The Minneota Mascot

$1

Home of the City on the River — Minneota, Minnesota

Thursday, November 13, 2025 — (USPS - 351-880) — No 18 — 135 years — Established in 1891

Veterans Day — November 11, 2025







Photo above: Local veterans, left to right, Commander Bob Myhre, past Commander Jim Fink, David Hennen and Sergeant-at-Arms Ed Lozinski, properly dispose of American flags worn or tattered in a "Burning of the Flags" ceremony behind the American legion building on Tuesday. Above right: Veterans salute during the playing of "Taps" at St. Edward's Catholic School during its Veterans Day program. Below right: U.S. Air Force veteran Chassidy DeRoode was the guest speaker at the program at St. Edward's. *Mascot photos by Scott Thoma*

Saluting the veterans

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Local veterans were honored on Tuesday at both the Minneota Public School and St. Edward's Catholic Schools.

From a field of flags to inspiring speeches and patriotic music, the programs celebrated all service members on Veterans Day.

Programs at each school were well attended by students, faculty, friends and community members.

Veterans Day is observed every year on Nov. 11.

At the programs, the colors were presented at the opening and conclusion of the programs by the Minneota American Legion Post 199, the Ghent American Legion Post 564, the Taunton American Legion Post 604, and the Minneota-Taunton VFW Post 5334.

There were various speakers, performances by the band and choir, winners of the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy read their essays, an invocation and benediction was held, and the playing of "Taps".

Following the programs, local veterans gathered behind the Minneota American Legion building for the annual "Burning of the Flags" ceremony.

The National Flag Conference created the Flag Code in 1923 which states that "the flag represents a living country and is itself considered a living thing."

The American Legion passed a resolution about flag retirement ceremonies in 1937, and they've performed the important ritual ever since. The approved method of disposing of unserviceable flags has long been that they be destroyed by burning. The U.S. flag is considered such a sacred symbol that burning it in an undignified manner constitutes desecration. That's why the ceremonies are held in a specific manner.

HENNEN EXCITED ABOUT GETTING TO PLAY SCROOGE

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

When choosing who would be able to play the cold-hearted and misery Ebenezer Scrooge in the upcoming Minneota High School play "Ebenezer Scrooge's Big Minneota Christmas Show", many remembered the stellar job Leo Hennen did playing the angry father in last year's musical "Bye Bye Birdie".



Leo Hennen as Scrooge

"Several people thought I should be Scrooge because they remembered me yelling loud and being angry in 'Bye Bye Birdie'," said Hennen with a laugh. "We had a meeting last spring to talk about this play and I was a little skeptical about playing Scrooge. I wasn't sure who I was going to play and then I decided it might be fun to be Scrooge."

Ebenezer Scrooge's Big Minneota Christmas Show will be performed Thursday, Nov. 13 and Saturday, Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m., as well as Sunday, Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. at the high school.

This play is a humorous take-off from "A Christmas Carol" with a little local flavor added in for good measure.

Scrooge *Continued on Page 3*



Minneota's defense limited Lester Prairie to only 69 yards on the ground. Brock Fier (35), Wyatt Moorse (72), Kyson Arndt (64) and Kellen Bradley (34) gang up to stop Lester Prairie's Kasion Walstrom after a short gain in the third quarter. *Mascot photo by Reba Lipinski*

ONE DOWN, TWO TO GO

Vikings roll past Lester Prairie in state quarterfinals; Mahnomen-Waubun next

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Not even a late afternoon chill could cool off Minneota in the Class A state quarterfinals on Friday in Jordan. The Vikings rushed for 300 yards, including 199 from senior running back Kellen Bradley, and rolled past Lester Prairie 42-6.

The Vikings (11-0) now face Mahnomen-Waubun at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15 at U.S. Bank Stadium. Murray County Central meets Breckenridge at 11:30 a.m. in the other semifinal game.

Bradley averaged 11.7 yards per carry, breaking off runs of 55 and 50 yards. He also had a 58-yard run called back because of a holding penalty.

Football *Continued on Page 3*

Ross receives ABMDI President's Award

Minneota native has been with Cass County Coroner's office for 25 years



Kriste Ross

Minneota native Kriste (Rehkamp) Ross, a Cass County Coroner, was recently recognized nationally as the recipient of the 2025 President's Award from the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators .

The President's Award is a prestigious honor presented annually by the ABMDI president to an individual who has made significant contributions to the organization and the field of medicolegal death investigation.

Ross began her involvement with ABMDI in 2017 and has since demonstrated an exceptional level of dedication, leadership and professionalism. Over the years, she has served on the organization's board in multiple capacities, including Treasurer, Secretary and Chair of Outreach and Retention.

During the past year as secretary, Ross has taken on the crucial responsibility of recording and maintaining documentation for nearly every organizational meeting. Her meticulous recordkeeping has helped ABMDI navigate a period of transition and growth, ensuring that members remain grounded in the organization's mission and history while charting a clear path forward.

Ross *Continued on Page 4*

P.O. Box 40 — 113. W. First Street — Minneota

COUNTRYSIDE AUTO, LLC

Pre-owned vehicle sales

OFFICE 507-872-5941

JOHN 507-829-5500

WEBSITE csaminneota.net



2022 Buick Enclave $22,900



Minneota Memory

Ordell VanOverbeke and John Lanners paddle down the Yellow Medicine River near Minneota on their homemade raft circa 1960.

Yesteryear

From the Mascot files 100, 75, 50 & 25 years ago

100 Years Ago
(November 13, 1925)

Village authorities making efforts to enforce curfew law

Village authorities are making a special effort to enforce the curfew law and it has attracted widespread attention. Several newspapers in the state have made positive comments on Minneota's curfew law that states youngsters under the age of 16 must be off the streets by 9 p.m. One newspaper read: "If every parent enforces the curfew law in its own household, the problem for the Minneota village authorities will be greatly lessened."

Wolf hunt ongoing in Island Lake Township

A wolf hunt was staged in Island Lake Township over a week ago and reports indicate that five wolves were killed. Sheep herds in this locality had suffered from the depredations of those destructive beasts.

Horse barn to remain open to accommodate visiting farmers

Arrangements have been made to leave the Hanson barn open this winter. E.M. Rhyne will keep the barn open until next May. With the removal of the Hanson barn next May, the Knutson horse barn south of the track will be used. It was recently purchased by the city. Businessmen here are anxious to provide farmers of the trading territory with the necessary conveniences.

75 Years Ago
(November 17, 1950)

Kompelien, Buysse file for village council positions

K.P Kompelien, village clerk since 1947, and John Buysse, employed by Buysse Motors, filed for Village Council positions on Wednesday afternoon. Buysse filed for the trustee post now held by Jonas E. Askdal. The village clerk holds office for two years, while a trustee is elected for a three-year period.

Eight pick corn for farmer recovering from operation

Marvin Helgeson, who farms northwest of Minneota, always knew he had good neighbors, but last week he was impressed more than ever when eight of them made short work of picking his 65-acre corn crop. Helgeson underwent an operation for a ruptured appendix three weeks ago before he had much of a chance to harvest his corn. His neighbors knew it would be some time before he would be able to do the job, so they gathered last week and did the work for him in two days. Nels, Kermit and Knute Anderson brought their pickers and tractors, and with the aid of Truman Tollefson, Floyd Hettling, Thomas Yeo, Edward Heinen, and Charles Peterson, they soon had the work completed.

26 men pick corn crop on Island Lake widow's farm

Over $42,000 worth of machinery, trucks and wagons were in use here on Saturday when friends and neighbors cooperated in picking 53 acres of corn for Mrs. George Bengston, whose husband was killed in a tractor accident this fall. A 26-man crew operated six single-row pickers and three elevators. Neighboring women assisted Mrs. Bengston in preparing and serving the men a harvest meal.

Legion plans for big crowd at Poultry Party

Legion members are making arrangements to handle a capacity crowd when they stage their Poultry Party on Saturday evening. Poultry and other prizes will be awarded during the event.

50 Years Ago
(November 13, 1975)

Traen named head of Countryside Golf Club

Andy Traen of Taunton was named president of the board of directors of Countryside Golf Club when the board named officers at a meeting on Monday evening. Traen had served as vice president of the board last year. He succeeds Dr. Robert Schulte. Dennis Tomasek, Tom Brewers and Charlie Cooper were also named to serve on the board of directors. Brewers was named vice president, and Wendell Anderson was named secretary-treasurer.

