarten Camp programs.

Upcoming Meetings:
•August 18 5 p.m. Cooperative Meeting
•September 7 1:15 p.m. Facilities/Transportation/Activities
•September 14 10:00 a.m. Curriculum/Policy
•September 14 3:30 p.m. Finance/Personnel/Negotiations
•September 21 6:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

A motion was made by Mikrot nd seconded by Roach to Adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously. Respectfully submitted
David Prachar, Board Chair
E. Bruce Bohaty, Clerk
(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Sept. 2, 2021)

**Moose Lake-Willow River
Sports Cooperative
Willow River Area School,
High School Library
Unofficial Minutes for the
Annual Meeting
of the Cooperative**

August 18, 2021 5:00pm
Call to Order-The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance by Chair David Prachar at 5:10pm. Willow River School Board members present were David Prachar, Jennifer Burlak, Sonja Roach and Bruce Bohaty. Aziz Al-Arfaj and Connie Mikrot were absent. Moose Lake School Board members present were Steven Blondo, Jerry Pederson, Kim Bohnsack, Lisa Anderson-Reed, Julie Peterson and Ben Anderson.

Others in attendance from Willow River were Superintendent and High School Principal Bill Peel, Assistant to the High School Principal Melissa Johnson, Business Manager Laura Carlson, Athletic Director Dave Louzek and District Administrative Assistant Tara Prachar. Those in attendance from Moose Lake included Superintendent Billie Jo Steen and Athletic Director Rebecca Jackson.

A motion was made by Blondo and seconded by Bohnsack to amend and approve the agenda by adding Medical Services and Concussions to item 12, and move adjournment to item 13.

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Bohnsack and seconded by Pederson to leave Athletic Fees as is for the 2021-2022 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Burlak and seconded by Roach to leave Ticket Prices as is for the 2021-2022 school year.

The motion passed unanimously.

The cooperative would like to reassess the fees and ticket prices in the Spring.

Business Manager Laura Carlson provided the Annual Budget Review including the FY21 Actual and the FY22 Proposed. No action needed, as this information had already been approved by each board.

A motion was made by Blondo and seconded by Anderson-Reed to approve the addition of One Act Play into the cooperative agreement, with Willow River being the administrative host.

The motion passed unanimously.

The cooperative agreement was reviewed and the following changes were made:

Section II - Administrative Management, 2.33

-b, change: Delete "four members," and replace it with, " A quorum from each school board shall be in attendance."

-g, change: Delete "4 votes," and replace it with, "in attendance at the meeting."

A motion was made by Peterson and seconded by Bohnsack to approve the above noted changes for Items b & g.

The motion passed unanimously.

Continued in the same section:
-h, New Addition: "Each District shall be responsible for posting the meeting notice at the respective schools per MN Statute."

-i, New Addition: "Each District will be responsible for posting the minutes of their legal newspaper. In the event that both schools share the same legal newspaper, the host school shall be responsible for posting the minutes."

A motion was made by Blondo and seconded by Anderson-Reed to approve the above noted additions of Items h & i.

The motion passed unanimously.

Continued in the same section:

-j, New Addition: "In the event a circumstance arises requiring a timely decision, the superintendents and board chairs of

both schools shall confer. Upon reaching a unanimous decision, the decision shall be enacted and board members of both schools shall be informed. If agreement cannot be reached unanimously, then a MLWR Cooperative Board meeting shall be called and the decision by the Cooperative Board shall be enacted."

A motion was made by Prachar and seconded by Peterson to approve the above noted addition of Item j.

The motion passed unanimously.

Addition of new section: Section XIV - Requests for Entrance into the Cooperative

School districts requesting entrance into the Cooperative shall;

14.1 Submit a letter to the Cooperative, stating the request for entrance into the Cooperative, the sport or sports they are requesting to participate in and when they are requesting to join the Cooperative by.

14.2 Upon receipt of the request, each Cooperative School District shall discuss the request prior to the Liaison committee meeting.

14.3 A Liaison committee meeting shall be called. At the meeting, the Liaison Committee shall make a recommendation for a Cooperative meeting in which the Cooperative shall make a decision on the request.

14.4 The decision of the Cooperative shall be forwarded in writing to the requesting party with the signatories of both Chairs and Clerks from the Cooperative School Districts.

14.5 If the request to enter the Cooperative is approved. The Cooperative shall follow Minnesota State High School League by-law #403 for official approval.

A motion was made by Blondo and seconded by Prachar to approve the addition of Section XIV.

