



The Maple Lake MESSENGER

Your Hometown Newspaper!

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Coming up

- * Parkinson's fundraiser is April 11
- * Income taxes due April 15
- * 6th grade musical is April 16
- * Prom & Post Prom Party is April 18

Grass fire consumes 400 acres



(Photos by Austin Pingel)

by Vicki Grimmer
Correspondent

Wednesday's grass fire at Crofoot and 45th St. NW in Maple Lake Township was no April Fool's joke.

The blaze, helped along by extremely dry conditions and gusty winds, consumed over 400 acres before being brought under control by the combined forces of the Maple Lake, Buffalo, Annandale and Monticello fire departments. "It wasn't the first grass fire this year, but it's one of the largest and worse I've seen," said Maple Lake fire chief Todd Borell.

Borell was also quick to thank the responding fire departments.

"We needed all their help," said Borell. "We had structures to protect. The wind just whistled through everything. We couldn't get in front of it until it got near the woods where the vegetation was more matted

down."

The rain, when it came, proved too little, too late to aid the firefighters. "The rain was about three hours too late," said Borell. "We had things pretty well under control by then. Mostly it just made mud."

Although originally a concern, no evacuations were necessary and no homes or other structures were lost to the blaze, though several were threatened.

One firefighter was treated and released for smoke inhalation, no other injuries were reported.

The cause of the fire remains unknown.

Chief Borell reminds everyone that no fire permits are being issued at this time, only recreational fires, those three feet in diameter or less, are permitted.

With luck this week's rainy weather will ease the fire danger situation in our area.



Early open water for Maple Lake Brinza reaches for Miss California



Bart Lauer, purveyor of freeze-ups and ice-outs, said Sunday, April 5th, was the ice-out day for Maple Lake this year, well ahead of previous years. Ramsey Lake was free of ice on April 4th, while larger lakes like Sugar, Cedar and Clearwater still had a covering on Monday. For a chart of past Maple Lake ice-out dates see page 11.

(Photo by Kayla Erickson)



Visit <http://www.gofundme.com/sarahashley02> to assist Sarah Brinza on her journey. (Photo submitted)

Becker is runner-up Miss Teen of America

by Brenda Erdahl
Correspondent

Easter weekend was a bittersweet homecoming for Ashley Becker after a whirlwind of activity that started with a runner-up finish in the Miss Teen of America pageant and ended in a trip to Spain.

Becker, who for the last year- and-a-half has held the title of Miss Teen of Minnesota, went before the judges once again in a three-day competition, Friday, March 13, through Sunday, March 15, in pursuit of the coveted Miss Teen of America title.

She fell just short of that lofty goal, finishing second to Miss Teen of Iowa, Cornelia Hays, who walked away with the top honor.

Three days later, Becker was jetting across the Atlantic on her way to Spain as a group leader with the Maple Lake High School Spanish class.

She returned to the states on Thursday, April 2, a little sad, but also proud of her accomplishments.

"It's really bittersweet," she said. "Initially I think it was more disappointing. This was something that I had put my heart and soul into, so the initial announcement was difficult; however, as time passes and I process everything further I am extremely proud to be able to say that I took second place in a national competition."

Ashley Becker continued on page 9



Ashley Becker (right), Miss Teen of Minnesota and runner-up for 2015 Miss Teen of America, with former Miss Teen of America, Kiera Kinnaid (left). (Photo submitted)

Born and raised in Maple Lake, Sarah Brinza is on her way to capturing her dream of acting and modeling while living in Los Angeles, California. Brinza, using her first and middle names, Sarah Ashley, as her professional name, is a 2010 MLHS grad. During high school she participated in track, cross-country, drama, and one-act productions. After high school she attended Riverland Community College in Austin, MN where she earned her AS degree in Human Services.

Wanting more, she packed her bags and moved to New York City and enrolled at the New York Film Academy to study acting. Returning to Minnesota with an agent and a few acting gigs under her belt, she made the decision to move to Los Angeles.

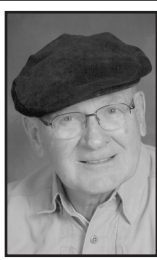
With no job or housing in place, the decision was a tough

one, but one she felt LA was the best place to pursue her chosen career. Once again, she packed her bags and moved to Los Angeles where a job, a place to live, and auditions fell right in place.

From an early age, celebrities had made a big impact on Brinza's life and she knew she wasn't the only one being influenced. The fame, fortune, and fun that seemed part of their everyday lives was something to aspire to. Now able to see past the glitz and glamour, Brinza understands that some lives can be negatively affected by the fame. As she begins to make progress in her acting and modeling, Brinza hopes to use her career to help encourage other young women and to lead by example, showing them true worth comes from within.

Sarah Brinza continued on page 10

Viewpoint



Brute's Bleat

by Harold Brutlag

This is that time of year when my thoughts turn to open water fishing and I realized I should have pulled my boat out of the backyard on Sunday because it started to rain on Monday. Now I'll have to wait for some sunshine to firm up the lawn and that may be a week off. I hadn't planned on going fishing this early, but there is the usual spring boat cleaning and tune-up needed to get organized. That includes greasing the bearings on the boat trailer and checking to make sure the trailer lights are working properly. In the meantime this will give me time to check the lines on the rods, and give the reels a drop of oil. It's also a good time to see what's left in the tackle box and what will be needed for the May 9th opener or for early crappie and sunfish angling which could start anytime now. There were two anglers from St. Michael tossing their bobbers out from the Ramsey Lake access Saturday, but they weren't catching anything while I watched. The ice must have went out on Ramsey Friday or early Saturday. A fellow had a boat and trailer backed into Maple Lake on Saturday and it looked like he was tuning up his engine at the access. What was left of the ice was out from Rich Erdahl's. On Sunday it had been blown back to the south shore where it disappeared the same afternoon. . . I imagine some of the lakes further north still have adequate ice for fishing, but the meteorologists are saying we're in for a rainy week which means they won't be safe for long. . . I had a phone call from Mike Muller (wintering in Florida) who said fresh-water fishing there has been picking up, both crappies and

shellcrackers, for a couple of grandchildren down there on their Easter break. He plans on leaving that winter Shangrilla early in May.

