



## Slip, sledding away ...

After not having enough snow to go sledding, snowmobiling, cross country skiing through November and most of December, outdoor enthusiasts have been enjoying a little time in the white powder lately after the area was hit by a pair of snowstorms. Here, Eva Skorczewski and her sister, Lydia, enjoy sledding downhill on their toboggan outside of Minneota recently. Partway down the hill, though, the siblings had a slight mishap and wiped out. The mild winter temperatures to date have made ice fishing difficult on some lakes with the ice thickness still not safe. Several ATV's have broken through the ice in west central Minnesota. Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason

## Winter sports finally begin

By Scott Thoma  
scott@thomabooks.com

Finally, the high school winter sports season has officially begun. We can only hope it continues without interruptions again.

Last season, the wrestling and dance line teams completed their entire seasons, including state tournaments. Then came the girls basketball season with Minneota favored to win the Class A state championship. But the pandemic reared its ugly head and the state girls basketball tournament was cancelled moments before the Vikings were ready to take the court for their semifinal game.

The boys basketball post-season was already in its section tournament when the season was halted and they also had no state tournament this year.

When winter sports were set to begin this year, the season was put on hiatus ... until now.

Practices began on Monday, Jan. 4, but schedule are still being worked out.

The wrestling team's season opener is slated for Thursday, Jan. 14 in a home triangular against Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbrook-Walnut Grove and Red Rock Central.

The girls basketball team opens at home on Friday, Jan. 15 against MACCRAY. The boys basketball team also opens at home, hosting Dawson-Boyd on Friday, Jan. 16.

**Sports** Continued on Page 3



Laurie Hauschild received a cake from co-workers after retiring as a rural carrier with the Minneota Postal Department recently. Contributed photo

## STAMP OF APPROVAL

Hauschild retires after 32 years as rural postal carrier

By Scott Thoma  
scott@thomabooks.com

The New Year is already starting out better for Laurie Hauschild ... she doesn't have to go to work anymore.

Hauschild's last day as a Minneota rural postal carrier was last Thursday. After 32 years, she figured it was time to enjoy some other things in life.

"Some of my grandkids are in sports and I'll be able to watch them now," she said. "It was just time to make a change. I won't have to drive in the snow and ice anymore either."

The day before Hauschild was to begin her job as a postal carrier was Christmas Day of 1988. She was welcomed with 18 inches of snow that blanketed the area and made driving anywhere a challenge.

"I bought an old Jeep from a neighbor to deliver in so it wasn't too bad getting through the snow," she said.

And that would be the first of many vehicles she has used to deliver in the country and in

town over those 32 years.

"I always bought older vehicles to deliver in and I would use my other vehicle if I needed four-wheel drive," she said. "But I can't even begin to tell you how many vehicles I've gone through."

When she began driving, her route was around 125 miles. More recently, delivering to 440 boxes in both town and country, her route was 102 miles. In all, she calculates the number of miles she has driven for the postal service to be around 800,000.

"I've worked with a lot of great postmasters over the years," she noted. "I've really got to work with a lot of great people; in the office and those I deliver to."

And the people she works with enjoyed having her in the office each morning.

Hauschild was given a "Happy Retirement" cake on her last day of work by co-workers.

"She was very dedicated to her job and was a pleasure to

be around," said Clark Corbin, the Minneota Postmaster. "We will miss her stories and hearing her laugh."

Hauschild mentioned the number of people that greet her at the mailbox to say hello.

"I got to know a lot of the kids that would meet me when I delivered the mail," she told. "And then as the years went on, I would be delivering their graduation announcements and cards and things like that. You really get to know some of the people you deliver for."

And some of those people have shown their appreciation with memorable gifts at Christmas time, too.

And it's not just people that greet her during deliveries.

"One place in the country that I delivered to had a black lab," she said. "When I would get out of my vehicle to deliver a package to the house, the dog would always bring me a ball and want me to play with him."

**Hauschild** Continued on Page 2

## 'I'm going to keep fighting the beast'

Buckingham exudes positivity during stage-4 cancer battle

By Scott Thoma  
scott@thomabooks.com

Spending two minutes on the phone or in person with Mitzi (Tomasek) Buckingham makes you realize what a gift life truly is. Her positivity amid a current serious health battle makes you feel guilty for complaining about a headache.

Buckingham, who graduated from Minneota High School in 1980, has every reason in the world to be bitter, angry, or feel sorry for herself. But that's not the route she seems to be taking despite having stage-4 pancreatic cancer and stage-4 colon cancer.

Even more amazing is that the two cancers are unrelated, doctors told her.

"I've never been angry at God or anyone," she insists. "I've had a wonderful life. I've had wonderful parents. I have wonderful kids and grandkids. I have wonderful friends. And I have Jesus."

The friends she refers to are her "Mitzi's Prayer Warriors", which consist of those family members and friends who have supported her during this ordeal and are fundraising to defray the family's medical expenses.

**Warriors** Continued on Page 3



Left to right: Mitzi Buckingham and her daughters, Kelli Gamrak and Kristi Kennedy smile as they pose for a photo while making Chex mix together. Contributed photo.

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2011  
Chevrolet  
Tahoe  
LTZ

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SNOW!

2016  
Lincoln  
MKC  
Reserve



## What's Happening?

**Thursday, Jan. 14**  
 Noon-6 p.m. - Bloodmobile at KB's in Ghent  
 5 p.m. - Wrestling: Minnesota Triangular vs. Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbook/Walnut Grove and Red Rock Central

**Friday, Jan. 15**  
 5 p.m. - Wrestling: Minnesota and Fulda/Murray County Central at Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg Triangular in Kerkhoven  
 7 p.m. - Girls Basketball: MACCRAY at Minneota

**Saturday, Jan. 16**  
 7 p.m. - Boys Basketball: Dawson-Boyd at Minneota

**Monday, Jan. 18**  
 7 p.m. - Girls Basketball: Minneota at Renville County West

**Tuesday, Jan. 19**  
 7 p.m. - Boys Basketball: Minneota vs. Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg at Kerkhoven

**Wednesday, Jan. 20**  
 1-7 p.m. - Bloodmobile at the American Legion in Minneota

### Hauschild Continued from Page 1

The postal service's unofficial motto over the years has been, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Hauschild can attest to delivering in all those types of conditions ... and more.

"We had icy roads for four months in '96-'97," she said. "Even last week when we had the blizzard, I couldn't even see to drive in town because the winds were so bad. I'm not going to miss any of that."

Christmas-time is also challenging for postal workers with the additional cards and packages that have to be delivered.

"This year, especially," she said. "A lot more people sent packages because of COVID. Sometimes I would have to make an extra trip back to the post office to get the rest of the packages."

Hauschild and her husband, Richard, live outside of Porter. They have two children and four grandchildren.

"We don't really have any specific plans," she said about her recent retirement. "My husband is self-employed, so we can do more things that we want now."