The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Prachar and seconded by Blondo to approve the cooperative agreement for the next two years.

The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on Fall Sports and Transportation. The group had extended conversation about transportation concerns. The driver shortage is significantly impacting our ability to get students to and from school, while we also need to try to get student athletes to practices and games around the same time. While many coaches will likely be obtaining van driving certification, that also doesn't help solve the problem because the schools are also utilizing their vans during that after school time. Leasing with other bus companies is also not an option, as they are also short drivers. Concern about what participation numbers will look like as more of the transportation is put on parents. Discussion about what would be needed for waivers to allow parent permission for students to carpool. Students would be allowed to drive to practice, but must be driven to a game by a guardian, or adult with a waiver. We will not be able to staff a practice bus.

A motion was made by Bohaty and seconded by Bohnsack that we will prioritize varsity game transportation and will strive to offer more transportation options to other level teams. We will communicate this need to families immediately.

The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on Coach Salaries. Coaching pay has remained the same for ten years. All pay amounts are tied to Schedule C of the Moose Lake teacher contract. Removal of that schedule from the contract will need to be voted on by the Moose Lake teachers. It is the cooperative's hope that it could be transitioned to the cooperative. No changes can be made until it is removed from that contract.

Student numbers are generally decreasing each year for both

schools enrollment, as well as sports participation.

Discussion on our need to contract for medical and concussion impact assessment training for our student athletes. Essentialia Health, St. Luke's and Gateway Clinic have met informally with MLWR cooperative representatives. Essentialia is interested in hiring a sports therapist that we would share with Barnum. This could be a one year contract to see how it goes. St. Luke's/ Gateway had a brainstorming discussion, but no official offer yet. The cooperative is still waiting on formal proposals from both. It was mentioned that this opportunity should be implemented now, so it can be utilized for our Football season as there have not been any ongoing concussion assessments. The cooperative will ask Essentialia & Gateway to submit contract options by August 27, 2021. A Special Cooperative meeting scheduled for August 31, 2021 at 5:00pm in Moose Lake for this agenda item.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bohnsack and seconded by Pederson at 7:07pm.

The motion passed unanimously.

(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Sept. 2, 2021)

Moose Lake School Board August 24, 2021

The regular meeting of the Moose Lake School Board was called to order by Chair Steven Blondo at 5:35pm. Board members present include Lisa Anderson-Reed, Jerry Pederson, Steven Blondo, Julie Peterson, Ben Anderson, and Kim Bohnsack. Others present include: Superintendent Billie Jo Steen, Principals Kraig Konietzko and Ryan Stewart, Business Manager Kara Burn, Ed MN Representative Lee Stephenson, community members, and Alenea White-Media.

Pledge of Allegiance
Motion by Peterson, second by Pederson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Anderson-Reed, second by Bohnsack to approve the July 19, 2021 regular board meeting minutes; approve the Preliminary July 2021 Treasurer's Report; approve the July 30, 2021 payroll: checks #70222-70227 and 70251-70255 for \$2,747.49, electronic transfer of \$71,033.56 and direct deposit of \$105,286.41 for a total payroll of \$179,067.46 and the August 13, 2021 payroll: checks #70228-70233 and 70256-70260 for \$2,747.79, electronic transfer of \$66,256.98, and direct deposit of \$108,839.66 for a total payroll of \$177,844.43; approve the July 23, 2021 bill list: checks #66445-66468 for \$92,821.44 and wire transfer of \$14,236.87 for a total of \$107,058.31; the August 6, 2021 bill list: checks #66469-66499 for \$139,462.06 and wire amount of \$50,492.22 for a total of \$189,954.28; the August 16, 2021 bill list: checks #66500-66507 for \$9,984.17 and wire transfer of \$858.81 for a total of \$10,842.98; and the August 24, 2021 bill list: checks #66508-66537 for \$166,011.41 and wire amount of \$5,668.97 for a total of \$171,680.38; and approve the fall coaching contracts: Adam Whelan (Head Cross Country), Spencer Walton (Ass't Cross Country, Andy Wyman (Ass't Cross Country), Kelsey Swansstrom Head Volleyball), Rebecca Vaughan (Ass't Volleyball), Sierra Michaelson (C-Team Volleyball), Beckie Jackson (JH Volleyball), Ashley Cummins (JH Volleyball), and Jessica Engleson (Cheer).

Motion passed unanimously.