* * *

I noticed some wood ducks and mallards in Ney Park last week and later that week I noticed my neighbor, Rick Heberling, was getting his two wood duck houses ready after he said he had seen a pair in his yard. I noticed a hen the next morning (Sunday) flying from his direction and on Monday I had a male wood duck flying south down Linden Ave. about 6:40 in the morning. This is the time of year when everything starts to come alive with robins, blackbirds, grackles, and the other migrating birds. I heard a flock of snow geese heading north on Saturday while Vanna and I were walking in Ney Park. . . . Vicki Grimmer, your friendly Messenger ad salesperson, commented about how the three pheasant roosters she's been watching are all puffed up in their brilliancy for the spring mating time. She also commented about seeing bluebirds, her first of the season, and the enjoyment she gets out of watching the birds and animals during the coming of spring. . . I'm also hearing positive comments about others seeing pheasants, both hens and roosters, and I suspect the mild winter has a lot to do with their survival. . . . I got a first-hand report on South Dakota pheasants Easter Sunday while visiting with Don Curtis (Pastor Culynn's dad) who lives in Mitchell. He hunts pheasants and commented he's seeing birds where he hasn't seen them for several years which relates into their carry-over numbers improving. They need good weather during the nesting season, he added. He also said it has been dry, no rain yet, and spring fires have been a problem. One involved 20,000 acres in his area while another fire burned over 4,000 acres in the Gettysburg area.

* * *

The best advice I can give you about the 2015 fishing season is to make sure you have a license and to go often! A person doesn't have to catch a limit every time out, just get out on one of Minnesota's 10,000 lakes and enjoy yourselves.



Ask a Trooper

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow

Question: I read one of your recent articles about gas-powered bicycles/mopeds and I have some questions of my own. What is needed in addition when one has a permit or driver's license?

Answer: These rules apply to required equipment and gear for moped riders:

- A moped must meet the same lighting requirements as a

motorcycle, with a headlight, taillight and stop lamp. The headlight must be on during operation. Mopeds manufactured before 1987 are not normally equipped with a headlight or taillight and may be operated during daylight hours only.

- A horn and mirror are required safety equipment for a moped.

- Moped riders must wear protective eyewear.
- Moped riders under 18 years old must wear a DOT-approved motorcycle helmet.
- The Department of Public Safety recommends that moped operators observe the same rules of safety and wear the same protective equipment suggested for motorcycle riders.

These rules and restrictions apply to operating mopeds:

- Because of the relatively low speeds of mopeds, you should ride in the traffic lane as far right on the roadway as possible unless you are making a left turn. Riding on sidewalks is not permitted except where it would be necessary for a short distance to get from a driveway, alley or building to an adjacent roadway.

- Mopeds are not allowed on lanes or trails that have been set aside for bicycles and the exclusive use of non-motorized traffic.

- Moped riders on a roadway

shall not ride more than two abreast and shall not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic.

- Mopeds are not allowed on interstate freeways.

- A moped equipped with a headlight and taillight that meets motorcycle lighting requirements may be operated during nighttime hours. "Night" or "nighttime" means the time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise.

A portion of state statutes was used with permission from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes. If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow - Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on Twitter @MSPPIO_NW or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).

April 6 Maple Lake Fire Department Report

Maple Lake's Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Service responded to the following emergencies during the past week:

April 5, 3:25 a.m.: Medical. Patient transported by Maple Lake Ambulance to the Buffalo Hospital ER.

April 3, 8:38 a.m.: Medical. Patient transported by Maple Lake Ambulance to the St. Cloud Hospital ER.

April 3, 6:23 a.m.: Medical. Patient transported by Maple Lake Ambulance to the Buffalo Hospital ER.

April 1, 7:47 p.m.: Medical. Patient transported by Allina Ambulance.

Mar. 30, 10:25 a.m.: Medical. Patient transported by Allina Ambulance.

Mar 30, 11:14 a.m.: Medical. No ambulance transportation.

Maple Lake's Volunteer Fire Department responded to the following fires:

Grass fire, **April 1, 4:51 p.m.,** Crofoot & 45th St. NW,

Maple Lake Township. Firefighters from Maple Lake (21), assisted by the Buffalo, Annandale, and Monticello fire departments, battled the grass fire which encompassed about 400 acres. No homes or structures were lost in the swamp and grass fire, although several were threatened before the fire was extinguished. Local firefighters were on scene for approximately four hours.

On **April 2** the Maple Lake firefighters were called back to the same locations to extinguish hot spots. This involved 18 people who spent approximately three hours putting out fires which involved cutting down several burning trees.

On **April 5** Maple Lake was called at 2:52 a.m. for mutual aid from Annandale for a structure fire at 55 Hemlock St. E., Annandale city. Maple Lake provided Fire Engine 2, a tanker and personnel (19) to assist in fighting a fire in a 40 x 40 ft. addition to a cold storage unit belonging to the high school.