Rev. Jacobson to serve St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Rev. Michael Jacobson, who is currently serving parishes in the Embarrass, MN area, has accepted a call to serve the St. Paul's Lutheran Church congregation in Minneota, as well as the Spring Creek congregation. He will take over his new position on Jan. 1. Rev. Jacobson is married with two children.

Volleyball team loses to Montevideo in 3A tourney

Minneota's volleyball team, which won the District 9 championship over Cottonwood last Saturday, lost to Montevideo 18-10, 18-8 in the Region 3A tournament in Appleton on Tuesday afternoon. Benson ended up as the region champion. This is only the second year that Minneota has had a volleyball program.

25 Years Ago
(November 15, 2000)

Winter earns top prize in MACC Holiday Giveaway

The Minneota Area Chamber of Commerce held a holiday drawing for Minneota Bucks and Tony Winter won the top prize of $100. The event, in conjunction with North Pole Extravaganza, gave shoppers a chance to sign up at participating businesses. The other winners were: Yvonne Girard, Lynde Johnson, Jeannie Maeyaert, Edie Stegner, and Ralph Hagen, $25 apiece'; Donna Obe, Sue Johnson, Sue Gorecki, Lawrence Sumerfelt, and Sandy Minnehan, $20 each; and Jenny Storlien, LeeAnne Hoffmann, Bernice Baele, Sharon VanOverbeke, Darlene Dorenkamper, Dennis Heggeseth, Jo Moen, Ed Laleman, Janet Buysse, and Janet Sumerfelt, $10 each.

Minneota students to perform "A Christmas Carol" this week

The Minneota High School Fine Arts Department invites you to its all-school play this week. The students will bring Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" to life on stage this Friday and Saturday. Performances will each be held at 7:30 p.m. Nate Van Keulen will play the part of Ebenezer Scrooge. Lance Fier plays Bob Cratchit. Prior to the play, a spaghetti supper will be held in the cafeteria as a fundraiser for the Minneota. Education Scholarship Fund.

Guttormsson offers to wrap Christmas gifts free of charge

Barb Guttormsson, the wife of Mascot publisher Jon Guttormsson, came up with the idea of helping busy people with their gift wrapping this holiday season. Barb will come to your home and wrap your gifts, using your gift paper or bringing along her own if that is your wish. She will supply the ribbons, tissue paper and tags. She also said she would help those who need a ride to go shopping for supplies.

Outside Looking In

Scott Thoma



Let there be light

After having a deep discussion with myself, I have decided to go ahead with the Mascot's "Battle of the Bulbs" Christmas Decorating Contest for a sixth straight year.

I had mentioned to several people that it might be time to pull the plug on the lighting contest. It does require a lot of work to put on the contest — traveling around Minneota and over to Ghent, Marshall, Taunton and Porter to try and get donated cash and prizes from local businesses and individuals, getting posters printed and put up in those communities, putting together ads and press releases for the paper, getting judges, judging the contest, and delivering the prizes.

The one thing that made me realize that I needed to continue to do this was the fun that the people have participating in the contest, the families that drive around on a winter evening to look at all the decorated houses, the joy in the voices of the winners when I notify them that they've won, or the smiles on their face when I deliver their prizes.

After all, it's Christmas and it's all about giving. So, I decided to "let there be lights."

The first year of the contest had over 20 people register. When some of these people realized they could not compete with those that "go all out" in decorating their home, they dropped out of the contest.

Because I had heard from several people how they have noticed so many more homes decorated than in years prior to the contest, it gave me another reason to continue.

To keep the number of participants up, though, required some thought. The idea was to give not only prizes for the best displays, but also give everyone entered in the contest, excluding the decorating winners, a chance to win turkeys or hams with a random drawing. That helped keep the number of homes decorated to some extent.

This year, however, I've decided the random drawing prize would be more valuable. While the same prizes will be given for the top three displays as voted by the judges in the past, all of the others who have signed up for the contest, regardless of the number of lights they are displaying, will be entered into a drawing for a $100 prize. You do not have to decorate your whole house to be entered. Even just a few strings of lights would be nice in order to help light up our area towns.

Ross Abraham has agreed to be the person picking out the winning entry in our drawing. If we have enough donations this year, we will also include some other drawing prizes.

Anyone within a 10-mile radius (as the crow flies) of Minneota is eligible to be entered in the "Battle of the Bulbs" contest. This includes those living in and around Ghent, Taunton and Porter.

Because of the extreme generosity of local businesses and individuals in past years, we have been able to hold this contest year after year. The value of prizes in this contest, $500 in prizes for first place, $250 in prizes for second place, and $100 in prizes for third place, plus the added $100 in prizes drawing, rivals most of the "big city" contests.

I will be contacting businesses again to see if they would like to donate a prize for the contest. If any individuals would like to donate a gift, regardless of value, please email me at scott@thomabooks.com or drop them off at the Mascot during business hours. In the past, we've had things like quilts, candy, home decor, gift cards and cash donated by individuals. Cash donations will be used to buy additional prizes from local businesses as we do not give any cash prizes away.

Please consider entering the contest, even if you feel you don't have a chance to win any of the top three prizes. It's not always just about winning. You are also bringing the holiday spirit to our communities even with a modest display.

When I was growing up in Tracy, George Smith, who lived across the street from our house on Center Street, decorated his house to the fullest. His display gave our street that "feel-good" holiday spirit. I volunteered to help George with his lights and displays one year, but he politely explained to me that decorating his house gave him so much joy and it made him feel closer to God.

George often won the town's lighting contest, but insisted that wasn't why he was putting in all this work to light up his home.

I have decorated my home in Willmar quite extensively for many years because I find that same joy that George did when I'm up on a ladder stringing lights together. Several years ago, I made a large wooden Peanuts display that duplicated the final scene of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" in which Charlie Brown and his friends, including Snoopy, sang around the tree they had decorated for him after the needles fell off the tree he had picked out. I put that display up every year in my front lawn with a pair of spotlights.

Entering the "Battle of the Bulbs" contest is free. Simply fill out the registration form that will be included in the Mascot over the next few weeks and mail it in or drop it off at the office (during non-business hours you can drop your entry form in the black metal box outside our front door), or you can email the information to: scott@thomabooks.com.

The judging will take place December 19 and 20 from 5-10 p.m. each night. The winners will be notified Wednesday, Dec. 22. The winning displays will be pictured in the Dec. 24 issue of the Mascot.

To register, see Page 8.

To subscribe to the Minneota Mascot, call 507-872-6492 or email: office@minneotamascot.com

The Minneota Mascot
201 N. Jefferson Street
P.O. Box 9
Minneota, MN 56264

Phone: 507-872-6492
Email: office@minneotamascot.com
Online: www.minneotamascot.com

For All Your Local News And Sports!

Mascot Staff
Publishers: Jeff & Julie Meyer
Editor/General Manager: Scott Thoma
Office Manager: LuAnn Fier
Photographer: Brian Jeremiason

Office Hours
Monday & Tuesday — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday — 9 a.m. to Noon
After hours, call 320-894-6007

Subscribe — $43 Yearly in-state cash or check
($45 Yearly paying with PayPal)
$46 Yearly out-of-state cash or check
($48 Yearly paying with PayPal)

Periodicals Postage Paid at Minneota, MN — Member Minnesota Newspaper Association

FOOTBALL

Football *Continued from Page 1*

"The line gave me great lanes to run in," said Bradley, who has rushed for 1,294 yards and 22 touchdowns this season. "Our line is huge, but one thing people don't realize is how smart they are. They know their assignments and they know where they are going each play. They just don't get enough credit."

The Vikings (11-0) increased their winning streak to 44 straight games and are just two wins away from a fourth straight Class A championship.

"We don't think about the streak. We just want to focus on the game we're playing and keep winning," said senior wingback Easton Johnston, who scored on a 10-yard run in the second quarter.

Minneota scored on its second possession of the game on a 9-play, 47-yard drive with six minutes remaining in the opening quarter. Bradley carried six times for 34 in the drive. Tristen Sussner connected with Brock Fier from three yards out for a touchdown.

With three minutes remaining in the first half, the Vikings stopped Lester Prairie (7-5) on downs at the Minneota 26. On first down, Bradley broke loose for a 55-yard scamper to the Lester Prairie 19. From there, Bradley got the call again and gained nine yards to the Bulldogs' 10. Johnston then scored on a jet sweep around left end for a 14-0 lead.

"Our offensive linemen are extremely talented," said Johnston. "They are physical and stay on their blocks. We have to give them a lot of credit."