Public Participation:

Jordan Goodman- masks
Darren Juntunen- masks
Byron Kuster- masking
Brooke Palkie- mask recommendation
Lisa Gassert- mask mandate
Peggy Baun Granquist- masks [provided handouts on 2 additional studies why masks don't work]

Good Things Happening:

-Thank you to the Moose Lake PTA for once again purchasing school supplies for all students.

Reports:

Complete reports can be found on the Moose Lake Community School website.

Items:

Motion by Blondo, second by Pederson to approve the 2021-2022 Just Kids Dental Memorandum of Understanding. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Peterson, second by Bohnsack to approve increasing the adult lunch price to \$4.25 per MDE guidelines. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Pederson, second by Blondo to approve the High School and Elementary Handbooks for school year 2021-22. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Anderson-Reed, second by Peterson to approve the transfer of \$2,154 from unrestricted transportation to the already established bus fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Blondo, second by Bohnsack to approve the transfer of up to \$75,000 from the general fund to the bus fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Peterson, second by Blondo to set the Truth in Taxation date for the 2021 Payable 2022 Levy for December 20, 2021 at 6:01pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Blondo, second by Bohnsack to approve the drafting of a resolution regarding health and safety measures for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Blondo, second by Pederson to approve the following resolution:

Health and Safety Measures for the 2021-2022 School Year
WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.09 vests the care, management, and control of independent districts in the school board; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Independent School District 97 [hereinafter the "Superintendent"] is responsible for the management of the schools, the administration of all School District policies, and is directly accountable to the School Board; and

WHEREAS, when responsibilities are not specifically prescribed nor School District policy applicable, the Superintendent shall use personal and professional judgment, subject to review by the School Board, pursuant to School District Policy 302, Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and the Minnesota Department of Health ("MDH") have determined that the COVID-19 pandemic is currently ongoing and may remain ongoing for an unknown time; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Education ("MDE") has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on educational issues related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the MDH has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on public health issues related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the administration of the School District have conferred with the School Board regarding COVID-19 health and safety measures, the current CDC, MDE, and MDH requirements for each, and other relevant information; and

WHEREAS, based upon the collective consideration of these factors, the Superintendent has recommended to the School Board that based upon the collective consideration of these factors, the Superintendent has recommended to the School Board that health and safety measures as described below be implemented at the commencement of the 2021-2022 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

by the School Board of Independent School District No. 97 as follows:

Section 1: The Superintendent is hereby directed to implement the following health and safety measures to open the 2021-2022 school year:

1. All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District 97 buildings, regardless of vaccination status, are recommended to follow the strategies of physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection, contact tracing, screening testing, and staying home when sick as defined in the "CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools."

2. All individuals on district transportation are required to wear a face covering in compliance with CDC order.

3. All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District 97 buildings are recommended to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.

Section 2: The Superintendent is hereby authorized, after consultation with the School Board Chair and notification to the School Board, to select and implement different health and safety measures for the School District or any specific school buildings without School Board action if the Superintendent reasonably believes that prompt implementation of different health and safety measures is necessary, and that constraints of time and public health considerations render it impractical to hold a School Board meeting to approve the implementation. The health and safety measures selected and implemented by the Superintendent shall continue in effect unless and until the School Board, in consultation with the Superintendent and appropriate school district staff and public health officials, deems it in the best interest of the School District and its students to implement different health and safety measures.

Section 3: The Superintendent will provide regular updates to the School Board regarding the School District's efforts to implement COVID-19 related educational and public health guidance issued by the MDE and the MDH, respectively.

Roll call vote: Blondo-yes, Bohnsack-yes, Pederson-yes, Peterson-no, Anderson-yes, Anderson-Reed-no. Motion passed 4-2.

Motion by Anderson-Reed, second by Peterson to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Council 65 and Independent School District No 97 for educational leave for Emily Danelski for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting/Event Dates	
Meeting	Date
Time	Location
Athletic Cooperative	
Meeting August 31	
5:00 pm	Elementary Library
Regular Meeting Sept. 20	
5:00 p.m.	Board Room
Negotiations	TBD
Truth in Taxation	Dec. 20
6:01 p.m	Board Room
Motion by Pederson, second by Bohnsack to adjourn at 7:26 pm. Motion passed unanimously.	
Steven Blondo, Chairperson	
Lisa Anderson-Reed, Clerk	
(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Sept 2, 2021)	