Thank You

This column is not intended for items of personal thanks, promotion or editorial comments. Its purpose is to simply give recognition to local residents for their contributions to our community.

We would like to publicly thank the firefighters of Maple Lake, Annandale, Buffalo, and Monticello fire departments for their efficient work.

On April 1st, 2015, our house and several others were threatened by a very large grass fire in Maple Lake Township. The fire was stopped with difficulty due

to the terrain and very high wind. No structures were lost. We are very grateful that a near miss did not develop into a tragedy.

We thank you all for your dedication and hard work.

Well done!
Bill and Maureen Ebnet
Maple Lake Township

Maple Lake Housing Development Corporation Annual Meeting

You are hereby notified of the annual meeting of the members of the Maple Lake Housing Development Corporation to be conducted at the Maple Lake Manor Apartments (West) Lounge, Maple Lake, MN 55358 on

Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at 9 a.m.

Two directors will be elected to serve on the board of directors for a three year term.

Persons interested in serving on the board of directors may call Cathy Elfstrand at 320-963-5283.

•• Your attendance will be appreciated ••

Help Us Celebrate Maple Lake's 125th Anniversary!

We need your old pictures of people, places and things from Maple Lake. 1890-1960

We especially would like photos of Maple Lake businesses!

Drop/Scan Your Photos to The Maple Lake Messenger
218 Division Street • 963-3813
news@maplelakemessenger.com

Maple Lake History Question of the Week

As Maple Lake's 125th Anniversary approaches we want you to help us learn more about Maple Lake!

Hennenan Chev was located on the property where Maple Lake Bakery currently sits. In 1942 the building was destroyed by a tornado. They then moved to the Case building. Where was the Case building located?

Know the answer? Call or Email the Messenger... 320-963-3813 • news@maplelakemessenger.com

Last Weeks Question: In 1974 La Rose's Pizza became Gordy's Restaurant. Where was this located? Do you know the answer? Call us today at 963-3813!

The Maple Lake MESSENGER

Maple Lake, MN 55358

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MAPLE LAKE VETERINARY CLINIC

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Now Open!

New veterinary clinic in Maple Lake!
Full service care for your animals with 24-hour on-call veterinarian.

Located on Highway 55 next to H&H Sport shop.
We also have locations in Watkins (320-764-7400) and Kimball (320-398-3600)
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April 6 Wright County Sheriff's report

On March 30, David James Potratz, 30, of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo on a Department of Corrections violation of parole warrant.

On March 30, Valee Jean Arntson, 30 of Annandale, was arrested in Buffalo on a Wright County warrant for DWI.

On March 31, Michael Robert Odegaard, 26, of Rockford, was arrested in Greenfield on Wright County charges of probation violation and assault.

On April 1, Stephen Nicolas Klosterman, 23, of Monticello, was arrested in Monticello on the charges of 5th degree controlled substance and theft, and a Wright County warrant for 3rd degree DWI violation.

On April 2, Stacy Grace Knese, 32 of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo on a Hennepin County warrant for theft.

On April 2, Arthur Ryan Roberts, 29, of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo on the charge of driving after cancellation in-

imical to public safety.

On April 3, Randy James Angerhofer, 41, of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo on a Wright County warrant for 2nd degree DWI.

On April 3, Jeffrey Michael Martin, 39, of St. Cloud, was arrested in Buffalo on an Isanti County warrant for 3rd degree DWI.

On April 3, Mark Reinhold Lies, 29, of Annandale, was arrested in Buffalo on a Wright County warrant for 5th degree possession of a controlled substance and a Stearns County warrant for domestic assault.

On April 3, Tonya Marie Pena, 27, of Buffalo, was arrested in Buffalo on a Wright County warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia and a Hennepin County warrant for theft.

On April 3, Morgan Lynn Knutson, 23, of Monticello, was arrested in Monticello on the charge of domestic assault.

March 30 Wright County Attorney's report

Bettcher, Steven Bradley, age 48, of St. Michael, on 03/27/15 the charges of Misdemeanor Assault in the Fifth Degree and Disorderly Conduct were dismissed.

Delare, Matthew Patrick, age 42, of Cokato, sentenced on 03/30/15 for Probation Violations for Possession of Marijuana in a Motor Vehicle to 25 days jail. Sentenced by Judge McPherson.

Froslie, Bethany Kathleen, age 30, of Monticello, sentenced on 03/26/15 for Gross Misdemeanor Second Degree Refusal to Submit to Testing to 365 days jail, \$300 fine; 350 days stayed for three years on conditions of probation, serve 15 days jail, pay \$300 fine plus surcharges, serve 45 days on electronic home monitoring, have no use or possession of alcohol or non-prescription drugs, submit to random testing, remain medically compliant, have no same or similar violations. Sentenced by Judge Tenney.

Ohm, David Robert, age 48, of Montrose, sentenced on 03/26/15 for Misdemeanor Domestic Assault to 90 days jail; 79 days stayed for two years on conditions of probation, serve 11 days jail, pay \$85 surcharges, pay restitution, have no use or possession of alcohol or non-prescription drugs, submit to random testing, obtain permission before leaving the state, provide DNA sample, have no use or possession of firearms or dangerous weapons, undergo a chemical dependency evaluation and follow all recommendations, complete Domestic Abuse Batterer's Intervention Program and follow all recommendations, have no same or similar violations. Sentenced by Judge McPherson.