Minneota took a 21-0 lead into halftime. Following an interception by Bradley, who toted the ball to the Bulldogs' 12, Sussner connected with Joey Lacek for a 12-yard TD pass with just 14 seconds left.

The Vikings forced Lester Prairie to punt on its opening series of the second half. A short punt gave Minneota the ball at its own 43. Bradley then galloped for 50 yards before being brought down at the Bulldogs' seven. Fier took it over from there for a 28-0 lead, a rare carry for the tight end.

"The more carries I get, I seem to run harder and keep my head down," Bradley said. "On a cool night like this game, I don't get as tired."

After forcing the Bulldogs to turn the ball over on downs at the Minneota 39, they got the ball right back on an interception by Rylan Rodriguez and a return to the 33. Axel Bahena then fired a 33-yard TD strike to Cade Heimerl for the Bulldogs' lone score of the game.

The Vikings scored on their ensuing possession, a 7-play, 60-yard drive capped by Bradley's 13-yard TD run that carried into the fourth quarter for a 35-6 lead.

Minneota added one last score on an 18-yard run by Adam DeVlaeminck.

Johnston finished with 34 yards in six carries, DeVlaeminck added 28 yards in three attempts, and Lacek had five rushes for 28 yards.

On defense, Minneota limited the Bulldogs to 181 total yards. Fier and Kyson Arndt had 10 tackles each. Bradley and Lacek contributed six stops apiece. Sam Myhre and Caleb Bottelberghe each had four tackles.

"Our linemen are insane," said Bradley, who also plays linebacker on defense. "If someone tries to double them, then our linebackers are good at reading and flowing with the play."

GRID NOTES: Springfield, the team Minneota faced and defeated in each of the last three Class A state championships, was upset by Murray County Central in the Section 3A semifinals, 31-20. The Tigers were rated No. 2 in Class A most of the season. ... Minneota punted only once against Lester Prairie, that coming on its opening drive. ... Minneota signal-caller Tristen Sussner completed three passes as the Vikings stuck manly to the ground attack. Two of those completions resulted in touchdowns.



Minneota offensive linemen have been the unsung heroes of the team this season. The Vikings rushed for 300 yards against Lester Prairie in the state quarterfinals. *Mascot photo by Reba Lipinski*

Minneota 42, Lester Prairie 6

Lester Prairie	0	0	6	0	- 6
Minneota	7	14	7	14	- 42

Scoring Plays

Min - Brock Fier 3 pass from Tristen Sussner (Ian Myhre kick)
Min - Easton Johnston 10 run (I.Myhre kick)
Min - Joey Lacek 12 pass from Tristen Sussner (I.Myhre kick)
Min - B.Fier 7 run (I.Myhre kick)
LP - Cade Heimerl 33 pass from Axel Bahena (run failed)
Min - Kellen Bradley 13 run (I.Myhre kick)
Min - Adam DeVlaeminck 18 run (I..Myhre kick)

Team Statistics

Total yards: Lester Prairie 181, Minneota 326 ... **Passing yards:** Lester Prairie 112, Minneota 26 ... **Rushing yards:** Lester Prairie 69, Minneota 300 ... **First downs:** Lester Prairie 10, Minneota 18... **Turnovers:** Lester Prairie 1, Minneota 1 ... **Penalties:** Lester Prairie 3-30, Minneota 2-8

Minneota Statistics

PASSING (com-att-yds-td-int): Tristen Sussner 3-11-26-2-1

RUSHING (att-yds): Kellen Bradley 17-199, Easton Johnston 6-34, Adam DeVlaeminck 3-28, Joey Lacek 5-28, Brock Fier 1-7, Quinton Anderson 1-6, Tristen Sussner 1-(-2)

RECEIVING (rec-yds): Brock Fier 2-14, Joey Lacek 1-12

TACKLES (solo-assist-total): Kyson Arndt 3-7-10, Brock Fier 2-8-10, Joey Lacek 4-2-6, Kellen Bradley 3-3-6, Sam Myhre 2-2-4, Caleb Bottelberghe 2-2-4, Hudson Thostenson 2-1-3, Dalton Orvis 1-2-3, Easton Johnston 1-1-2, Adam DeVlaeminck 1-1-2, Quinton Anderson 0-2-2, Hunter Carstensen 0-2-2, Ian Myhre 1-0-1, Easton Sheik 0-1-1

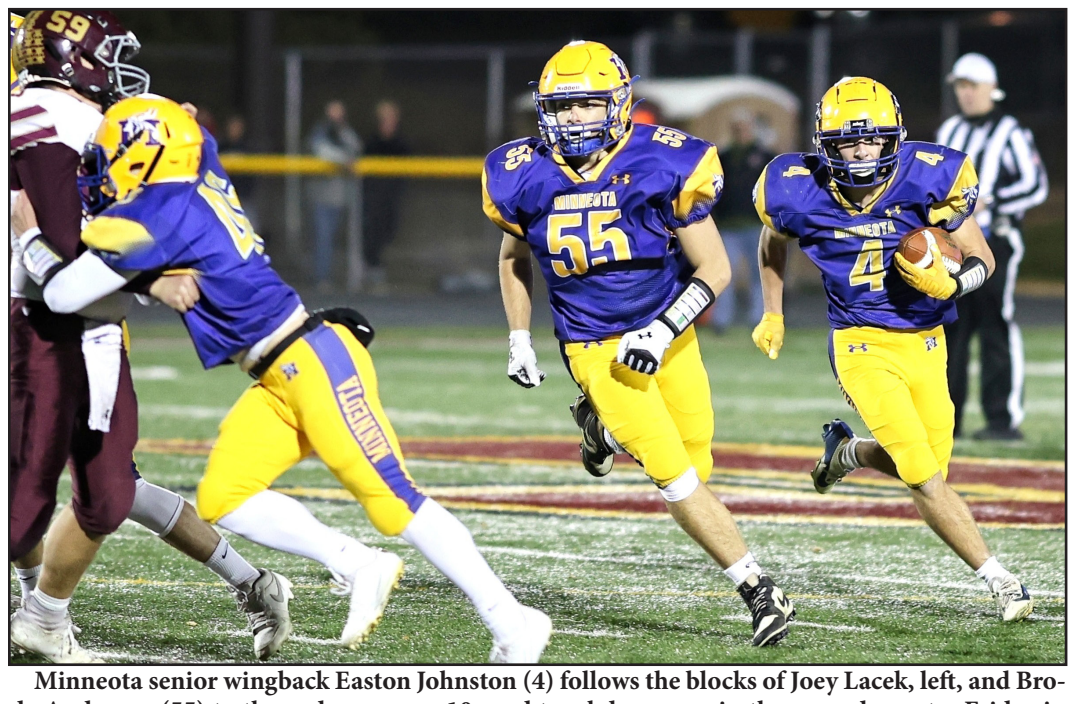
TACKLES FOR LOSS: Caleb Bottelberghe 1

SACKS: Caleb Bottelberghe 1

INTERCEPTIONS: Kellen Bradley 1



Minneota's Kellen Bradley takes a handoff from quarterback Tristen Sussner. Bradley gained 199 yards rushing and one touchdown on 17 carries. *Mascot photo by Reba Lipinski*



Minneota senior wingback Easton Johnston (4) follows the blocks of Joey Lacek, left, and Brody Anderson (55) to the end zone on a 10-yard touchdown run in the second quarter Friday in Jordan. *Mascot photo by Reba Lipinski*

Class A State Football Tournament

1N-BRECKENRIDGE

Friday, Nov. 7
7 p.m. at Morris

4N-BARNUM

2N-MAHNOMEN-WAUBUN

Friday, Nov. 7
7 p.m. at Becker

UPSALA-SWANVILLE

1S-MINNEOTA

Low North seed
vs. High South seed
Saturday, Nov. 15
9 a.m.
at US Bank Stadium

2N-MAHNOMEN-WAUBUN

1S-MINNEOTA

Friday, Nov. 7
5:30 p.m. at Jordan

4S-LESTER PRAIRIE

1N-BRECKENRIDGE

High North seed
vs. Low South seed
Saturday, Nov. 15
11:30 a.m.
at US Bank Stadium

2S-FILLMORE CENTRAL

Friday, Nov. 7
7 p.m. at Rochester

3S-MURRAY CTY CENTRAL

3S-MURRAY CTY CENTRAL

Semifinal winners
Friday, Nov. 21
10 a.m.
at US Bank Stadium



Scrooge *Continued from Page 1*

"I think people will have a great time," Hennen said, when asked what those in attendance should expect. "There is a lot of humor in it and I think people will really enjoy it."