BID REQUESTS
ISD 91 Barnum is requesting bids for the following services: Snow Removal, Bread, and Garbage/ Recycling Removal. For details, go to ISD91.org > District > Bids. Deadline is 9/10/21, 12:00 noon.
(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Sept. 9, 2021)

**Regular School Board Meeting Minutes
Barnum Public Schools
ISD 91
August 17, 2021**

Media Center The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Members Present: L. Bonnevill, P. Coughlin, B. Dinger, S. Ferrin, B. Schatz, J. Unkelhaeuser and Superintendent M. McNulty

Members Absent: J. Fugles-tad

Approval of Agenda:
Motion by Coughlin, **seconded** by Schatz, and **unanimously carried** to approve the agenda with the following changes:

—**Strike the following from the Consent Agenda and re-number remaining items:**

D. Approve the resignation of Gregg Campbell, High School Principal, effective August 20, 2021.

Add the following to Items for Individual Action and Discussion and renumber remaining items:

I. Consider approving the JUST KIDS DENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING for 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR DENTAL SERVICES.

J. Consider approving a One-Year Leave of Absence for Gregg Campbell, High School Principal, for SY22.

Approval of Minutes
Motion by Ferrin, **seconded** by Coughlin, and **unanimously carried** to approve the following minutes:

- Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting Minutes, July 20, 2021,
- Working School Board Meeting Minutes, July 27, 2021,
- Special School Board Meeting Minutes, July 27, 2021,
- Special School Board Meeting Minutes, August 2, 2021,
- Special School Board Meeting Minutes, August 10, 2021, and
- Special School Board Meeting Minutes, August 11, 2021

Chairperson's Announcements:

A. Good Things Happening
Barnum Community Education's Age to Age program installed a Little Free Library on July 9 at the Barnum City Park Entrance. It was built & painted by Buzz & Vicki DeLaRosby. Take a book, leave a book!

B. Public Participation:
Community members addressed the pros and cons of a mask requirement for SY22.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion by Ferrin, **seconded** by Schatz, and **unanimously carried** to approve the Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2021.

Payment of Bills:

Motion by Dinger, **seconded** by Ferrin, and **unanimously carried** to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$570,538.81 and payroll paid in July in the amount of \$474,313.58 for a total of \$1,044,852.39.

Wire Transfer:

Motion by Schatz, **seconded** by Unkelhaeuser, and **unanimously carried** to approve the wire transfer funds of \$889,597.50.

Superintendent's Report:
Superintendent McNulty gave the floor to ICS to present their Facilities report.

Consent Agenda:
Motion by Dinger, **seconded** by Bonneville, and **unanimously carried** to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

A. Approve the resignation of Caroline Nordvall, Paraprofessional, effective August 9, 2021.

B. Reinstate the summer lay-off, non-licensed personnel for the 2021-2022 school year.

C. Approve the Engagement Letter for Actuarial Services with Vanlwaarden for FY22 & FY23.

D. Approve the Community Education Early Childhood staff contracts for Alyssa Entner, Alisha Bigelow and Kaitlin Warpula.

Items for Individual Action and Discussion:

A. **Motion** by Unkelhaeuser, **seconded** by Schatz, and **unanimously carried** to approve the part-time hire of Heather McCall, Community Education Administrative Assistant, effective August 16, 2021.

B. **Motion** by Dinger, **seconded** by Ferrin, and **unanimously carried** to approve the part-time hire of Christy Cloutier, Early Childhood Coordinator, effective August 9, 2021.

C. **Motion** by Ferrin, **seconded** by Schatz, and **unanimously carried** to approve Roxi Olsen-Hurst as the ECFE Parent Educator, effective August 18, 2021.

D. **Motion** by Dinger, **seconded** by Coughlin, and **unanimously carried** to approve the 2021-2022 Barnum Elementary Parent / Student Handbook.

E. **Motion** by Unkelhaeuser, **seconded** by Dinger, and **unanimously carried** to approve the 2021-2022 Barnum High School Student / Parent Handbook.

F. Considered School Board Policies 419, 516 and 533. This was the second of three readings of the policies and no Board action was taken.

G. **Motion** by Coughlin, **seconded** by Schatz, and **unanimously carried** to table the Fall School Opening / Health Recommendations Plan.

H. **Motion** by Dinger, **seconded** by Schatz, and **unanimously carried** to approve a Resolution Providing for a Public Hearing to Consider Granting a Proposed Property Tax Abatement.

I. **Motion** by Coughlin, **seconded** by Ferrin, and **unanimously carried** to approve the JUST KIDS DENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING for 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR DENTAL SERVICES.