Reyna, Kevin, age 39, of Montrose, sentenced on 03/26/15 for Terroristic Threats to 365 days jail, \$3,000 fine;

305 days, \$3,000 stayed for two years on conditions of probation, serve 60 days jail, complete a domestic abuse treatment program and follow all recommendations, undergo chemical dependency treatment and follow all recommendations, provide DNA sample, have no use or possession of alcohol or non-prescription drugs, submit to random testing, obtain permission before leaving the state, abide by any outstanding order for protection/harassment order/no contact order, have no use or possession of firearms or dangerous weapons, have no same or similar violations. Sentenced for Probation Violations for Gross Misdemeanor Second Degree DWI to 60 days jail, concurrent. Sentenced by Judge Halsey.

Robert, Russell James, age 35, address unknown, sentenced on 03/30/15 for Probation Violations for Gross Misdemeanor Theft to 3 days jail. Sentenced by Judge McPherson.

Sherman, Cory Thomas, age 30, of Buffalo, sentenced on 03/26/15 for Felony Domestic Assault by Strangulation to a stay of execution for three years on conditions of probation, serve 180 days jail, pay \$500 fine plus surcharges, pay \$75 public defender co-payment, provide DNA sample, have no use or possession of firearms or dangerous weapons, have no use or possession of alcohol or non-prescription drugs, submit to random testing, undergo a chemical dependency assessment and follow all recommendations, abide by any outstanding order for protection/harassment order/no contact order, complete Wright County Domestic Abuse Batterer's Intervention Program and follow all recommendations, remain medically compliant, have no same or similar violations. Sentenced by Judge Halsey.



Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers. Back Row: John Haack, Jim Peterson and John Nelson. Front Row: Leslie Ramsdell and Diane Pruett. (Photo by Bob Zimmerman)

Child protection service numbers remain high

by John Holler
Correspondent

In all states, the protection of children is of paramount importance in the legal system. The most vulnerable of citizens, the legal system has operated with cases directly dealing with the rights and safety of children. They go by the acronym CHIPS – Child In Need of Protection or Services.

At the March 31 meeting of the Wright County Board of Commissioners, the board was presented with the annual report from attorney Cathleen Gabriel of the CGW Law Office.

Gabriel represents Wright County in local CHIPS cases and, in her annual report, the numbers, unfortunately, continue to remain steadily high.

After having 35 CHIPS cases on behalf of the county in 2012, over the last two years the numbers have grown – 55 in 2013 and 54 in 2014. Thanks to a pro-

posal from Gov. Mark Dayton to tighten up the laws against children who are subjected to abuse, Gabriel said the conventional wisdom is that the numbers are going to continue to increase.

“Governor Dayton has put together a task force and stuff will be changing our way,” Gabriel said. “A lot of people do predict that our numbers will probably go up and I don’t doubt that. I think right now everything is in place and we’ll cross that road if that happens.”

The contract the county has with Gabriel, which runs through the end of 2016, calls for her to work approximately 20 hours a week. The 2014 numbers came out to approximately 21 hours a week and Board Chair Mike Potter asked if Gabriel or the county attorney’s office is adequately prepared in the event the predictions come true.

“You said that there is the po-

tential for a spike in the numbers of cases,” Potter said. “Do you have a contingency plan in place in case that happens? I’m wondering if we have a plan in place if the number of cases does swell up in the next year or two.”

The problem, Gabriel said, is that the laws have been tightened up on the lawyers who are deemed equipped to adequately argue the cases – a problem that continues to grow and could be much more pressing if the governor’s plan results in a significant increase in the caseload of CHIPS cases.

“I’m going to take as many cases that come that get assigned to me,” Gabriel said. “A couple of years ago, the Legislature said you attorneys that do this type of work will have to be certified. We’re going to require you to have certification to even be able to appear to do what I do. I’m nervous about that be-

cause a lot of attorneys haven’t been doing that and haven’t put the time in doing that to learn this type of law and get on the roster. I’m a little nervous about that because, right now, we’re really short and they’re short in other counties. I think, quite frankly, there are two reasons. One, people kind of get burned out. This is tough, emotional stuff we see every day. Two, there’s not enough legal work in this for somebody to say I’m going to do child protection as part of my legal practice and then to put in the time for the certification and requirements.”

The board accepted Gabriel’s annual report and asked that she keep the board notified in the event the cases do increase significantly so that the county can come up with a game plan to litigate the cases.

County Board
continued on page 12

April 6-12 proclaimed as National Public Health Week

April 6th thru 12th, 2015, has been proclaimed “National Public Health Week” by the Wright County Health & Human Services Board.

As part of the celebration of National Public Health Week, Wright County Public Health encourages citizens to sign a “Health Pledge” on the Public Health page of the Wright

County website and learn more about the many achievements made by Public Health. Go to www.co.wright.mn.us/298/Public-Health or stop by the WOW Van during Public Health Week to sign up. Those signing up will be eligible to win great prizes.

A schedule of upcoming Wellness of Wheels Van dates

can be found on page 4.

What is the Health Pledge?

Create a healthy me: We promise to eat well, exercise and get regular checkups. We will make healthy choices that improve our health and set an example for our family and friends.

Create a healthy we: We recognize that there is a complex

web of social and environmental factors that affect everyone’s health and limit the ability for many people to make healthy choices. Today we join the Generation Public Health movement to demand that our leaders consider these factors in all their decisions so all people and all communities have the opportunity for a long healthy life.