## Hoffman & Brobst promotes Deutz



Tamara Deutz

Hoffman & Brobst, PLLP is proud to announce the promotion of Tamara Deutz to a Partner in Training effective Jan. 1, 2021.

As a partner in training during 2021, Deutz will continue to serve her clients and transition into new relationships with existing long standing clients. In addition to her client work, Deutz will take an active role with several management aspects of the firm. Effective Jan. 1, 2021, she will be a full equity partner of the practice.

Hoffman & Brobst is a full service certified public accounting firm with offices in Marshall, Granite Falls, and Minneota.

Deutz, a Canby native, is a 2009 graduate of Dakota State University. She began her accounting career in 2006 with personal income tax preparation and bookkeeping, and started with Hoffman & Brobst in August of 2011. Her outside interests and involvement includes the Marshall Chamber of Commerce's Marshall Area Young Professionals and Women's Connect groups, United Way campaign ambassador, and involvement in the family farm operation.

Deutz and her husband Jesse, have two children and reside on their farm just outside of Marshall.

### EDITORIAL

# Distance Learning taking a toll on Minnesota students' mental health



Jeff Howard

Most students in the country have had a substitute teacher now since last March — it's called distance learning. Bringing the teacher and classroom to students via laptop computers is, out of necessity, the front running model in pandemic-era education. But it has not been good for kids. Disengagement in learning, lack of supervision, distractions in the home, and "Zoom Fatigue" are all contributing to a marginal education at best. But what should be the scariest concern of all is the impact distance learning is having on the mental health of our young people.

"Keeping kids engaged and doing school work at home was something we always expected would be difficult," said Brainerd High School counselor and author Jeff Howard. "But what I didn't see coming was how devastating this was going to be to our kids emotionally. If you think about it, we have removed this most social age group of all from their friends and sequestered them in their

homes. Of course they are going to feel lonely, disconnected, and worried."

When a child or teenager feels anxious about their world being turned upside down, it can be a quick slide to full-blown depression and anxiety. School officials say it's a common story. First, a child or teenager is abruptly taken out of school and is expected to learn via some sort of device. Kids may be savvy with technology but that doesn't mean they quickly master different learning apps and online platforms. By the time they figure things out, they may be several homework assignments behind and ill-prepared for a quiz or test scheduled the next day. Within a mere week, or two, many students have found themselves behind in classes, not only looking at make-up work but a new lesson every day from multiple teachers. Suddenly their minds become fertile ground for anxiety, hopelessness, and ensuing depression.

Howard, who has been a front row witness to adolescents and their emotional challenges for nearly 20 years, recently released a young adult novel *Screw You Van Gogh* that gives teens a different way of looking at their own mental health.

"This rise in adolescent mental health disorders should have us more worried than it does," continued Howard. "In my years as a school counselor, the number of students who came to me to say they feel dangerously depressed or anxious, even before COVID, had increased dramatically. Now with distance learning it is even getting worse and affecting stu-

dents in unexpected ways."

One unforeseen impact is how stay-at-home learning affects even the most ambitious students. According to Howard, students who are vying for acceptance in elite colleges are taking this particularly hard. "Going to class, earning top grades in college-level courses, thriving in a classroom environment ... it's what they do. And when that's taken away from them, they are at a loss. They can feel like their whole life and future are falling apart. Last spring I was email counseling more students with high GPAs than any other group."

Another example of the fallout of distance learning is how it affects an entire family and beyond. Parents have found themselves having to alter their lives to stay at home to supervise their children and even become tutors. Frustrations at what seems to be their child's apathy or lack of efforts often result in arguments and family strife that can permeate an entire home. Parents, in turn, take those frustrations to work, creating a vicious back-and-forth cycle that keeps feeding itself.

Howard believes that parents needn't sit back and simply wait for an end to the pandemic and the return to school. There are things that can help now.

"As a parent myself I know it is hard to not come down on our kids when we believe they are being lazy or not trying at school. But do your best to not become angry at your child over distance learning; it only makes a difficult situation worse. There's nothing wrong with stern reminders, expectations, and even removal of privileges; kids understand

those things, but do not go to war with them," he said.

"Your kids need your support and parental compassion. Talk to them calmly, emotion-free, about what is going on. Help them know that what seems like a big dark cloud is often nothing more than making up a few assignments and redefining themselves. To kids, a small thing can seem big and overwhelming."

Parents should remember, too, that just because a child or teenager is feeling depressed and anxious doesn't mean they have a mental disorder. Essentially all people experience sadness or despair when they feel their lives are out of order. When the time comes that kids return to school and their lives go back to what they are used to, most will feel better.

"I have a lot of faith in our kids today. This has been really hard on them, but we can have a lot of hope that most of these students who are struggling will not have persistent anxiousness or depressive feelings," concluded Howard. "I would like to think they just need to get back to what they are used to. Kids are resilient, and given a chance they will be fine. We just hope that can happen as quickly as possible."

Jeff Howard is a veteran school counselor at Brainerd High School in Brainerd, MN. The continual rise in adolescent mental health disorders has been particularly alarming to Howard who advocates through his writing and conference talks that we need to look at these issues differently.

For more information, contact Jeff Howard (218-839-9290) or at jeffory073@gmail.com

## January is National Blood Donor Month

### Win a chance for a trip to the Super Bowl by donating blood

The American Red Cross and the National Football League are teaming up this January, during National Blood Donor Month, to urge individuals — especially those who have recovered from COVID-19 — to give blood and to help tackle the national convalescent plasma shortage. Right now, more donors are needed to help hospital patients.

During this critical time, the Red Cross and NFL are thrilled to offer all those who come to donate an opportunity to receive a special thank you this month. Those who come to donate blood or platelets this January will be automatically entered to win two tickets to next year's Super Bowl LVI in Los Angeles.\* In addition, those who come to give Jan. 1-20, will also be automatically entered to win the Big Game at Home package for an awesome viewing experience safely at home, with a 65-inch television and a \$500 gift card to put toward food and fun.

The Red Cross will be in Ghent from noon to 6 p.m. at KB's Bar & Grill on Thursday, Jan. 14 at KB's Bar & Grill, and in Minneota from 1-7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 20 at the American Legion.

Individuals can schedule an appointment to give blood today with the American Red Cross by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or activating the Blood Scheduling Skill for Amazon Alexa.

"Blood and plasma donors who have recovered from COVID-19 may have the power to help critically ill patients currently battling the virus," said Dr. Erin Goodhue, Red Cross medical director of clinical services. "With hospital distributions for convalescent plasma increasing about 250% since October, these generous donations are vital in helping to save lives throughout the winter — a time that is often challenging to collect enough blood products for those in need."