J. **Motion** by Unkelhaeuser, **seconded** by Coughlin, and **unanimously carried** to approve a One-Year Leave of Absence for Gregg Campbell, High School Principal, for SY22.

K. Discussed how to proceed with vacant high school principal position. No action was taken.

L. **Motion** by Ferrin, **seconded** by Bonneville, and **unanimously carried** to approve closing the meeting at 9:03 p.m. for the Superintendent Evaluation per MS.13D.05 Subd. 3.

Motion by Coughlin, **seconded** by Bonneville, and **unanimously carried** to approve re-opening the meeting at 9:55 p.m. following the Superintendent Evaluation.

Future Meetings:

A. Community Education Advisory Council Meeting, Monday, August 23, 2021, Board Rm

B. School Board Retreat, Monday, August 30, 2021, 5:30 p.m., Media Center

C. Regular School Board Meeting, Tuesday, September 21, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Media Center

Adjournment:

Motion by Bonneville, **seconded** by Schatz, and **unanimously carried** to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Paul Coughlin, School Board Clerk
(Published in the Moose Lake Star-Gazette on Sept. 2, 2021)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER GRANTING

A PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the School Board of Independent School District No. 91 (Barnum Public Schools), Barnum, Minnesota (the "District") will hold a public hearing on September 21, 2021, at approximately 6:30 o'clock p.m., Barnum High School Media Center, 3675 County Road 13, Barnum, MN 55707, to consider granting an abatement of certain property taxes levied against net tax capacity imposed by the District (the "Proposed Property Tax Abatement") for taxes payable in 2022 through 2031 on the following properties within the District boundaries (identified by property identification number):

60-032-2205	39-030-1481
39-010-0305	81-050-3720
13-140-0240	45-100-0080
39-045-0410	13-150-0020
51-056-5415	39-030-1985

39-100-0010	13-020-1100
13-140-0542	39-030-1476
13-150-0542	33-010-6160
33-026-9463	33-010-8045
45-048-3214	13-130-0012
60-052-3890	39-026-0705
60-052-4325	39-045-0250
39-220-0080	45-048-3294
39-030-1426	88-028-3740
60-026-2064	39-030-1834
39-030-1866	33-010-1523
39-020-1130	60-026-1705
39-020-0015	33-026-9640
60-052-3962	39-030-1130
33-010-7300	39-030-2000
13-120-0025	39-030-1410
45-048-3216	39-026-0306
13-130-0010	81-050-3715
45-018-0770	39-010-0844
39-030-2040	39-210-0200
39-120-0300	60-032-2260
33-024-9420	33-010-1205
33-010-1100	39-045-0350
33-010-2180	39-026-0054
39-020-0760	39-030-1832
39-046-0080	60-026-1495
39-010-1000	39-040-0040
39-010-1090	33-180-0020
60-034-3155	39-030-1456
60-026-1135	39-010-0975
39-100-0080	39-010-2315
39-010-1100	39-120-0640
81-050-3700	39-030-1464
60-034-3135	39-045-0370
45-042-3042	39-030-1836
39-020-1483	72-070-4276
60-052-3963	39-026-0362
45-056-3545	39-010-0552
33-010-1060	39-010-0660
81-050-3723	39-030-1760
39-010-1050	39-030-1767
39-010-0919	39-010-0567
39-180-0400	39-030-1462
39-030-1842	39-030-1495
88-028-5800	39-030-1480
39-010-0913	45-048-3304
33-010-1920	33-022-9240
39-030-1839	39-030-1477
39-020-1300	39-020-1112
39-045-0390	13-230-0707
39-020-0055	72-090-5545
39-210-0040	39-220-0120
39-030-1835	45-048-3302
45-072-5094	60-032-2294
33-010-6240	39-030-2180
39-020-1900	60-052-3964
33-010-5060	60-026-0590
81-050-3690	60-032-2380
39-010-1390	51-052-3430
39-030-1324	45-100-0020
45-056-3455	39-030-1236
39-030-1375	33-180-0040
39-030-1867	39-030-1470
39-010-0892	60-034-3072
13-160-0020	39-100-0030
33-220-0040	13-120-0034
39-045-0180	45-030-1273
39-010-0894	60-026-0900
39-045-0400	33-010-7102
39-040-0050	39-100-0020
45-072-5250	39-170-0060
60-026-1343	39-030-1478
13-140-0384	60-040-3295
13-120-0080	39-030-1560
60-034-3080	39-030-1452
39-010-0926	72-070-3520
39-030-1415	39-020-1257
39-030-1833	39-020-1930
39-030-1763	39-120-0060
72-090-5400	39-040-0020
60-044-3370	39-030-1475
86-022-0870	33-024-9423
39-030-1430	39-120-0540
39-030-1838	39-045-0320
39-030-1400	60-026-0390
39-010-0944	81-062-5600
13-120-0040	39-030-1454
60-032-2545	45-056-3454
45-048-3212	39-100-0040
33-010-0840	39-030-1865
13-120-0030	60-034-3219
39-026-0810	51-052-3262
13-150-0345	39-100-0050
39-020-1580	33-180-0140
51-056-5950	39-010-0847
33-010-2043	33-010-2002
60-026-1424	39-010-2750
39-030-1830	39-020-0873
39-010-2300	60-052-3865
39-030-1424	60-052-3820
39-010-1125	39-030-1390
72-090-5515	39-050-0200
33-010-2140	39-010-2690
39-120-0600	39-026-0332
36-015-3100	45-072-5155
39-010-1054	39-030-1110
33-260-0180	