The cast has been rehearsing hard in preparation for the stage performances.

"Rehearsals have been long, but we've had a lot of fun," Hennen said.

Hennen, who is one of the managers of the Minneota football team, will have to quickly return to Minneota with several of the football players and other managers that are involved in the play following Saturday's Class A semifinal football game at U.S. Bank Stadium.

"We had to do that last year, too, for 'Bye Bye Birdie'," said Easton Johnston, one of the football players who is in this year's play. Johnston plays Jacob Marley, Scrooge's deceased business partner who returns to warn him about the consequences of his greed and selfishness.

"Last year we played a late football game and had to hurry back in time for the play. This year, we play early (9 a.m.), so it won't be too bad."

Like Hennen, Johnston said the cast and crew have enjoyed working on the play, which is co-directed by Teresa Myhre and Mary Noyes.

"We've had a lot of fun," said Johnston, who played Conrad Birdie in 'Bye Bye Birdie'. "I think people will like this one a lot, too."

Do you have a story to share?

Call us at 507-872-6492 or email editor@minneotamascot.com

Minneota's Rolbiecki, Meagher selected to All-State volleyball team

Senior libero Abby Rolbiecki and sophomore outside hitter Eden Meagher were named to the Class A All-State volleyball team, announced at the state volleyball banquet last week.

Rolbiecki, a two-time all-state selection, had 277 digs and 16 aces this season for the Vikings. Meagher had a team-high 233 kills this season to go along with 31 aces.

The 2025 Class A All-State team:

Emmilee Braem, senior, Central Minnesota Christian
Morgan Engel, senior, Ada-Borup-West
Kacey Fischer, senior, Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa
Ada Hahn, junior, Mayer Lutheran
Kyla Hellickson, senior, Fillmore Central
Brielle Janssen, senior, MACCRAY
Audrey Johnson, senior, Wabasso
Ava Karbo, senior, Russell-Tyler-Ruthton
Clara Keaveny, senior, Mayer Lutheran
Izzy Keaveny, senior, Mayer Lutheran
Kenzie Kiminski, senior, Floodwood
Eden Meagher, sophomore, Minneota
Emily Nelson, senior, Canby
Isabelle Puchalski, senior, West Central Area
Alyssa Revering, senior, Parkers Prairie
Abigail Rolbiecki, senior, Minneota
Kinley Soiney, senior, Mabel-Canton
Emma Thein, senior, MACCRAY
Kaydence White, senior, Kittson County Central
Shay Wilfahrt, senior, New Ulm Cathedral
Karlie Wollum, senior, Canby
Madilyn Zwart, sophomore, Fillmore Central

Mayer Lutheran repeats as A volleyball champs

Mayer Lutheran, which beat Minneota in last year's Class A state volleyball championship, defended its state title with a sweep of Russell-Tyler-Ruthton on Saturday at Grand Casino Arena.

Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa finished third in Class A.

In Class AA, Hawley defeated Chatfield 3-2 in the championship match. New Life Academy of Woodbury was third.

Marshall captured the Class AAA crown with a 3-1 victory over Benilde-St. Margaret's. Stewartville placed third.

Lakeville South swept Prior Lake in the Class AAAA title match, with Apple Valley finishing third.



Mya Pesek and Tallen Merritt were selected as the Canby/Minneota Cross Country Most Valuable Runners. *Contributed photo*

Pesek, Merritt voted Most Valuable for C/M cross country

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Sophomore Mya Pesek, who qualified for her fourth straight state cross country meet, and junior Tallen Merritt, were selected as the Canby/Minneota girls' and boys' Most Valuable Runners this season at the team's banquet Monday night.

Pesek was the team's number one runner most of the season, placing in the top five at five meets. She finished second in the Camden Conference, earned all-conference honors for the fourth time, and placed eighth at the Section 3A meet to qualify for state.

Merritt was the boys' top runner all season. He placed in the top 10 at six meets, and earned all-conference honors for the third year in a row.

Several other awards were handed out Monday night.

Freshmen Addison Full and Henry Vidoloff were named the Most Improved Runners.

Jonna Briggs and James Kamrath were voted the Hardest Workers.

Four seniors were recognized for their dedication to the program — Carson Becker, James Kamrath, Izabelle Hulzebos and Jadyn Schmitt.

Eight student-athletes were named All-Conference Academic, which goes to a junior or senior with a GPA of 3.75 or higher — senior Carson Becker, James Kamrath, Izabelle Hulzebos, and Jadyn Schmitt; and juniors Jonna Briggs, Ava Danielson, Taylor Ourada, Kendon Knutson, and Seth Paluch.

Mya Pesek earned All-State Academic which goes to a runner in grades 10-12 who finished in the top 15 in sections and maintained a GPA of 3.75 or higher.

The Canby/Minneota girls' and boys' teams also earned Gold All-Academic. The girls' team consisted of Mya Pesek, Jonna Briggs, Ava Danielson, Taylor Oyrads and Ella Clevaland. The boys' team consisted of Jmes Kamrath, Carson Becker, Kendon Knuton, Seth Paluch, and Brett Stoks.

"What a night celebrating an incredible season," said Canby/Minneota coach Allyson Pesek. "So proud of this group — the growth, the grit, the laughter, and the memories made along the way."



Abby Rolbiecki



Eden Meagher



Sarah Gruenes



Libby Sussner



Jaylyn Coequyt

5 Vikings cited by Camden Conference

Camden Conference champion Minneota had four of its players named to the all-conference team, and a fifth player was chosen honorable mention.

Seniors Abby Rolbiecki and Sarah Gruenes, plus junior Libby Sussner and sophomore Eden Meagher were named All-Camden Conference. Junior Jaylyn Coequyt was named honorable mention.

Brielle Janssen of MACCRAY was voted the Most Valuable Player. Laura Rosen of Central Minnesota Christian School was named Coach of the Year.

ALL-CAMDEN CONFERENCE

Minneota: Abby Rolbiecki, senior; Sarah Gruenes, senior; Eden Meagher, sophomore; Libby Sussner, junior ... Honorable mention: Jaylyn Coequyt, junior

Canby: Karlie Wollum, senior; Emily Nelson, senior; Brynn Kockelman, senior; Jaryn Houseman, senior ... Honorable mention: Grace Hansen, senior

Central Minnesota Christian School: Emmilee Braem, senior; Aurora Rosen, junior; Maddy Vander Ark, junior ... Honorable mention: Emery Fussy, junior

Dawson-Boyd: Kadyn Perkis, junior ... Hoonorable mention: Claire Steatmoen, sophomore

Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg: Madison Silas, sophomore ... Honorable mention: Ava Noble, senior

Lac qui Parle Valley: Caleigh Conn, senior ... Honorable mention: Abbie Amland, junioir

Lakeview: Kiara Hinz, senior; Taylor Hinz, junior ... Honorable mention: Khya Gawarecki, senior

MACCRAY: Brielle Janssen, senior; Emma Thein, senior; Mia Post, junior ... Honorable mention: Eva Swenson, junior

Ortonville: MaKaela Johnson, senior ... Honorable mention: Abby Ebnet, sophomore

Renville County West: Ella Ridlm junior; Holly Hinderks, senior ... Honorable mention: Mackenna Hinderks, junior

Tracy-Milroy-Balaton: Melaina Ankrum, junior ... Hoonorable mention: Braelynn Kirk, junior

Yellow Medicine East: Alana Almich, senior ... Honorable mention: Abbey Bones, sophomore

Most Valuable Player

Brielle Janssen, MACCRAY

Coach of the Year

Laura Rosen, Central Minnesota Christian School

Fall Sports Camden Conference All-Academic

(Juniors-Seniors (3.75 or higher GPA)

MINNEOTA: Sarah Gruenes, senior, volleyball; Abigail Rolbiecki, senior, volleyball; Jaylyn Coequyt, junior, volleyball; Madison Minnehan, junior, volleyball; Natalie Ratajczak, junior, volleyball; Leah Coequyt, junior, volleyball; Libby Sussner, junior, volleyball; Carson Becker, senior, cross country; Seth Paluch, junior, cross country