As COVID-19 cases have risen across the U.S., so has the need

for convalescent plasma — leading to a shortage of this potentially lifesaving blood product. Like "special teams" units on the field, COVID-19 survivors have a unique ability to make a game-changing difference in the lives of COVID-19 patients. Individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 may have antibodies in their plasma that could provide a patient's immune system the boost it needs to beat the virus.

How those recovered from COVID-19 can help

There are two ways COVID-19 survivors can help — through a convalescent plasma donation or by simply giving whole blood. Plasma from whole blood donations that test positive for COVID-19 antibodies may be used to help COVID-19 patients. Health emergencies don't pause for holidays, game days or a pandemic — blood is needed every two seconds in the U.S. to help patients battling injury and illness.

Blood donation safety precautions

To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, individuals who do not feel well or who believe they may be ill with COVID-19 should postpone their donation.

- Upcoming area blood donation opportunities:**
- Lincoln County (Ivanhoe)  
 Jan. 21: Noon - 6 p.m., Bethany Elim Lutheran, 102 S. Highway 5
  - (Lake Benton)  
 Jan. 19: 1:30-6:30 p.m., Community and Event Center, 114 S. Center St.
  - Lyon County  
 (Ghent)  
 Jan. 14: Noon - 6 p.m., KB's Bar and Grill, 100 Burlingame St.
  - (Marshall)  
 Jan. 22: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Lyon County Library, 201 C St.  
 Jan. 29: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Marshall Fire Department, 201 Saratoga St.
  - (Minneota)  
 Jan. 20: 1-7 p.m., American Legion Minneota, 208 N. Jefferson

**Pet OF THE WEEK**

**Mischief**



**Pet Owner:** Carey Doyscher  
**Breed:** Male Shorthair  
**Age:** 14 years old  
**Favorite Activities:** Watching out the windows and cuddling!

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- CARD SHOWER -

**Margaret Kimpe turns 95 on Jan. 16, 2021!**

The pandemic has cancelled activities she enjoys like church, playing cards and Bingo, and tipping back a few Blue Moon beers at City Hall.

Help her celebrate her birthday by sending cards to:

**Margaret Kimpe**  
 606 N. Grant St.  
 Minneota, MN 56264



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**Warriors** Continued from Page 1

Mitzi and her husband, Scott, have been married for 37 years.

"It's been tough on him, too," Mitzi says. "But he's always there for me. He's been great."

The Buckingham family also includes two daughters, Kelli Gamrak and Kristi Kennedy. Kelli and her husband Adam have four children, Payton, Jayden, Matthew and Levi. Kristi and her husband Lennis have two children, Ethan and Ella.

"That's the sad part," she said. "I love my girls and sons-in-law and grandkids. I want to see the grandkids grow up."

Even though doctors give her only one to two years more of life, Mitzi swats those numbers away like a pesky fly at a picnic.

"I'm going to do everything in my power to keep fighting the beast," she insists.

Even Buckingham's friends are amazed at her glass "half-full" attitude in the midst of such trying times.

"Mitzi is just such a great person," said Robin Boe Traen, who graduated with Mitzi and has been friends with her for many years. "She is so positive and has an amazing outlook. That has to

do with her strong faith."

Buckingham's first sign of any illness cancer came in October of 2019.

"I remember having a queasy stomach. It felt like morning sickness, but I knew it wasn't that," she said. "My daughter is a nurse and she stopped over and noticed my eyes were jaundiced and she knew something was wrong."

Generally, the yellowing of the eyes is related to the liver. Within two days, her whole body had taken on a yellowish hue.

The next morning, Buckingham had a CAT scan at Avera in Marshall which showed there was an abnormality. An MRI at midnight showed the likelihood of a tumor on her pancreas.

"What was happening was that the tumor was blocking the bile ducts," Buckingham explained about the reason for her jaundice. "Over the next eight days I had three surgeries. Tissue samples were sent to the Mayo Clinic where they found the tumor was malignant."

With the thought of pancreatic cancer hanging over their heads, the Buckinghams were dealt yet another blow.

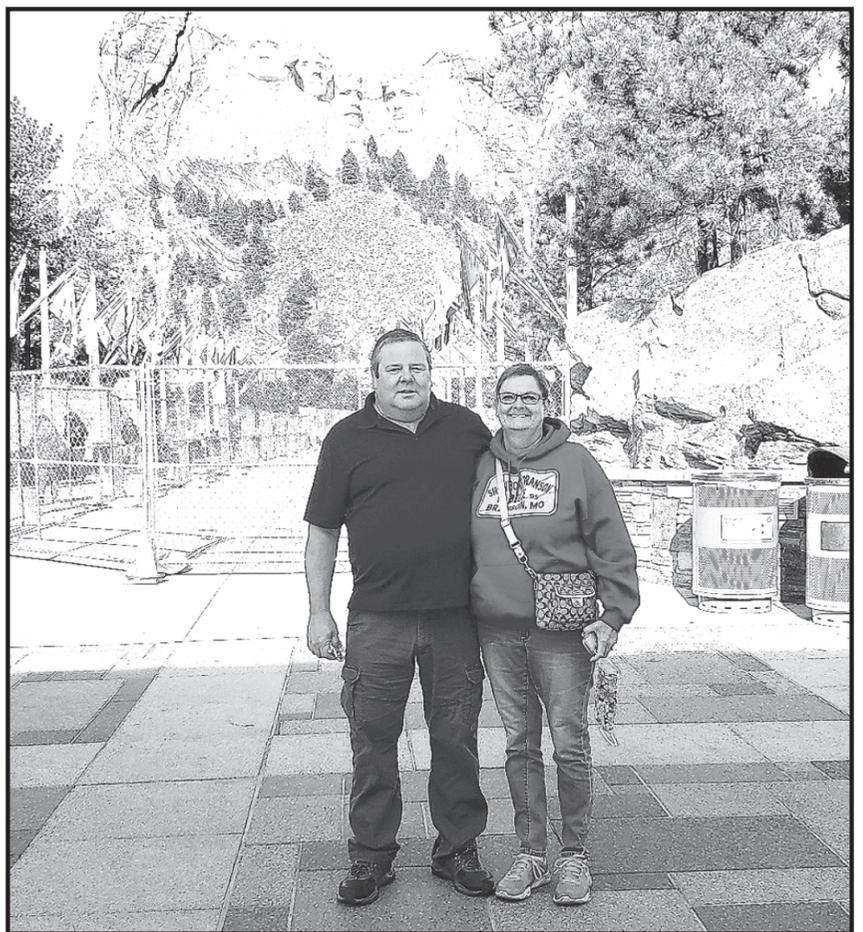
"I went to an oncologist in Sioux Falls for the pancreatic cancer and when he looked at the X-rays, he saw a shadow on my colon," Buckingham said.

When Buckingham had turned 50 years old, one of her granddaughters said "Grandma, time for your colonoscopy".

"I didn't get one," admitted Buckingham. "I want to stress to everyone to make sure to get a colonoscopy. It's important. You just never know."