Seeking 2015 Farm Family of the Year nominations

Wright County has many outstanding farm families who make very positive contributions to the economic and cultural environment of the county while receiving little or no recognition. Now you have an opportunity to recognize one of these families by nominating them to be the Farm Family of the Year for 2015.

The University of Minnesota Extension annually recognizes farm families throughout the state and each county is invited to select a farm family to represent their

county. The University of Minnesota Extension Wright County is seeking nominations for Wright County Farm Family of the Year. The family selected will receive county recognition at the Wright County Fair, as well as statewide recognition at FarmFest 2015 near Redwood Falls, MN, in early August.

Nominees should be actively involved in agriculture with one or more agricultural enterprises or have made significant short-term progress and/or innovative contributions

with their agricultural endeavors. Consider not only the popular crop and animal enterprises, but also production areas such as potato, vegetable, fruit, berries, aquaculture, agri-forestry, renewable energy supplies, organic, alternative and sustainable farm enterprises.

In addition to demonstrating a commitment to enhancing and supporting the fields of agriculture and production, nominees should also be involved in their communities and related organizations. Nominees must not have been

previously recognized by the Farm Family Program.

To nominate a family to be Wright County Farm Family of 2015, call the University of Minnesota Extension Office of Wright County at 763-682-7381 or send an e-mail to gred0014@umn.edu. All nominations must be received by April 23rd and a family will be selected by May 1st, 2015. To see a list of all of the previously selected families in Wright Co, go to: <http://mnfarmfamilies.cfans.umn.edu/Wright.html>

Senior Connections Program honors volunteers

by Lynda Zimmerman
Correspondent

Maple Lake Senior Connections coordinator, Ginger O’Loughlin, thanked volunteers with a special appreciation lunch on Wednesday, April 1, at the Maple Manor Dining Center. “ML Senior Connections has been blessed since its origin due to the many dedicated volunteers.”

Five Meals on Wheels drivers, Jim Peterson, Diane Pruett, Leslie Ramsdell, John Haack, and John Nelson, deliver up to 20 meals a day in the Maple Lake area. O’Loughlin presented each one with a \$100 gas gift card to one of the Maple Lake gas stations. She thanked other Dining Center volunteers: Joyce Swingley, Brian and Nancy Jude, Bernie Wilson and Ursula Heifort, as well as cooks, Bonnie Eastham and JoAnne Gehrke. Barb and Bob Carnes, Jen Pecarina, Cyndy Meissen, Jenny Polsfuss and Rose Wurm represented the veterans and ladies’ auxiliary who have also volunteered over the years. O’Loughlin also thanked MLE third graders, Ellie Fuller and Mady Payne, and MLHS 10th grader, Victoria Rollings, for spending a day of their school Spring Break serving meals to the lunch attendees. “All served a greater mission purpose, and I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.”

U.S. Marine Corps Vietnam veteran, Mike Yanish, opened the celebration with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. As meals were served by the junior



Active volunteers Ginger O’Loughlin, Brian Jude, Bernie Wilson, Nancy Jude and Joyce Swingley. Ursula Heifort not pictured but mentioned. (Photo by Bob Zimmerman)

volunteers, Linda Garay, St. Paul, informed participants about two food and nutritional assistance programs. Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) through the USDA provides funding for members to purchase healthy food at grocery stores, while Nutritional Assistance Program for Seniors (NAPS) provides free food through Second Harvest Heartland to eligible residents over 60 years old.

Rollings read her essay, “What is a Volunteer,” extolling the personal benefits of volunteering. “I get to see the smiles of all you people.” Volunteering helps one “learn how to do different things and builds people skills. I enjoy meeting and helping people. It’s a good feeling. Thank you for being you and for making amazing memories [for me].”



School volunteers Ellie Fuller, Victoria Rollings and Mady Payne. (Photo by Bob Zimmerman)

Three door prizes were won by Bernadine Wilson, Danny Weismann and Robert Polsfuss. Following lunch and awards, the bingo board lit up for afternoon enjoyment.

O’Loughlin began the program 15 years ago to enhance the quality of life for seniors and became the Catholic Charities Dining site coordinator in

December which includes serving homebound seniors with the Meals on Wheels program. The ML Senior Connections program was awarded a grant from the Wright-Hennepin Electric Association’s Operation Roundup, a trust that serves local social needs, which funded the lunch and the volunteer awards.

Community



Meetings

April 9: Maple Lake Lions, 7 p.m., American Legion Club.

April 9: Sons of American Legion, Legion Club, 8 p.m.

April 9: AA & Al-Anon, 7:30 p.m., Buffalo Evangelical Free Church, 2051 50th St. NE, County Rds. 25 & 113.

April 11: AA, 7:30 p.m., Buffalo Evangelical Free Church, 2015 50th St. NE, County Rds. 25 & 113.

April 12: Chatham Climbers 4-H Club, 6 p.m., Chatham Township Hall, 1695 Eldridge Ave. NW, Maple Lake. New members always welcome. Pribyl's, 320-963-3812.

April 13: S.A.M. quilting group, St. Timothy's Church basement, 8 a.m.

April 13: Maple Lake School Board, 7 p.m., board room at the high school.

April 13: Al-Anon and Men's 12 Step Group, 7:30 p.m., Buffalo Evangelical Free Church, 2051 50th St. NE,

County Rds. 25 & 113.

April 14: American Legion Post 131, 7:30 p.m., Maple Lake Legion Club.