CANBY: Courtney Antony, senior, volleyball; Brynn Kockelman, senior, volleyball; Karlie Wollum, senior, volleyball; Jaryn Houseman, senior, volleyball; Emily Nelson, senior, volleyball; Addison Driessen, senior, volleyball; Alexa Vernlund, junior, volleyball; Rhilyn Anderson, junior, volleyball; Taylor Ourada, junior, cross country; Ava Danielson, junior, cross country; Jonna Briggs, junior, cross country; James Kamrath, senior, cross country; Kendon Knutson, senior, cross country

CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL: Peighton Mulder, senior, cross country; Maggie Setrum, senior, cross country; Alysia Buteyn, junior, cross country; Etta Grannes, junior, cross country; Maddie Vogel, junior, cross country; Aurora Rosen, junior, volleyball

DAWSON-BOYD: Rylan Plessner, senior, volleyball; Alyssa Swedzinski, senior, cross country; Landon Kemen,, senior, cross country

KERKHOVEN-MURDOCK-SUNBURG: Faith Duke, senior, volleyball; Ava Noble, senior, volleyball

LAC QUI PARLE VALLEY: Marley Ludvigson, junior, volleyball; Chayla Meyer, junior, volleyball; Brooklyn Olson, junior, volleyball; Peyton Sachs, junior, volleyball; Kaci Tweet, junior, volleyball; Karcyn Wittnebel, junior, volleyball; Caleigh Conn, senior, volleyball; Lyndsey Ludvigson, senior, volleyball; Harper Gronholz, junior, cross country; Makiah Pust, senior, cross country

LAKEVIEW: Teegan Fiene, senior, volleyball; Aubrey Nething, senior, volleyball; Kiara Hinz, senior, volleyball; Laia Javens, junior, volleyball; Allison Issacs, junior, volleyball; Jersey Stensrud, junior, volleyball

MACCRAY: Brielle Janssen, senior, volleyball; Kailani Hansen, junior, volleyball; Emersyn Pederson, junior, volleyball; Samantha Hultgren, junior, volleyball; Eva Swenson, junior, volleyball; Sadie Koenen, junior, volleyball; Rorie Bristle, junior, volleyball; Elizabeth Johnson, senior, cross country; Rachel Seehusen, senior, cross country

ORTONVILLE: Rylie Conroy, senior, volleyball; Alayna Nelson, senior, volleyball; Sarah Neu, senior, volleyball; Alyssa Arndt, junior, volleyball; Sara Kirkeby, junior, volleyball; Payten Haukos, junior, volleyball; Lucas Klepel, senior, cross country; Cadyn Vanderwal, senior, cross country

RENVILLE COUNTY WEST: Shelby Allex, senior, volleyball; Holly Hinderks, senior, volleyball; Maggie Rice, junior, volleyball; Mackenna Hinderks, junior, volleyball; Vivia Hebrink, junior, volleyball

TRACY-MILROY-BALATON: Melaina Ankrumm junior, volleyball; Taylor Munson, junior, volleyball; Taylor Squires, junior, cross country; Jackson Jenniges, junior, cross country; Evelyn Rentschler, junior, cross country; Miranda Mischke, junior, cross country

YELLOW MEDICINE EAST: Karina Jahn, senior, cross country; Evelyn Martin, senior, cross country; Anjali Pullan, senior, cross country; Alana Almich, senior, volleyball; Bayli Sneller, senior, volleyball; Hanna Bjorndahl, junior, volleyball; Londyn Dorame, junior, volleyball; Kourtney Peterson, junior, volleyball

Minneota High School First Quarter Jr. High Honor Roll

The Honor Roll is divided into three sections: Distinguised Honor Roll (4.00 GPA), High Honor Roll (3.666-3.999), and Honor Roll (3.33-3.665).

DISTINGUISHED HONOR ROLL

(Grade 8)
Brielle Krog
Mariah Loyson
Kade Sussner

HIGH HONOR ROLL

(Grade 7)
Jade Abraham
Sophie Becker
Devyn Claeys
Kathyrn Clark
Parker Kern
Jackson Noble
Oakley Norby
Zach Paluch
Camden Popowski
Ronin Runia
Piper Shoultz
Bentley Walerius

(Grade 8)
Keatyn Bouwman
Mason Christensen
Vance Claeys
Laney Coequyt
McKenzie DePestel
Reagan DeSmet
Harper Hjermstad
Hadley Jurrens
Mason Kopitski
Jacob Loyson
Taryn Myrvik
Wyatt Opdahl
Jasper Pochardt
Addyson Pohlen
Levi Pohlen
Quinn Pohlen
Berkley Sheik
Addy Sorensen
Jagger Stassen
Jacob Swoboda
Charlie Winter

HONOR ROLL

(Grade 7)
Ava Buysse
Camber DeVos
Padraic Moriarty
Easton Nuese
Bentley Pesch
Rose Swoboda
Wyatt Thooft
Harper Thooft
Harper Tolk
Zoey Verdin
Noah Woodbeck

(Grade 8)
Blake Citterman
Nolan Coequyt
Wahcazi Win Dumarce
Talia Fier
Brooks Johnston
Kalli Neyens
Esmeralda Rodriguez
Nevaeh Schreiber
Kinsley Sheik
Harmon VanKeulen

This Day in History - November 13

1789 - Benjamin Franklin writes in a letter to a friend, Jean-Baptiste Leroy: "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

1909 -A fire erupts inside a coal mine in Cherry, Ill., killing 259 men and boys.

1942 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs a measure lowering the minimum draft age from 21 to 18.

1956 - The Supreme Court strikes down laws calling for racial segregation on public buses.

1969 - Speaking in Des Moines, Iowa, Vice President Spiro Agnew accuses network television news departments of bias and distortion, and urges viewers to lodge complaints. (The following September he would refer to the media as "nattering nabobs of negativism.")

1982 - The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is dedicated on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

1985 - Approximately 23,000 residents of Armero, Colombia, die when a volcanic mudslide buries the city.

2001 - President Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin meet at the White House, where they pledge to slash Cold War-era nuclear arsenals by two-thirds.

2017 - A second woman accuses Alabama Republican Senate candidate Roy Moore of sexually assaulting her as a teenager in the late 1970s; Moore calls the charge "absolutely false" and a "political maneuver." Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell calls on Moore to drop out of the race. (Moore would lose a special election to Democrat Doug Jones.)

Ross *Continued from Page 1*

In addition to her professional excellence, Ross is celebrated for the spirit of camaraderie and compassion she brings to every meeting—whether virtual or in person. Colleagues describe her as a source of positivity, humor and support who strengthens the ABMDI community through her kindness and lightheartedness.

"Kriste brings a spirit of camaraderie, caring and lightheartedness that brings us all together and makes us laugh exactly when we need it," said ABMDI President Jackie Ulven in the award announcement. "Thank you, Kriste, for your friendship, support and continued commitment to ABMDI and for the care that you show to us all."

Ross' recognition reflects not only her national impact through ABMDI but also her ongoing dedication to serving the residents of Cass County with professionalism and compassion in her role as coroner.

Ross is a 1993 graduate of Minneota High School and currently lives in Fargo, ND. She has been with the Cass County Coroner's Office since 2001.

GIVE A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE MINNEOTA MASCOT
($43 per year in-state $46 out-of-state)

COMMUNITY events

November

Thursday, Nov. 13
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center

Friday, Nov. 14
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center

Saturday, Nov. 15
9 a.m. - Football: Class A State semifinals, Minneota vs. Mahnomen-Waubun, U.S. Bank Stadium

Monday, Nov. 17
1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

Tuesday, Nov. 18
10 a.m. - Lyon County Board meeting, Marshall
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Quilting" at Senior Center

Wednesday, Nov. 19
1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Senior Center

Thursday, Nov. 20
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center

Friday, Nov. 21
10 a.m. - Football: Class A State championship, U.S. Bank Stadium
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center

Monday, Nov. 24
1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

Tuesday Nov. 25
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Quilting" at Senior Center

Wednesday, Nov. 26
1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Senior Center
5:30 p.m. - Minneota School Board meeting

Thursday, Nov. 27
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center

Friday, Nov. 28
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center

Sunday, Nov. 30
1:30 p.m. - Bingo fundraiser at American Legion (hams, turkeys given as prizes)

December

Monday, Dec. 1
1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

The Mascot KITCHEN

Stuffed Pasta Shells

This is a way to use up leftovers. This casserole of pasta shells filled with moist stuffing, tender chicken chunks and green peas is covered with an easy sauce.