After having had 24 rounds of chemotherapy treatments, doctors at Mayo Clinic determined that Buckingham's body needed a rest so they have temporarily halted the chemo for now. She will return to the Mayo Clinic on Jan. 20 for a Cat scan to determine the next steps to take.

"We are so lucky to have a Cancer Center in Marshall," she said. "It is a wonderful place



Scott and Mitzi Buckingham during a trip to the Black Hills. Contributed photo



The Mitzi's Prayer Warriors wristband to support Buckingham during her battle with cancer. Contributed photo

and the nurses are all awesome."

The tumor on the colon has shrunk and the cancer on her pancreas is stable with no new tumors.

"The goal is to keep the (pancreatic cancer) stable for a better quality of life," Buckingham said. "I know no one who has survived pancreatic cancer. That doesn't mean I'm giving up,

though. I have too much to live for."

To help the Buckingham family defray medical and personal expenses, please donate to Mitzi's Warriors on GoFundMe.com or send a donation (checks should be written out to Mitzi Buckingham) to: Bank of the West, 123 N. Jefferson St., Minnesota, MN 56264 or Bank of the West, 1410 E. College Dr., Marshall, MN 56258.



**Fire and ice dining**

City Hall Bar & Grill recently held an outdoor event last week in which those attending could purchase a brat and chips to support the bar and restaurant during the current shutdown period. Tables and chairs and a fire pit were set outside to keep patrons warm. "Several people came out and embraced the cold to support us," said City Hall Bar & Grill manager Jordan Dressen. City Hall employees Tammy Josephson and Charlie Josephson enjoyed some time by the fire. Like other bars and restaurants, City Hall has been closed to indoor dining, per Gov. Walz's Executive Order. Contributed photos



**Sports** Continued from Page 1

"The schedules are just constantly changing/moving/adjusting," said Minnesota Athletic/Activities Director Cari Pohlen. "That is the hardest thing right now."

"In a normal year, we are preparing for the next year. Right now we are preparing for next week, and know that we will likely make changes daily. Gym space with all the teams going at the same time has been something that has been a struggle, and I'm very thankful to have flexible and understanding administration, staff, faculty, parents and students."

The majority of the scheduling is done via email if it's for one event, Pohlen noted.

"It seems like if there are two or more events that we need to change with another school, a phone call is usually easier and quicker," she said. "Finding a time to catch with one another on the phone is the bigger challenge for AD's as we all have such different assignments and duties."

Schedules for winter activities will be a 70 percent reduction from normal years, similar to how the fall season was treated this past year.

This year, boys and girls basketball will be allowed a maximum of 18 games and will focus mainly on teams in the conference and section or are local. In a normal full season, teams are allowed 26 regular-season games.

"Teams can have a maximum of two games per week, with the last two weeks allowing for three games for any COVID or weather-related reschedules," said Pohlen.

Wrestling is allowed a total of 16 dates that consist of duals and triangulars only.

Dance is going to be allowed 11 regular season dates with a max of two duals or triangulars per week.

There are no tournaments allowed for any sports, in state or out of state.

The Minnesota State High School League is hoping for a section and state tournament of some sort, but nothing has been decided for now. Wrestling sections would start the week of March 7 and boys and girls basketball sections would both begin on March 14.

**Planning your future by navigating your now.**



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Both times, I did therapy at Big Stone Therapies in Minnesota. I now have two times of success at Big Stone. Thanks to Sara, Wayne and Neil for their concern and care for me.

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**- Glenda Fink**



## Lyon County Throwback



## Lyon County 150th Anniversary

The General Merchandise Store in Ghent in 1930. Photo Courtesy of the Lyon County Museum.

## From the Mascot Files

100, 75, 50 and 25 Years Ago

100 Years Ago  
(Jan. 11, 1921)

## A slice of fun at school pie social

The pie social at the Minneota school last Wednesday was quite a success. The proceeds from the pie social amounted to over 50 dollars, the sale was cried by auctioneer George Benson. After the sale, there was a general and generous eating of pie, after which some games were played.

## Local man injured when splitting wood

P.J. Frost of Minneota was splitting wood on his farm last week when he accidentally drove the axe he was using into his right foot. Frost was taken to the hospital where a doctor needed many stitches to close the wound. Neighbors finished cutting the wood for him.

## Four locals set sail for Belgium

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Focke, Peter Focke, and Henry Dermeut all left Minneota last Monday for Belgium. The four are expected to sail from New York next Saturday. The Fockes have in Minneota for eight years, and Mr. Dermeut for nine. They are expected to return next month.

75 Years Ago  
(Jan. 11, 1946)

## Buysse elected new president of MBA

Leo Buysse was elected president of the Minneota Businessman's Association at a meeting held Tuesday evening at Carl's Cafe in Minneota. He was elevated from vice president and succeeds Ragnar Guttormsson as president. Harry W. Tillemans was elected vice president, succeeding Mr. Buysse, and Harry Smishek was elected secretary-treasurer, succeeding

L. R. Denno. The financial report showed a large balance of cash on hand and all bills paid.

## Trustee Dero sworn in at council meeting

Trustee Maurice Dero, elected at the last meeting at the last election, was the only new official sworn in at the first meeting of the Village Council to be held this year at the City Hall on Monday evening. Members of the council accepted the Village Financial Statement presented by Recorder K.E. Jones. Mayor E.O. Hallgrimson appointed A.C. Hanson as Fire Marshall, and also named council members to be in charge of the following departments: Maurice Dero, waterworks; Al Kiley, liquor store; Elmer Swanson, parks; and K.E. Jones, city hall.

## Christmas Seal sales tops last year's mark

Although all returns in the Christmas Seal campaign were not in, Mr. C.M. Hanson reported that people living in Minneota had already bought a total of \$429.85. This year's total so far was already \$111.05 ahead of the campaign last year, when \$318.80 was sold.

50 Years Ago  
(Jan. 7, 1970)

## Father, daughter die in Ghent car crash

A 37-year-old rural Minneota man, Aelgene Hoffman, and his 8-year-old daughter, Suzanne, died about 11 p.m. last Friday evening as a result of a two-car collision on Highway 68 about two miles southeast of Ghent. Hoffman farmed nine miles north of Minneota. Both he and his daughter were dead on arrival at Wiener Memorial Hospital in Marshall. Hoffman's wife, Darlene, and their son, Douglas, 10, were injured.

## Minneota schools to prepare disaster plans

Minneota schools are being directed to prepare detailed plans to go into effect in the event that the district is threatened by a disaster. While the main emphasis of the program is on plans for dealing with nuclear attacks, it is also concerned with disasters resulting from fire, flood and other natural causes.

## Vikings top Ivanhoe to improve to 4-1

The Minneota boys basketball squad won their fourth game of the season with only one loss as they beat Ivanhoe 57-50 last week. Ken Byrne led the scoring for the Vikings with 18 points. Dennis Fox scored 12 points. The Vikings made 23 of 74 shots from the field.