April 14: Living with Parkin's Under the Age of 60, 6:30-8 p.m., at Saron Lutheran Church in Big Lake. Caregivers welcome; no children, please. Camille, 763-350-7401.

April 14: Annandale Lak-ers AA & Al-Anon, 8 p.m., United Methodist Church of Annandale, 20 Oak Ave. N. 320-274-3380

April 14: Gamblers Anonymous & AA, 7:30 p.m., Buffalo Evangelical Free Church, 2051 50th St. NE, County Rds. 25 & 113.

April 14: Celebrate Recovery (non-denominational Christian-based recovery program), 7 p.m., Monticello Covenant Church; 763-295-2112.

April 15: Maple Lake V.F.W. Post & Auxiliary, 7 p.m., at The V by HH.



And that's the way it was . . .

The Wright County Parks Department held a controlled burn in Ney Park that quickly went out of control when the wind shifted and pushed the flames through private property. ... A-Meat Shoppe of Maple Lake won awards from the Minnesota Meat Processors contest. ... The Maple Lake High School student council hosted donkey basketball as part of a fundraiser in the high school gym. ... The Irish track team competed in their first meet of the year in St. Cloud at the Central Minnesota Conference indoor meet. The boys finished second and the girls finished third overall out of eight teams. ...*And That's The Way It Was Five Years Ago This Week.*

Recreational dog sledder Tim O'Brien visited Maple Lake Elementary School to inform the second grade class how to dog sled and introduced his lead dog, Persius. ... Speech team member Willow McEachran took fifth place at the speech sub-section meet and advanced to the section meet. ... Residents from the Maple Lake Manor joined Maple Lake students to celebrate the spring social. ...*And That's*

The Way It Was 15 Years Ago This Week.

Maple Lake second graders visited Clay Mooney's sugar shack to take a look at his local maple syrup operation. ... The freestyle wrestlers traveled to Blaine, Minnesota to wrestle in the new National Sports Center along with nearly 600 others. ... Ten students, including Dana Jude, competed in the Minnesota State High School vocal and solo ensemble at St. Cloud State University and received a five-star rating on their performances. ...*And That's The Way It Was 25 Years Ago This Week.*

Rising waters from the Crow River caused severe flood damage throughout the Wright County area. ... Andy's Red Owl sold four 10-ounce packages of strawberries for a total of eighty-nine cents. ... The "King of Nights" was presented at the Kimball Drive-in Theatre and was filmed in Technicolor. ... Mary Pat Mooney earned a blue ribbon on her science fair project, focusing on the reaction of the iris to direct sunlight. ...*And That's The Way It Was 50 Years Ago This Week.*

60+ and Healthy Clinics

The 60+ and Healthy Clinics, provided by Wright County Public Health, provides foot care for the senior citizens of Wright County. Toenail trimming is offered to meet the needs of those seniors who have a health condition such as diabetes or are unable to trim toenails themselves.

The 60+ and Healthy Clinics will be charging a \$15 fee for foot care services. This fee is necessary because the clinics are no longer being funded by grant money. However, if you are unable to pay the fee, you will not

be turned away. The clinics are hosted from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

If you have any questions, please ask clinic staff or call WC Public Health at 1-800-362-3667 or 763-682-7456. Upcoming dates:

Tuesday, April 14: Cokato Edgewood Gables Apartments, 600 3rd Street SE

Tuesday, April 21: Maple Lake Maple Manor East, 333 2nd Street West

For the full schedule, visit: www.co.wright.mn.us/forms/humanservices/60%20Plus%20and%20Healthy%20Schedule.pdf

Senior Dining Menu April 13-17

Offering a nutritious meal in a warm, caring atmosphere with friendship and fun. Everyone welcome. The Senior Dining Center is located at Maple Manor West, 555 2nd St. W. For more information, call 320-963-5771.

MONDAY, April 13
Country-Fried Steak, Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy, Beets, Wheat Bread, Sliced Pears

TUESDAY, April 14
BBQ Chicken, Campfire Po-

tatoes, Green Beans, Wheat Bread, Cherry Chiffon

WEDNESDAY, April 15
Specials of the Day
THURSDAY, April 16

Hot-Roast Pork Sandwich, Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy, Sweet Potatoes, Crunch Bar

FRIDAY, April 17
Lemon-Pepper Fish, Baked Potato w/Sour Cream, Steamed Broccoli, Wheat Bread, Sweetened Strawberries

SUDOKU

April 8th Puzzle

	2					1		
	8							3
4		3					5	2
		1					8	5
					6		3	4
	3			7	2		6	
				6			1	
6				9			7	
	5		4					

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on Page 11

Pioneer Park seeking volunteers

Pioneer Park's May School Tour calendar is scheduled with field trips once again. The Park is in need of volunteers who like to work with children. The volunteer re-enactors, dressed in period costumes, get an opportunity to educate the young people about how pioneers lived at the turn of the century.

The school tours are Monday through Friday and Pioneer Park will train volunteers working along with experienced guides. The guide orientation meeting is Tuesday, April 14, at 10 a.m. At the meeting you will be presented an overview of tour day. You will receive a script of each building or area and suggested narratives and history which you may read or summarize in your own words. Talk about fun,

your goal is to impact as correctly as possible, the historical details. Many guides quickly immerse themselves in the role playing and the children love this.

The Park tries to accommodate any physical limitations. The 1800's village requires a lot of walking but the park can work around this if you have limitations. There are places to rest between tour groups.