Ingredients
1 ½ cups cooked stuffing
2 cups diced cooked chicken or turkey
½ cup frozen peas, thawed
½ cup mayonnaise
18 jumbo pasta shells, cooked and drained
1 can (10.75 ounces) condensed cream of chicken soup
2/3 cup water
Paprika

Directions
In a large bowl, combine the stuffing, chicken, peas, and mayonnaise; spoon into pasta shells. Place shells on a greased 9 x 13 baking dish. Combine soup and water; pour over shells. Sprinkle with paprika. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until heated through.

****

Pumpkin Cheesecake

This pumpkin cheesecake recipe might become your new favorite fall dessert. The graham cracker crust holds a fluffy filling made with cream cheese and pumpkin. You'll be thinking about this autumn treat long after the season is over.

Ingredients
(Crust)
1 cup graham cracker crumbs
1 tablespoon sugar
1/4 cup butter, melted
(Filling)
2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
3/4 cup sugar
2 eggs, room temperature, lightly beaten
1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin
1 1/4 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon salt
(Topping)
2 cups sour cream
2 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
12 pecan halves, chopped

Directions
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a small bowl, combine the graham cracker crumbs and sugar; stir in butter. Press into the bottom of a 9-inch pan; chill. For filling, in a large bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Add eggs; beat on low speed just until blended. Stir in the pumpkin, spices and salt. Pour into crust. Place pan on a baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 50 minutes. For topping, combine the sour cream, sugar and vanilla until smooth. Spread over filling; return to the oven for five minutes. Cool on rack for 10 minutes. Carefully run a knife around the edge of pan to loosen; cool one hour longer. Refrigerate overnight. Top with chopped pecans. Refrigerate leftovers.

LYON COUNTY MUSEUM

Christmas, Cocktails & Charcuterie Nov. 21

Kick off the holiday season in style at our Christmas, Cocktails & Charcuterie event on Friday, Nov. 21 from 7–9 p.m. at the Lyon County Museum in Marshall.

Sip on seasonal cocktails, savor delicious charcuterie bites, and be the very first to stroll through our enchanting Christmas Tree Walk — then cast your vote (and your donation) for your favorite tree.

Tickets are $25 each. Limited tickets will be available.

Holiday attire encouraged — bring your festive flair.

Christmas Tree Walk opens Nov. 22

The 13th annual Indoor Christmas Tree Walk opens at the Lyon County Museum on Saturday, Nov. 22. The trees and museum will stay decorated through Dec. 31. View decorated trees by area families, businesses, non-profit organizations, and service organizations.

To vote for your favorite(s), place money in a box located by each tree. The top three organizations/businesses with the most money in their boxes will win the 2025 Tree Walk. There will be an online option to vote on the museum's website. All proceeds from the boxes will go to benefit the Lyon County Historical Society's mission of preserving and presenting Lyon County history.

The top three trees will earn prizes. First prize is $150 in Marshall Chamber Dollars, second place is $100 in Marshall Chamber Dollars, and third prize is $50 in Marshall Chamber Dollars.

The museum will have extended hours during this time. The museum hours for Nov. 22-Dec. 31 are Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on Sundays. Check the Lyon County Museum's website: www.lyoncomuseum.org for closed holidays.

For more information, contact the Lyon County Museum at 507-537-6580.

Porter Legion #457 Fundraiser



Poultry Party & Raffle

FRIDAY, NOV. 21, 2025 - 7 P.M.
Porter Hall, Porter, MN
Refreshments available
FREE DOOR PRIZES - FREE ADMISSION

Pork Chop Feed
Saturday, NOV. 22
4:30 to 7 p.m.
St. Edward's Church Basement



- Pork chop
- French fries
- Coleslaw
- Applesauce
- Bun
- Dessert

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus

Free-will offering

All are welcome

– Minneota Area Community Churches –

Healing Waters Parish
Augustana, Clarkfield; Bergen, Clarkfield; St. Lucas Lutheran, Cottonwood

Worship Times:
Bergen Lutheran Church: Worship at 11 a.m.
St. Lucas Lutheran Church: Worship at 9 a.m.
Augustana: Worship at 10 a.m.

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

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church
PO Box 119, 101 Main Street, Hanley Falls
www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org

Worship Time: All Sunday services are in-person and also live-streamed at 10:30 a.m. Sundays on Facebook (visit Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church). Please watch the website and Facebook for more information.
Sunday, November 16: Worship at 11 a.m.

Church: 507-768-3417
Pastor Steve Quist: 507-337-0068
Tim Velde, Lay Minister: 507-828-5343

St. Leo Catholic Church
St. Leo, MN
Mass Time: Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Fr. Brendan Rolling & Fr. Keith Salisbury
Church Contact No. 507-224-2289

Winds of the Prairie Ministry
Bethany Lutheran, Arco and Bethany-Elim Lutheran, Ivanhoe
Worship Times: Online Worship, see Facebook page

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

Hope Lutheran Church
Minneota
www.hopeminneota.org

Worship Time:
Sunday, November 16: Worship at 9 a.m.
Wednesday, November 19: GLOW Supper at 5:30 p.m.

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

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Minneota
Worship Time: Sunday, November 16 : 10:30 a.m.

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

St. Eloi Catholic Church
Ghent
Mass Times:
Thursday, November 13: Noon Mass at Convent
Friday, November 14: Noon Mass at Convent
Saturday, November 15: Noon Mass at Convent
Sunday, November 16: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

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

Hemnes Lutheran Church
Rural Minneota

Worship Time: Sundays at 8:30 a..m.
Pastor Ellen Munter

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 Time:
Thursday, November 13: Mass at 7 a.m.
Thursday, November 13: Adoration 5-7 p.m.
Friday, November 14: TMIY at Knights Hall 6 a.m.
Friday, November 14: Mass at 7 a.m.
Saturday, November 15: Mass at 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 16: Mass at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday, November 16: Sunday FIRE at 9:30 a.m.

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

Minneota Area Church Announcements Brought to You By:

Gislason ACE HARDWARE Established in 1938
"For all your local hardware needs."
Dave & Barb
106 E. 1st St. • Minneota
872-6472

State Bank of Taunton
Taunton, MN
507-872-6136
statebankoftaunton.com
Member FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Minneota Assisted Living and Home Health Care
872-5313
872-5300

IT'S A DARK World. BE THE Light
MATTHEW 5:14

Your Hometown Newspaper
Minneota Mascot
507-872-6492

Doyle Insurance Services
Insurance & Bonds
Danny Hennen
GRINNELL SELECT INSURANCE COMPANY
www.gmrc.com
217 N. Jefferson
Minneota • 872-6124

For Rent

Minneota Premier Storage

UNITS STILL AVAILABLE!
708 Victory Drive, Minneota, MN

HEATED UNITS ... INSULATED UNITS ... OPEN-AIR STORAGE

Call Ronni (507-829-6091)

For more information:
www.minneotapremierstorage.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Tell someone you are thinking about them on their birthday or anniversary in the Mascot for only $2. Stop by the Mascot or call 507-872-6492

Help Wanted

Paraprofessional, Minneota Public School
Start Date: Nov. 14, 2025

Description:
Minneota Public School is seeking a paraprofessional for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year. We are looking for a candidate who acts with honor, shows respect, and meets high expectations.

Job Duties:
- Work collaboratively with the classroom teachers to provide students on an IEP with a rich educational experience.
- Provide lunch supervision and support.
- Support the student during classroom activities.
- There may be times when the paraprofessional will be asked to guide an activity or administer an assessment independently that the lead teacher has developed.
- The days of service include Monday – Friday.

Requirements:
- High school diploma or GED.
- Must be 18 years of age.

Preferred Credentials, but not required:
- As associate's degree OR
- Two years of post-secondary education (65 or more college credits) OR
- Para Pro certified.