25 Years Ago  
(Jan. 10, 1996)

## Council rescinds name change for library

The Minneota City Council, at its regular meeting on Monday night, changed its mind on changing the name of the Minneota Library. At the last City Council meeting on Dec. 4, the Council had approved the changing of the name to "The J.H. and Freida Geiwitz Public Library. It was the general consensus that Council had not given itself enough time in making the decision at the previous meet.

## Teachers and board come to agreement

In a special meeting early Monday morning, the two-year contract agreement between local teachers and the school district was ratified. The teachers had already met and agreed to the language

and financial package, and after some discussion, the school board also approved the contract with a unanimous vote. The 1995-96 contract will see a 2.89 percent increase, while the 1996-97 contract increases by 2.81 percent.

## Vikings win tourney for 4th year in row

The Minneota wrestling team won the championship of the eight-team Benson tournament for the fourth straight year last Saturday. All 13 Viking wrestlers placed in the top three. Minneota finished with 261.5 points. Marshall was second with 157.5 points and Benson was third with 147.5 points. Bruce Laleman won his fourth consecutive individual title at this tournament. Waylon Yeo, John Myhre, Josh Sanow and Travis Gillund were also champions.

## Tractor Club forming

A new club is forming in the area and is dealing with a topic familiar to everyone - tractors. There is much interest in getting a tractor club started. An informational meeting was held last month and 11 people were in attendance. The plan is to get together two or three times a year and plow with antique tractors. The club is open to those 18 and older. Members do not need to own an antique tractor to join. The club is being formed by Mike Downing and Paul Fonteyn.

## This Day in Minnesota History

1816 - Stephen Miller is born in Carroll, Pennsylvania. After moving to Minnesota at age 42, he would become a general in the Civil War and serve as the state's fourth governor from 1864 to 1865. He died in Worthington on Aug. 18, 1881.

## Outside Looking In



By Scott Thoma

## Military Heroes

I have always been fascinated with history. But I never really delved into military history until I started writing for the Mascot seven years ago.

I learned a lot of interesting things about the Vietnam war from veterans Royal and Charlie Hettling, who operate the Vietnam Memorial and History Center, which piqued my interest.

During an interview in May of 2017, Dan Markell of Green Valley told me a very compelling story of how the U.S. CH47 Chinook helicopter he was riding in with four others was shot down over Can Tho, Vietnam, on May 8, 1968. Markell, Sp5, and the others were in a remote location where the U.S. Army was planning to build a helipad. Markell was a crew chief/starboard door gunner who was riding in the cargo section. Bullet holes suddenly ripped through the bottom of the back portion of the helicopter where Markell was. With the hydraulics hit, the men had to crash land. They survived the crash and watched the helicopter burn from 100 yards away. They were rescued by another helicopter before the enemy could locate them.

I was also honored to sit down with the late Virgil Ufkin at his home before he passed away at age 100. I was captivated as Captain Ufkin told of how he and other U.S. soldiers from General George S. Patton's Third Army's 71st Infantry Division, sifted through two of Adolf Hitler's headquarters following the conclusion of the war in order to make sure there were no booby traps set. Both homes had been hit hard by British aerial attacks in late April, 1945. Ufkin told of seeing the concentration camps and "many dead bodies everywhere." He also recalls being three feet away from Gen. Patton on a few occasions.

Story after story made me realize how much these brave men gave to their country. It's hard for those who never served time in the military to fathom how lonely and uncertain these men were each night.

I also sat down with former Minneota insurance agent Cecil O. Doyle at his home in Marshall a few years ago. His uncle, Cecil J. Doyle, was an ace pilot, having shot down five Japanese bombers and zeros in combat during World War II. Before being discharged, the young U.S. Marines aviator would carry out one final mission. While flying over the Solomon Islands on Nov. 7, 1943, Doyle's plane was shot down in the South Pacific. He and his plane were never recovered. He was presumed dead at age 23. Because of his heroics and hand in America's WWII victory, the U.S. Navy named a destroyer escort the U.S.S. Cecil J. Doyle. It was launched on July 1, 1944 and commissioned three months after that.

Because his story fascinated me the most of all, I visited with Larry Tillemans, a 1944 Minneota graduate, several times at his senior living facility apartment in Sartell. Tillemans, who died a year ago, was an Army recorded who was one of 10 young clerk typists from General George S. Patton's Third Army that sat in on the Nuremberg War Trials and typed the statements of those on trial. Had Adolf Hitler not taken his own life, Tillemans would have been across the long table room from him during the trial and been able to look him in the eye. Tillemans visited the concentration camps and relayed the horrific sites, often stopping to wipe his eyes. A PBS documentary entitled "The Typist" won an Emmy Award. That DVD is available at the Minneota Public Library.

Another compelling military story that recently unfolded was the discovery of the U.S.S. Grayback submarine after 75 years. Minneota native Earl Halvorson was one of 80 men aboard the Grayback that was shot down by a Japanese bomber plane on Feb. 1944. The submarine sunk from the impact of the 500-pound bomb and was lost at sea until a recent crew from the Lost 52 Project, which searches for lost U.S. WWI submarines, discovered it off the coast of Japan in 1,400 feet of water. The Grayback had been on 10 missions and had sunk 14 enemy ships and submarines. This was to be its final mission.

Another story I was involved with was about Corporal Henry VanHyfte of Taunton. He was only 23 when he was killed in action when hit by shrapnel while stationed in a French clock tower. He was then buried at Normandy. A young St. Paul Highland Park student named Emma Mulhern, with no ties to this area, had researched the 12th Infantry Regiment of the 8th Division as a Fallen Hero Project and chose VanHyfte to write about for her project. She won a trip to Normandy for her efforts and was able to give a eulogy at VanHyfte's gravesite.

Jim Fink, who has been doing his best to honor and memorialize veterans with other American Legion members at Veterans Park, has also taught me a lot of veterans and what they are their families had to go through.

What make me think of all these war stories this week was that while perusing the brittle pages of past Mascot issues, I discovered another interesting story I had not heard before. This story was in the 1946 January edition and involved Pfc Donald Gossen, a Military Police, who at that time was stationed in the Philippines. Following the capture and arrest of Japanese General Tomoyuki Yamashita for his war crimes, he was tried and sentenced to be hanged. The day before Yamashita was to be hanged on Feb. 23, 1946, Gossen, a major and a lieutenant searched his room. There sat the highest medal Yamashita had been awarded. It was a solid gold pin with a large ruby in the center surrounded by smaller rubies to represent The Rising Sun. Gossen jokingly admitted he was tempted to take the medal, but never did.

Gossen died in 2015 at age 92.