The purpose of granting the Proposed Property Tax Abatement is to provide funds to finance the construction of and improvements to parking lots at various sites in the District. The total estimated amount of the Proposed Property Tax Abatement by the District is \$759,780

mcan

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KEVIN J. GLASS | SUBMITTED

Twenty-four youth participated in the second Pine County Collaborative Youth Fishing Event. This year the fishing took place on Sturgeon Lake.

Pine County Collaborative Youth Fishing Event is a big success

MARY ELLEN DEWEY AND KEVIN J. GLASS
RECIPE@PINECOUNTYCOURIER.COM

Pine County hosted the Second Annual Pine County Collaborative Youth Fishing Event on Sturgeon Lake on Wednesday, August 25. It was a great day for fishing as 24 Pine County youth participated in the event. Pine County Probation Supervisor Kevin Glass organized the event, which he enlisted the help of many volunteers. This event could

not have been possible without the help of the volunteers (transporting the youth, providing fishing poles, life jackets, providing food and beverages, cooking, and providing the boats). Those that helped out included the Pine County Sheriff Jeff Nelson and several of his Deputies; MN DNR Conservation Officer Dustie Speldrich along with other MN Conservation Officer's and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Conservation Officers; Pine County Social

Workers Kristen Schroeder & Adriane Wimmer; Pine County Probation Agents Jami Tuve & Christopher Stolan; the Community Cultural Coach, Roberta Dunkley; the Evening Reporting Center Director, Jason Vinaja; Empower School Teacher Brad Jensen; and East Central School Principal Stef Youngberg. This truly was a collaborative event! All 24 youth were able to fish out of a boat, which for some of them was their first time doing

so. This year we had a contest for the largest fish caught. The winner was awarded a brand-new rod & reel. Adrenaline Archery donated all of our bait (minnows & worms). 13 Fishing donated tackle for the youth to keep. The Pine City Dairy Queen also provided each youth with a certificate for a free ice cream cone. The Pine County Chemical Health Coalition donated water and granola bars. East Central School Principal Stef Youngberg brought

and cooked a lot of hot dogs. The Pine County District Court Judges baked and donated cookies for the event, and all 96 cookies were consumed quickly! All of the youth and volunteers had a great time are looking forward to attending it next year. The event had more participants and more boats in the water than the first event. Providing the youth an opportunity to fish out of a boat especially with someone from Law Enforcement

was great. The youth got to see a different side of Law Enforcement that they might not get to see otherwise. "These events bring the community closer together and they are just fun events!" said Supervisor Kevin J. Glass. Pine County Probation Officers are looking forward to holding an Ice Fishing outing in January and the 3rd Annual Pine County Collaborative Youth Fishing Event in July 2022.



Everyone home safe.

Work has begun on the replacement of Line 3 in Minnesota – bringing jobs and economic benefits to local communities along the route.

Keeping communities, our employees and contractors safe is our top priority.

You will see increases in truck traffic, heavy equipment and more people around town. For your safety and the safety of others, please use caution when driving near construction activities and do not enter our work areas.

We are following robust COVID-19 Safe Work Protocols and practicing strict construction safety procedures to ensure everyone arrives home safe. Our employees and contractors are advised to follow local COVID-19 guidelines while in your community.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

For more information, visit enbridge.com/line3US.