**Experience in working with children preferred

Application Process: Please email the following
- Resume
- Minneota Public Schools Application
- 1-2 letters of recommendation to the following:

Apply to:
Lindsey.larson@minneotaschools.org
Lindsey Larson
504 N. Monroe
Minneota, MN 56264

Certificate of Assumed Name

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
Certificate of Assumed Name
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: **Audrey's Candles and More**

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: **209 S JACKSON ST MINNEOTA MN 56264 USA**

APPLICANT(S):

Name:	Address:
Nona F Gottskalkson	**209 S JACKSON ST MINNEOTA MN 56264 USA**

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: **Nona Gottskalkson**

MAILING ADDRESS: **None Provided**

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **audreyscandlesandmore@nonafay.com**

Annual Meeting

Notice of Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of Ag Plus Cooperative

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the members of Ag Plus Cooperative will be called to order at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2025, in the Ballroom at KB's Bar & Grill, 100 E Burlingame St, Ghent, MN 56239, for the following purposes:
1. To present Auditor, Board, and Management reports.
2. To elect Directors.
3. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Dated November 1, 2025

By Order of the Board of Directors

Peter Haugen, Secretary

minneotamascot.com

Professional Directory

To place your ad in this directory call 507-872-6492

Electrical & Plumbing

B&B Electrical Contractors, Inc.
706 E 1st St. Minneota MN 56264 **507-872-6837**
bnbelectric16@yahoo.com
Eric V. Buysse, Owner Lic# EA002764
Residential and Commercial Electrical Applications
Specializing in Ground Source Heat Pumps
WaterFurnace® *Smarter from the Ground Up™*

Frank's
Electric, Plumbing & Heating
(507) 872-5007 ◆ (507) 530-3499
email: frankselectric@centurytel.net
712 East 1st St.
Minneota, MN 56264
RUUD
Jeff Sussner
Lic # EA000684
Plumbing & Heating
Cold Climate Geo Thermal Heat Pumps

1-320-260-2995
Brian Kloos
Master Plumber
Lic #: PM067907
403 East Lyon Street
Minneota, MN 56264
BK's Plumbing LLC

Septic Systems

Laleman's Septic & Drain Cleaning
Ghent, MN
Septic Tank Pumping
Sewer Rooter
Drain Jetting
Porta Potty Rental
For plumbing, call Spencer Laleman at 507-829-3631
Lic # PM086876
Gary Laleman: 507-530-4405

Building Supplies

SEE US FOR YOUR COMPLETE BUILDING NEEDS!
New Homes, Workshops, Additions, Storage Sheds, Garages, Livestock Sheds. High Quality Competitive Prices. Custom Designed Plans & Drafts. Residential Ag & Commercial Buildings. Free Estimates. Materials on Hand
MINNEOTA BUILDING MATERIALS, INC.
507-872-6147 • 115 W. 1st St. • Minneota, MN 56264

Interior Design

Hometown KITCHEN & BATH
- Cabinetry
- Countertop
- Flooring
- Ceramic Tile
- Window Treatments

Nadine Kor
101 N. Jefferson St. • Minneota
Store: 507-872-5969
Cell: 507-530-4320
www.hometownkandb.com

Hours
Tuesdays-Fridays: 9 a.m.- 5 p.m
Mondays, Saturdays & Evenings: By Appointment
Sundays: Closed

Funeral Services



Betsy Jo Kack
Pre-Planning Counselor
MN Ins. Lic. #20530197
Monument Sales
Creating Beautiful Tributes through Meaningful Ceremonies
Horvath Funeral Service
Minneota • (507) 872-6119 • www.horvathfuneralservice.com

Service

Swede's Service Center
Skidloader & Trackloader repairs, parts and rentals
Minneota, MN 56264
507-872-6206
www.wackerneuson.com



Counseling



Jerry's Therapy
Jerome Bottelberghe
LPC Licensed
Telehealth • Mdlive.com
Call or text 507-530-2029 for an appointment
110 East Second Street • Minneota
www.jerrytherapy.com

Classifieds

For Rent

FOR RENT
One bedroom apartment at **COUNTRYSIDE MANOR,** Porter
Rental Assistance available for those who qualify.
CALL NANCY AT 507-223-7869

FOR RENT
One bedroom apartment at **LEBEN'S RAUM,** Canby
Rental Assistance available for those who qualify.
CALL NANCY AT 507-223-7869

Minneota Public Schools

Hiring for the 2025-2026 School Year

- *Assistant Softball Coach*

Review of applications will continue until the positions are filled.

Job descriptions are located on the Minneota Public School website.

Please submit resume and letters of interest to:
Activities Director Patty Myrvik
Patty.myrvik@minneotaschools.org

Minneota Mascot Hours

Monday-Tuesday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesday
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Call 507-872-6492

or email editor@minneota-mascot.com

During non-business hours, please call 320-894-6007

Lost & Found

LOST — Lost along Lincoln County 17 on Sunday evening, Nov. 9: Black Action Packer with grey lid. Packer has hunting gear (bibs, jacket, caps, etc.). If found, please contact 507-530-5075, 507-530-5073, or 605-252-0787.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Monday - 12 p.m.
Call 507-872-6492

To subscribe to the Mascot call 507-872-6492 or email: office@minneotamascot.com

Help Wanted

School Counselor - Minneota Public School

The Minneota Public School District has a School Counselor long term substitute position for December 14, 2025 to March 9, 2026. Minneota is located in Southwest Minnesota, (approximately 10 miles northwest of Marshall, MN).

We are looking for candidates who act with honor, show respect, and meet high expectations!

A school counselor's job is to provide academic, career, social, and emotional support to students through individual and group counseling, helping them develop skills and set goals.

The candidate will:
- Apply academic achievement strategies
- Consult and collaborate with education partners to create success for each and every student
- Plan for post-secondary options for higher education, military, work force
- Data analysis to identify student issues, needs, and challenges

Requirements:
- A valid MN teaching license
- A valid K-12 School Counselor license is preferred

Pay:
If applicant holds a long-term substitute license, substitute pay will be $30.29/per hour. If applicant holds a short call license, substitute pay will be $180/per day.

Interested candidates may access and print the form from the following link:
https://www.minneotaschools.org/Page/34

To apply send cover letter, resume, completed application, and three letters of recommendation to the following:

Minneota Public Schools
Attn: Lindsey Larson
504 North Monroe Street
Minneota, MN 56264

Please contact Lindsey Larson, the high school principal at, lindsey.larson@minneotaschools.org with any questions you may have.

Professional Directory

Veterinary Services

Tri-County Veterinary Clinic
201 1st St. W. • P.O. Box 357 • Taunton, MN
Scott Josephson, D.V.M.
Adam Josephson, D.V.M
(507) 872-6113
www.tricountyvetclinic.com

MINNEOTA VETERINARY CLINIC
Laura Rohe, D.V.M
714 E. 1st St.
Minneota, MN 56264
www.minneotavet.com
507-872-6000
Mon- Fri: 8am- 5pm

Chiropractor

FIXEN CHIROPRACTIC
Minneota • (507) 872-5200
202 East 1st Street - Minneota, MN 56364

Appraisals

Buffalo Ridge Appraisals LLC
J.D. Pesch, Certified Appraiser
507-317-4943
Residential & Agricultural Real Estate Appraisals
PO Box 147
Minneota, MN 56264
jdp.appraiser@gmail.com

Dental Services

Michael R. Thomas D.D.S. & Associates — *Smile Designers*
Patient Friendly Hours ~ Evening and Friday Appointments
1511 Carlson Street • Marshall, MN
507-532-3353
M & Tue.: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
W & Th. 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
New Patients Welcome!
www.smiledesignersmn.com

MINNEOTA Family Dental
Dr. Alexandra C. Lentz
102 E 1st St, Minneota, MN 56264 -- Ph. (507) 872-6403
Serving the SW MN community since 1975
Now Accepting New Patients!
www.minneotafamilydental.com

Financial Services

MORTGAGE CAPITAL of MN
Residential Lending With Integrity
For all your home lending needs
130 1st St. West • Canby
Cell: 612-812-0320
bmerritt@mortgagecapitalmn.com
www.mortgagecapitalmn.com
Home Equity Lines
Debt Consolidation
Home Improvement
Construction Loans
FHA/VA Loans
Rural Development
Home purchase and refinance
ALL Credit Welcome to Apply!
NMLS #340490
NMLS #324257
— ***Brent Merritt***, *Partner/Senior Mortgage Consultant* —

Hardware & Decor

Barb & Dave
Gislason Ace Hardware
"Local hardware needs"
507-872-6472
See us on Facebook
barb_rye@hotmail.com
106 East 1st Street
Minneota, MN 56264
Hours: Mon. - Fri.: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.;
Sunday: CLOSED

Legal Services

John Engels Law Office, PLLC
Real property Law — Specialist certified by the MSBA
124 N. Jefferson — Minneota, MN 56264
507-872-6234 — 507-275-3105

Health Services

MINNEOTA
ASSISTED LIVING & HOME HEALTH CARE
part of Living Services Foundation
- 24-hour staffed assisted living facility
- Medicare-level Home Health Nursing Services

507-872-5300
www.lsfminneota.org

Excavating

Lakeside Excavating
MN & SD Septic Systems
TAUNTON, MN
Water line installation
Basements
Demolition
Dirt work
Call or text: Davis 605-690-1040

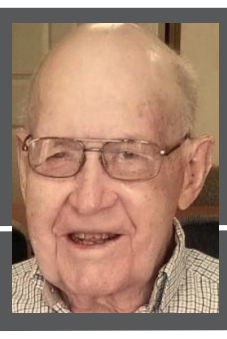
Tree Moving

RYE'S TREE MOVING
CALL RODNEY RYE
507-829-4614 (cell)
OR 507-296-4488 (home)
Porter, MN
Growing and moving up to 10" diameter trees

Obituaries

Arnie Bot

1934-2025



Mass of Christian Burial for Arnold "Arnie" Bot, 91, of Marshall, will be at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025, at St. Eloi Catholic Church in Ghent. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment with military honors will follow at St. Eloi Catholic Cemetery in Ghent.