Join the guide orientation meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 10 a.m., at Pioneer Park in Annandale. Bring a friend or your spouse. Pick as many days as you wish to volunteer. The Park guarantees you will have fun living in the past. For more information call Carol at 320-274-8956.

WOW

Wellness on Wheels

Wright County Public Health offers cholesterol testing in the Wellness on Wheels van. The WOW Van schedule is available at www.co.wright.mn.us and www.facebook.com/WrightCityPublicHealth or by calling our new phone number, 763-682-7516 (toll-free 1-800-362-3667 ext 7516). Please use this number for more information or to make an appointment.

Wellness on Wheels Services include: Adult and Child Immunizations; Health Screening: Blood Pressure, Diabetes, Cholesterol (by appointment), Pregnancy, Health and Wellness; Child Car Seat Check (by appointment); Information about: Healthy Lifestyle - Exercise, Nutrition, Recommendations for Routine Medical Care, Safety - Individual, Home, Car Seat, Pregnancy, Childbirth, Parenting, Child Health, Growth & Development, Reproductive Health & Family Planning, In-

fectious Diseases, Chronic Illness, Unhealthy Lifestyle Behaviors, such as Smoking, Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Unsafe Sex; Information and Assistance in Accessing Resources.

For immunizations, bring past immunization records to the van, if available. * Van hours Monday through Thursday are from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Upcoming dates:
Thursday, April 9: *Cub Foods, Monticello*

Tuesday, April 14: *Coborn's, Delano*

Thursday, April 16: *Marketplace, Annandale*

The complete WOW van schedule is available online at: <http://www.co.wright.mn.us/departments/humanservices/wow>

Wright County Public Health offers cholesterol testing in the Wellness on Wheels (WOW) Van. The entire test takes about 30 minutes. We have two different test options. A 12 hour fast is required for a lipid profile including blood sugar screening. The cost is \$35. A non-fasting test is also available. This test gives your total cholesterol and HDL. The cost is \$25.

People

Engagement Announcements

Smith-Bomgren to wed



Bob and Mary Smith of Maple Lake are very pleased to announce the engagement and

upcoming marriage of their daughter, Lindsey Smith, to Tim Bomgren, son of Wally and Vickie Bomgren of Woodbury.

Lindsey is a 2006 graduate of Maple High School. Tim is a 2006 graduate of Woodbury High School. Lindsey and Tim both graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. The wedding is planned for April 25, 2015, at St. Timothy's Church in Maple Lake.

Programs & Events

Upcoming Red Cross blood drives

Donors of all types are encouraged to help save lives by giving blood. Appointments can be made by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or visiting redcrossblood.org. Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Wright County: *April 11*, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Buffalo Civic Center, 1306 County Road 134, Buffalo; *April 28*, 1 - 7 p.m., St. James Lutheran Church, 1000 6th Ave., Howard Lake.

World Citizen presentation is April 8

The Buffalo Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to join and listen to a presentation by Lynn Elling. Elling will speak on The Role of a World Citizen on Wednesday, *April 8*, at 7 p.m. at Huikko's Bison Creek Restaurant (behind the bowling alley near Wal-Mart in Buffalo). Elling is the founder of World Citizen and the creator of the Peace Site Program, The Nobel Peace Forum at Augsburg College and Law Day. For more information email makimaria@hotmail.com.

Christian Women's Club annual Guest Night

Dive! dive! dive! No, it's neither a submarine command nor time to go swimming. But it is time to sign up for the Christian Women's Club annual Guest Night dinner so you can hear of the adventures of rescue diver Wright County Deputy Jeff Fox. Both men and women are invited to this exciting event *April 9* at St. John's Lutheran Church in Annandale. Punch starts at 6:30 p.m. and the dinner and program begin at 7 p.m. The evening will be rounded out by musician Dave Nelson of Annandale and speaker Doug Clark of Nisland, South Dakota whose theme is "On Eagle's Wings". Reservations must be made by April 2nd by calling Bev at 320-274-8271.

Environmental Services Seminar is Monday

Do you know where your waste is going? Wright County is home to two very successful waste collection companies, Randy's Sanitation and Advanced Disposal. Both offer waste hauling, recycling and state of the art services. Yet one company is a local, family-owned regional business and the other is the fourth largest environmental services company in the U.S. Wright County Economic Development Partnership is offering a presentation from Jim Wollschlager of Randy's Sanitation and Mike Niewind and Chris Rooney of Advanced Disposal on Thursday, *April 9*, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Tavern at Wild March Golf Course, 1710 Montrose Blvd., Buffalo. RSVP to Jeanene Strum by calling 763-477-3035 or email jstrum@wrightpartnership.org.

60 years of Wright County Dairy Princesses

On Saturday, *April 11*, Wright County will be celebrating 60 years of dairy princesses. The annual Dairy Princess Coronation and Banquet will be held at the Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted High School beginning with a social at 7 p.m. followed by the banquet and coronation at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door. The Dairy Princess & Ambassador Program is sponsored by the Wright County American Dairy Association which is made up of your local Wright County dairy farmers. The Association would appreciate your help in locating past dairy princesses. If you or someone you know was a past princess, please email the association at wrightcountydairyassociation@outlook.com. It would be wonderful to have as many past princesses present as possible. Dairy is a truly local product, as it takes less than 48 hours for milk to go from the farm to the store.

First time home buyers seminar is April 11

Wright County residents thinking about buying a home are invited to attend a one day informative workshop designed to help them learn the basics of home ownership. Wright County Community Action (WCCA) offers a first-time home buyer's seminar (Home Stretch) which will cover a variety of topics related to the home buying process. Area lenders, real estate agents, and other housing professionals will instruct the workshop. This program is approved to meet the Neighborhood Stabilization Program Requirements and the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) Requirements.