The Minneota  
Mascot

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## Ask the Chief

By Minneota  
Police Chief Bill Bolt

### Minneota is unique

Adversity is said to be the fire by which people are tempered and leaders are made. 2020 was filled with adversity and we not only survived, but I believe we are better and stronger than we have ever been.

In 2014, I became your Police Chief because I wanted to change how law enforcement is not only performed but in how people viewed and interacted with officers. This goal is still a work in progress, but I would not have achieved the success that I have had it not been for those leaders above me. I am a firm believer that leadership is the foundation of success and that great leaders serve those who they are charged with leading. This has been my experience in Minneota starting with the day I was hired.

Our prior and current city council has done an excellent job in supporting the men and women working for the community of Minneota. In addition, City Administrator Shirley Teigland is the best City Administrator I have ever worked for (I have had four prior City Administrators as a police officer). She is calm, reasonable, and supportive.

As a one-officer police department, it is difficult for me at times to separate myself from the work and get a fresh perspective. Shirley excels at helping me with this. Also, all of our city staff (fire and first responders included) wear many hats and can help each other when needed. I know that I can call on them to help me when needed. I have never been turned down and they have always had a positive attitude.

Based upon 22-plus years of working in government, I can confidently say that Minneota is very unique and successful in how they operate their government, support their staff, and serve their communities. We are very fortunate to have the leadership and staff that we do and we should never take it for granted.

## Menus

MINNEOTA PUBLIC SCHOOL  
COLD MEAT SANDWICH & SALAD BAR OFFERED DAILY

### Monday, January 11

Breakfast: Cinnamon round or notable, fruit, milk.  
Lunch: Chicken drumsticks or Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, corn, gravy, roll, fruit, milk.

### Tuesday, January 12

Breakfast: Cinnamon round or notable, fruit, milk.  
Lunch: BBQ Pork or brat, baked beans, chips & salsa, fruit choice, milk.

### Wednesday, January 13

Breakfast: Pancake sausage or notable, fruit, milk.  
Lunch: Spaghetti or hotdog, roll, coleslaw, fresh veggies, fruit choice, milk.

### Thursday, January 14

Breakfast: Muffin/cereal or notable, fruit, milk.  
Lunch: Soft shell taco or chicken fajita, lettuce, cheese, fresh veggies, fruit, milk.

### Friday, January 15

Breakfast: Waffle or notable, fruit, milk.  
Lunch: Cheese dunkers or fish wrap, lettuce salad, fresh veggies, fruit choice, milk.

### ST. EDWARD SCHOOL

#### Monday, January 11

Lunch: Chili, corn bread, lettuce salad, fruit, milk.

#### Tuesday, January 12

Lunch: Chicken pasta salad, breadstick, tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, fruit, milk.

#### Wednesday, January 13

Lunch: Corn dogs, green beans, tater tots, snickerdoodle, fruit, milk.

#### Thursday, January 14

Lunch: Chicken tacos, corn tortilla chips, Romaine salad, tomato, salsa, cheese, fruit, milk.

#### Friday, January 15

Lunch: Macaroni and cheese, baked beans, lettuce, broccoli and carrots, fruit, milk.

## 21 students earn Hope scholarships

By Scott Thoma  
scott@thomabooks.com

Twenty-one students, in the first year of college to those in graduate school, will receive a considerable scholarship from their Hope Lutheran Church.

"Through the years, we have a number of families that have stepped up each year and contribute to our fund. The gifts keep coming in, allowing for more scholarships," said Brian Jeremiason, who is one of five Hope Lutheran scholarship committee members along with Chad Reiss, Barry Gronke, Ralph Hagen and Allan Josephson.

In all, \$70,000 worth of scholarships will

be given out to the 21 students.

Scholarship recipients this year include: Trevor Belaen, Trent Esping, Nolan Boerboom, Lacey Hansen, Lauryn Hansen, Grace Jeremiason, Jackson Jeremiason, Adam Josephson, Laura Knutson, Sydney Larson, Ivy Mahan-Deitte, Sierra Mahan-Deitte, Josh Myhre, Matt Myhre, Ted Pesch, Blake Reiss, Brendan Reiss, Taylor Reiss, Alex Saltzer, Meghan Travis, Avery VanOverbeke.

There are several scholarships of varying dollar amounts available to the students that are members of Hope Lutheran Church that are seniors in high school that are planning to attend a vocational school, junior college, four-year university,

to a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, or to those currently attending a post-secondary institution.

Those scholarships include: Robert E. Geiwitz and Alice V. Geiwitz Scholarship, Hope Lutheran Educational Scholarship, Agnes Rye Scholarship, Donald and Susan Rye Scholarship, Hazel and Albert Borson Scholarship, and the Norman and Lillian Larson Scholarship.

Students must apply and be accepted for the scholarships. Some of the scholarships require that a student must meet a certain grade-point-average, be pursuing a particular field, be active in the church and more.

## Winter truck load increases begin Jan. 4, 2021 for central frost zone

Winter load increases will begin Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. on unrestricted state highways in the central frost zone, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Frost zones can be found on the MnDOT load limits map.

Winter load increases are already in effect in the north and north-central frost zones.

Vehicles will be allowed to operate up to 10 percent over the standard legal maximum loads on unrestricted highways during the winter load increase period. However, trucks must comply with current registration weight laws and not exceed registered gross weight tolerances.

Drivers need to check with local agencies before increasing any weights on city, county and township routes.

A winter weight increase permit is required to take advantage of the 10 percent weight increase on interstate highways only; a permit is not required for state trunk highways.

For questions about over legal weight/size "heavy haul" trucking, call MnDOT's Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations - Oversize/Weight Permits, 651-296-6000 or email: ofcvpermits.dot@state.mn.us.

For questions about enforcement call the Minnesota Department of Public Safety - State Patrol - Commercial Vehicle Enforcement; 651-350-2000.

The start and end dates for winter load increases are based on how weather is affecting roadway strength. These dates are established by monitoring roadway strength as weather conditions change. The end date for winter load increases is variable and drivers should check for updates throughout the year.

All changes are made with a minimum three-day notice.

For the most current information, go to MnDOT's automated 24-hour message center at 800-723-6543 for the U.S. and Canada, or 651-366-5400 for the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. This information is also published on the MnDOT seasonal load limits website at [mndot.gov/loadlimits](http://mndot.gov/loadlimits).

For updated road condition information, call 511 or visit [511mn.org](http://511mn.org).

## Police Blotter

The Minneota Police and First Responders received the following calls for service:

### Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020

- Permit to Purchase Application.

### Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020

- Police, fire, and first responders for a fire alarm in the 700 block of N. Jefferson Street.

### Friday, Jan. 1, 2021

- Domestic Assault in the 4500 block of Van's Street.

### Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021

- Medical call in the 100 block of E. Lyon Street.

## From the Mascot Kitchen

### Tator Tot Taco Bake

Here is an easy recipe that the entire family will like. Have it for a quick meal at home or take it to a gathering. Prep time is only 15 minutes.