Arnold Theodore Bot was born at home in Grandview Township on March 13, 1934, the son of Charles and Elizabeth (Brewers) Bot. For many years Arnie celebrated his birthday on March 12 because, as he said, "Ma was there and that's the date she said it was." However, the court records have it recorded as March 13.

Arnie was a lifelong member of St. Eloi Catholic Church receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Communion, and Confirmation there. He attended the St. Agnes Catholic School in Ghent through the eighth grade. He went to Grand Rapids, MI for three years of high school. His after-school job was setting pins at a bowling alley for a penny a pin. On a good night he made $10. His senior year was in Lynd where he graduated in 1951.

Arnie loved sports and his favorite was baseball. He played on the Ghent town team for 10 years and then managed it for three more years. You would find Arnie behind the plate as catcher. This was how he spent summer Sunday afternoons playing in Ghent and the surrounding communities. Thursday evenings were spent playing Rolle Bolle in Ghent. He also bolled at the International Tournament and Belgian American Days.

After high school, Arnie stayed home and began farming with his parents. In 1957 Arnie was drafted into the US Army. He had basic training at Ft. Lewis, WA, and then in Ft. Carson, CO. He was stationed in Ulm, Germany. While stationed in Germany he was able to see some of Europe. He went to Belgium, Holland, and England on his first leave and then went to Austria, Italy, and the Isle of Capri on his second leave. An interesting fact about his Rome visit was that there was no Pope there at that time (October of 1958) because Pope Pius had just died. Although Arnie didn't like the army much, he did appreciate sampling some good German beer!

After coming home from the service in 1958 Arnie began farming with his brothers, Ray and Fran. They ran a registered Brown Swiss dairy. At the peak they milked about 75 cows twice a day. When the government buyout program came along, the brothers decided they were too old to keep milking, so the herd was sold. Most of the Bot cows went to Canada and South America.

Arnie was known as a generous uncle to his 30 living nephews and nieces. He enjoyed fishing, playing cards, and golfing. He was always ready to visit and play some cribbage with anyone who stopped over. And, he was well known for his sense of humor and much good-natured teasing.

Arnie also had a strong faith. Towards the end of his life, he was dealing with kidney failure and congestive heart failure. When asked if he was prepared to die, he responded by saying he prayed daily that "Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, commend my soul into your sacred arms."

Arnie died peacefully at the Prairie Home Hospice McLaughlin House on Saturday, Nov. 8.

He is survived by his brother, Fran Bot, and sister-in-law, Alice Bot and 30 nephews and nieces and many great nephews and nieces who will miss visiting and joking with Arnie.

Preceding Arnie in death were his parents, brothers – Rich, Barney, Ray, Norbert (infant), and Vincent, and sisters – Florence and Emerence, along with brothers-in-law Bob and Mike and sisters-in-law Phyllis, Judy, and Joan, nephew Jordan Bot and niece Pam (Bot) Haukom.

Memorials preferred to Prairie Home Hospice.

Arrangements with Horvath Funeral Service



Showcase your pet

Send us or bring in a photo of your pet for The Mascot "Pet of the Week"

Include your name, along with your pet's name, breed, age, and 2 or 3 of its favorite activities.

Send to:
Minneota Mascot,
P.O. Box 9, Minneota,
MN 56264

Sponsored by
Tri-County
Veterinary
Clinic

Children's Authors book signing

Saturday, December 13
12-2 p.m. at Minneota Mascot



Gail Boe
"Surely"
(Will also have her books "Hay" and "Lettuce" for sale)



Ronni Vlaminck
"Stormy's Brave Beginning"



Valeri Scheps
"She Didn't Pout About it Much"

Get 2 free months of the Mascot with a purchase of a one-year subscription. Bring your Lolo cards to be eligible for a prize drawing.

(Coffee and refreshments will be served.)
201 N. Jefferson Street, Minneota, MN

THE MINNEOTA MASCOT PRESENTS
THE 6TH ANNUAL
"Battle of the Bulbs" Holiday Lighting Contest

Minneota, Ghent, Taunton & Porter residents within a 10-mile radius of Minneota are encouraged to light up your home and register free for our contest.



1st place — $500 in prizes
2nd place — $250 in prizes
3rd place — $125 in prizes
One other participant will win $100 in prizes in a random drawing.

REGISTER FREE BY MONDAY, DEC. 15
To register: Fill out the form below and mail or drop off at the Mascot office: Mascot, P.O. Box 9, Minneota, MN 56264 or email scott@thomabooks.com

Name_____

Address_____

Phone_____ Email: _____

Judging will be done the weekend of Dec. 19-20
Winners will be announced on Dec. 22

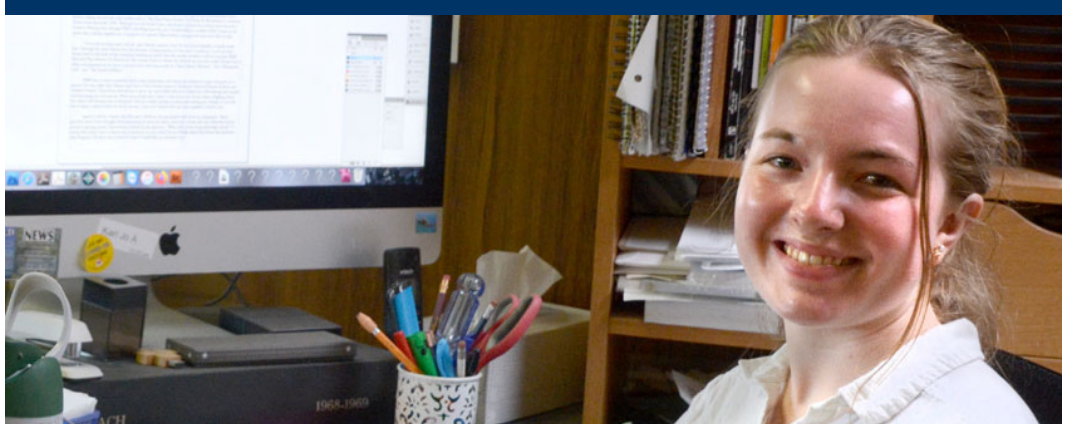
Minnesota News Media Institute

Support local news on Give to the Max Day

Local news is the heartbeat of the community. But it's struggling.

At MNI, we offer free or low-cost training, internships and support for local news professionals and students to help keep community news thriving - in towns just like yours.

Together, we can make a difference for Minnesota



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Share a birthday or anniversary in the Mascot:

Birthday or anniversary announcement (and website ad) for only $2.

Must be prepaid before published.

Stop by the Mascot or call us at 507-872-6492.

Pet OF THE WEEK

* Moose *



Owner:
Jan Peterson

Pet's Age:
6 years old

Breed:
Pug

Favorite Activities:
Dressing up for Halloween, playing hide and seek, chasing birds.

Sponsored by
Tri-County Veterinary Clinic
201 West 1st St. • Taunton 507-872-6113

Van der Hagen, Skogrand & Associates
A private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC



It's never too early to plan your financial future.

vanderhagenskogrand.com
(507) 532-2219
122 N. 3rd St ~ Marshall, MN 56258

Private Wealth Advisors:
Corey J. Skogrand, CFP®, ChFC®, CLU® &
Cory Ann Skogrand, CFP®, ChFC®, CLU®, CASL®, RICP®
Financial Advisors:
Larry Schiavo, CRPC® & Blake Bachmeier

Ameriprise Financial

Not FDIC or NCUA Insured | No Financial Institution Guarantee | May Lose Value

The Mascot is your leader for local news & sports