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 packet taco seasoning mix
- 1 16 oz. bag frozen Mexican-style corn
- 1 12 oz. can black beans, rinsed & drained
- 1 12 oz. bag shredded Mexican cheese
- 1 16 oz. package tator tots
- 1 12 oz. can enchilada sauce
- 1/2 cup black olives, sliced

#### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Spray 9 x 13 baking dish with cooking spray. Cook the ground beef in a skillet and drain. Add onion, garlic, taco seasoning mix, frozen Mexican-style corn, and black beans to the ground beef. Cook another 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. In a large bowl, combine the ground beef mixture with about 3/4 of the Mexican cheese and the tater tots; stir to combine. Pour about 1/3 of the enchilada sauce into the bottom of the prepared baking dish. Add the tater tot mixture to the baking dish; lightly pat the mixture down into a solid, even layer. Pour the remaining enchilada sauce over the tater tot layer. Bake in the preheated oven for 40 minutes. Sprinkle the remaining cheese and the black olives over the casserole and return to oven until the cheese is melted and bubbly, approximately 5 minutes more.



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## — Minneota Area Community Churches —

### Healing Waters Parish

Augustana, Clarkfield; Bergen, Clarkfield; St. Lucas Lutheran, Cottonwood

Worship Times: All Bergen, St. Lucas, Augustana services will be live streamed at 10 a.m. on Sundays. Please watch the website and Facebook for more information.

Vicar Mort Meyenburg  
Church Contact No. 320-841-1085

### Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

PO Box 119, 101 Main Street, Hanley Falls  
[www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org](http://www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org)

Worship Time: All Sunday services will be live-streamed at 10 a.m. Sundays on Facebook (visit Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church). Please watch the website and Facebook for more information.

Church: 507-768-3417  
Vicar Myron Crawford: 651-253-5379

### St. Leo Catholic Church

St. Leo, MN  
Mass Times: See Bulletin

Father Ron Huberty  
Parochial Vicars: Fr. Michael Doyle and Fr. Keith Salisbury

### Winds of the Prairie Ministry

Bethany Lutheran, Arco and Bethany-Elm Lutheran, Ivanhoe  
Worship Times: Online Worship see Facebook page.

Pastor Jeff Greathouse  
Cell #: 330-234-1317  
pastorgreathouse@gmail.com  
Church Contact No. 507-694-1238  
windsministry@gmail.com

### Hope Lutheran Church

Minneota  
[www.hopeminneota.org](http://www.hopeminneota.org)  
Worship Times:  
Sunday, January 10: Worship at 9 a.m.  
Wednesday, January 13: GLOW at 5:30 p.m.

Pastor Allen Campbell  
Church Secretary Chris Pesch:  
hopelutheran87@gmail.com  
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

### St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Minneota  
Worship Times: Sunday at 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor Allen Campbell  
Church Secretary: Chris Pesch  
hopelutheran87@gmail.com  
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

### Hemnes Lutheran Church

Rural Minneota  
Sunday Worship: No service  
Minneota Manor Worship, 2:30 p.m., fourth Thursday of the month.  
Pastor Ellen Munter

### St. Eloi Catholic Church

Ghent, MN  
Mass Times:  
Saturday, January 9: Convent Mass at Noon  
Sunday, January 10: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Father Todd Petersen  
Church Contact No. 507-428-3285

### Bethel Fellowship Church

Hwy 68 - Minneota  
*Ephesians 2:8 - By grace you are saved.*

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School 8:50-9:45 a.m.

Wednesdays: Kids' Zone 6-7:20 p.m.; Prayer and Devotional 7:30 p.m.

Pastor Thomas Nomeland  
Contact No. 507-828-1637

### St. Edward Catholic Church

Minneota  
Mass Times:  
Thursday, January 7: Mass at 7 a.m.  
Saturday, January 9: Mass at 5:30 p.m., confession 4:45 p.m.  
Sunday, January 10: Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
Wednesday, January 13: School Mass at 10:30 a.m., CCD at 6:30 p.m.

Father Todd Petersen  
Church Contact No. 507-872-6346

## Minneota Area Church Announcements Brought to You By:

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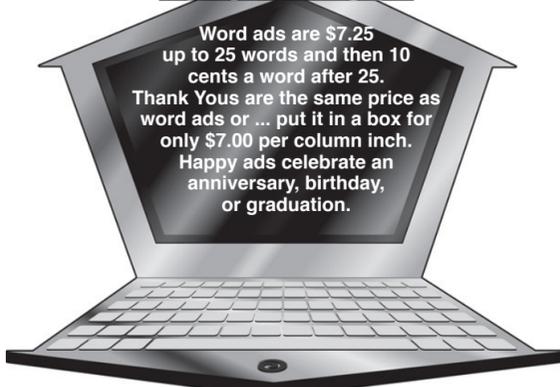
**THE SEARCH IS OVER ...**

**FIND IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS**

Thursday, January 7, 2021

Page 7

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINES:  
TUESDAY NOON**



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**For Rent**

**FOR RENT:** Westview Apartments have available to rent a 2 bedroom apartment at 700 N. Jefferson St. Water, sewer, garbage and on-site laundry included. \$475 per month. If interested, call Steve at 507-530-6272 or Kathy at 605-480-1547.

**FOR RENT:** Tri-Minn Apartments in Minneota has 2 bedroom apartments available. Includes: heat, water, sewer, garbage, & on-site laundry. Call Nancy Bormann, PA at 507-872-5990 or 507-223-7869.



**Public Hearing**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE to the Lyon County Planning and Zoning Administrator by Tyler Laleman, Owner/Operator, 3310 State Highway 23, Marshall, MN for a Conditional Use Permit request for a new feedlot and to hear public comment to fulfill Minnesota Session Law 2000 - Minn. Stat. 116.07, subd 7(l). Odor OFFSET setback requirement is 94%. Minimum setback for a new feedlot from neighboring dwellings is 1320'. (Dwellings of the feedlot owner or operator are not required to meet the setback) The land is zoned agricultural. The land is explained and described as following:

Land is Owned by Douglas and Nancy Laleman, 3326 State Highway 23, Marshall, MN and described as, all that part of the Southwest Quarter (SW ¼) of Section 2, Township 112 N Range 41 W lying easterly of the right of way of State Highway #23 as the same is now located over and across said Section 2, subject to existing roadways, highways and easements. Proposed new feedlot will be established on land to be subdivided; Tyler Laleman will acquire a legal parcel adjacent to existing feedlot site owned by Doug and Nancy Laleman.

The Proposed Facility to Consist of:  
(New) Slaughter Cattle (660 x 1 animal factor) = 660 Animal Units

Type of Building:  
(new) Approximate dimensions include a 76'x 242' concrete confinement barn with three (3) below the barn manure pits. Each pit has a dimension of 56'x 79'6" x 14' deep.

Manure to be applied agronomically up to two times a year.  
The Total Animal Unit Capacity = 660 Animal Units

A Public Hearing on the Conditional Use Permit and Feedlot Public Comment will be held by the Lyon County Planning Commission on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Room of the Lyon County Government Center, Marshall, Minnesota.

John Biren, Lyon County, Zoning Administrator  
Phone: 507-532-8207 Extension 3



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**Contact: [lena.garcia@state.mn.us](mailto:lena.garcia@state.mn.us) or 612-257-2388**

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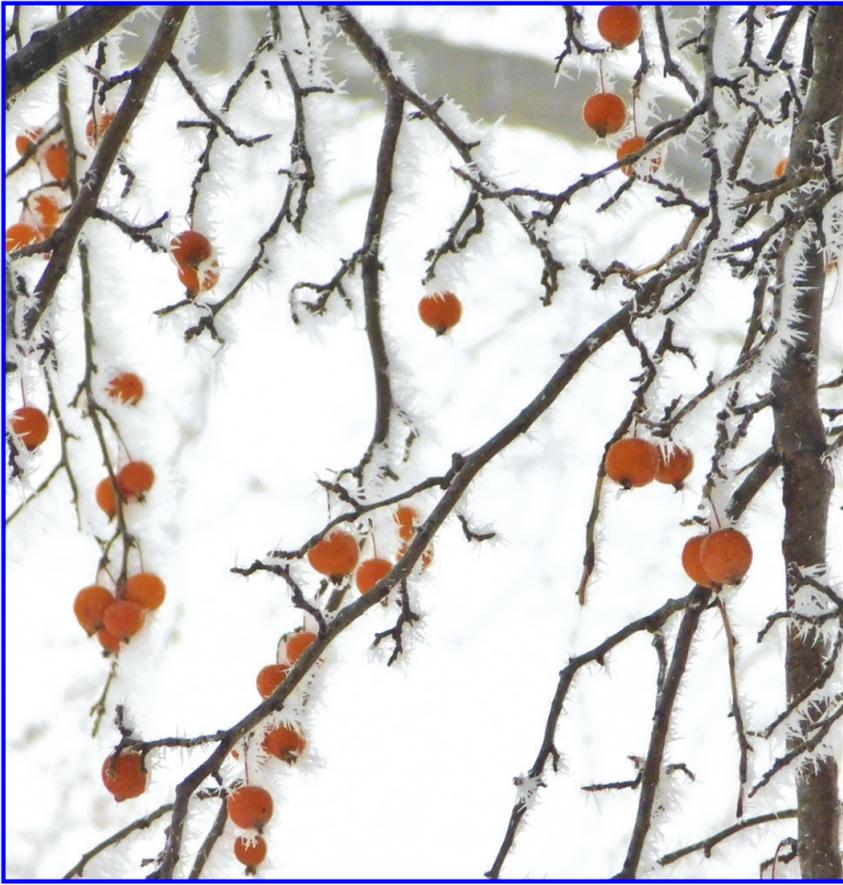


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# Winter Scenes



In these winter scenes from the area, it shows that this time of the year can sometimes be as beautiful as summer.  
 As if it were a battle between fall and winter, fall leaves settle on top of the snow as if it were a battle between fall and winter (below, left).  
 Small crabapples still cling to branches as frost engulfs them (left).  
 The sun sets behind a lonely bare tree in the country (below).  
 Contributed photos



## City of Taunton Budget

### CITY OF TAUNTON: 2021 SUMMARY BUDGET STATEMENT

The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2021 Budget information concerning the City of Taunton to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minn. Stat. Sec. 471-6965. This budget is not complete; the complete budget may be examined at the City Clerk's office. The City Council adopted this budget on December 9, 2020

#### ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Adopted
<b>REVENUES:</b>			
PROPERTY TAXES	49,951	50,435	55,604
LICENSES & PERMITS	510	780	780
Intergovernmental Revenues:			
STATE	45,349	44,680	43,410
COUNTY	0	0	0
INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	1,514	1,785	1,785
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	9,039	7,300	7,300
<b>TOTAL REVENUE ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$106,363</b>	<b>\$104,980</b>	<b>\$108,879</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT (Council, Admin, etc.)	25,524	22,100	24,300
PUBLIC SAFETY	21,133	22,600	22,600
STREETS AND HIGHWAYS	10,582	13,800	14,000
CULTURE AND RECREATION	277	315	315
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	0	0	0
CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE	28,135	24,100	26,600
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 85,651</b>	<b>\$ 82,915</b>	<b>\$ 87,815</b>
<b>EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 20,712</b>	<b>\$ 22,065</b>	<b>\$ 21,064</b>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
TRANSFERS IN	0	0	0
TRANSFERS OUT	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES</b>	<b>\$ 20,712</b>	<b>\$ 22,065</b>	<b>\$ 21,064</b>
<b>PROPERTY TAX REQUIREMENT TO FUND THIS BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 49,951</b>	<b>\$ 50,435</b>	<b>\$ 55,604</b>

#### BUDGETED ENTERPRISE FUNDS

	2021 UTILITY BUDGET	2020 UTILITY BUDGET
OPERATING REVENUE	\$ 58,500	\$ 56,200
OPERATING EXPENSE	\$ 41,150	\$ 42,450
INTEREST & FISCAL CHARGES	\$ 500	\$ 500
<b>NET INCOME/LOSS</b>	<b>\$ 17,850</b>	<b>\$ 14,250</b>

## Tax break available for beginning farmers

Tax credit available for land, equipment expenses to start farming

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) Rural Finance Authority is now accepting applications for a tax credit for the sale or lease of land, equipment, machinery, and livestock in Minnesota by beginning farmers.

To qualify, the applicant must be a Minnesota resident with the desire to start farming or who began farming in Minnesota within the past ten years, provide positive projected earnings statements, have a net worth less than \$851,000, and enroll in, or have completed an approved financial management program.

The farmer cannot be directly related by blood or marriage to the person from whom he or she is buying or renting assets. The farmer must provide the majority of the labor and management of the farm.

The tax credit for the sale or lease of assets can then be applied to the Minnesota income taxes of the owner of the agricultural land or other as-

sets.

Three levels of credits are available:  
 •5% of the lesser of the sale price or fair market value of the agricultural asset up to a maximum of \$32,000

•10% of the gross rental income of each of the first, second and third years of a rental agreement, up to a maximum of \$7,000 per year

•15% of the cash equivalent of the gross rental income in each of the first, second or third year of a share rent agreement, up to a maximum of \$10,000 per year

The Beginning Farmer Tax Credit is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications must be received by October 1, 2021.

Interested farmers should note that they can also apply for a separate tax credit to offset the cost of a financial management program up to a maximum of \$1,500 per year – for up to three years.

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