Home Stretch will be offered on Saturday, *April 11*, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Otsego Prairie Center, 8899 Nashua Avenue, Otsego, MN 55301. To register, call Wright County Community Action (WCCA) at (320) 963-6500, ext 238.

Firearms safety classes begin April 13

The American Legion and the Hasty-Siler Creek Sportsmen's Club are sponsoring firearms safety classes at the Legion Club. Classes run from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and begin on Monday, *April 13* and Tuesday, *April 14*, and continue on *April 20 and 21*. The Field Day will be April 25 from 8 a.m. to noon. Students must be 11 years old when classes begin. Please arrive at 6:15 p.m. on April 13 for registration. Students must attend all classes; no exceptions. Class size is limited. Interested individuals may pre-register by calling Augie at 963-6449.

Pioneer Park's 38th Annual Pancake Breakfast

Now that spring is here, Minnesota Pioneer Park is geared up for another wonderful season. Its 38th Annual Maple Syrup Pancake Breakfast is Sunday, *April 19*, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meal includes: scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, coffee or milk and all you can eat pancakes with freshly-bottled real maple syrup. Minnesota Pioneer Park is located right off Hwy. 55 in Annandale, MN at 725 Pioneer Park Trail.

Wright County Baby Animal Fair April 19

Local churches, businesses, schools, community organizations (including the Buffalo Rotary Club, the Knights of Columbus and the Lion's Club) and individuals are joining together to raise funds for Heifer International, www.heifer.org. Since 1944 Heifer International has been dedicated to helping families around the world with the gift of food and income-producing animals and training in their care. In return for this gift of hope, families agree to pass on the first female offspring of their animal to another family in need. The gift keeps multiplying.

Fair goers test their knowledge at the geography and ecology booths and visit the Global Village to discover facts about our world. Admission to the fair is a donation of non-perishable food for the local food shelves. To learn more, visit www.babyanimalfair.com.

Programs & Events
continued on page 10

Submit community programs and events to
news@maplelakemessenger.com



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The benefits of hiring professional landscapers

The flowers are blooming, and the grass has begun to grow, making spring a great time for homeowners to turn their attention to landscaping. Those who aren't looking forward to dusting off their lawnmowers and re-threading their string trimmers may want to hire professional landscapers to tend to their lawns and gardens.

A recent joint study by the National Gardening Association, Residential Lawn and Landscape Services and the Value of Landscaping found that homeowners spend roughly \$45 billion per year on professional lawn and landscape services, as nearly 30 percent of all households across the United States use at least one type of lawn or landscape service. The rising use of lawn care services is indicative of homeowners' appreciation of the convenience and craftsmanship professional services can provide. While the impact professional landscapers can have on a property's aesthetic appeal is considerable, homeowners also benefit from working with professional landscapers in various other ways.

Time savings: One of the biggest benefits of leaving lawn care to the professionals is the amount of time it will save for the average homeowner. Lawns generally need to be mowed once per week during the spring and summer seasons and, depending on the size of the property, that can take an hour or more. Add the time it takes to clean up clippings, mulch landscaping beds and edge the property, and homeowners can expect to devote a significant chunk of their weekends to caring for their lawns. Lawn services employ a few workers who make fast work of the job, leaving homeowners time to enjoy their weekends however they

see fit.

Reduced risk for injury: Maintaining a landscape is hard work, and those unaccustomed to this type of activity may find themselves winded or at risk of injury. Improper use of lawn equipment also is a safety hazard. Leaving the work to professionals can help homeowners avoid strained backs, lacerations, pulled muscles, sunburns, and any other dangers that can result when tackling landscaping projects.

Financial savings: On the surface, hiring a landscaping service may seem like a costly venture. However, after crunching some numbers, many homeowners realize that doing the work themselves may cost more in the long run than hiring a professional landscaping service. Homeowners who decide to go it alone must purchase expensive equipment, and those lawn tools will require routine maintenance, which costs additional money. Inexperienced homeowners may incur extra fees to "fix" mistakes that occur during the learning process. Each year, new seed, fertilizer, mulch, pesticides, and other supplies also must be pur-

chased. But professional lawn care services typically charge a set fee per month, and that fee covers the maintenance of both your property and the equipment needed to keep that property looking great.

Know-how: Many professional landscapers know how to address lawn care issues that may arise throughout the year. They will know how to deal with dry patches of lawn or poorly draining areas, and they also can make recommendations on plants that will thrive under certain conditions.

One-stop shopping: Certain landscaping services provide many different options for prospective customers. Basic lawn cuts may be one package, but there also may be services for seasonal seeding, weeding, leaf clean-up, and winterizing.

Consistent maintenance: Homeowners who frequently travel or spend much of their summers away from home often find that lawn care companies are a wise investment. Established weekly schedules ensure the landscape always will look its best whether homeowners are home or out of town.



Time saved and a professional job are just two of the reasons homeowners hire lawn care companies.

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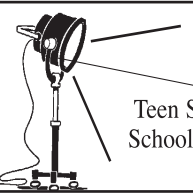
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School



Teen Spotlight

Teen Spotlight will feature writings from Maple Lake High School students and is a joint project of Senior Connections, Maple Lake High School and this newspaper.

“What is a Volunteer” by Victoria Rollings 10th grade

We are glad you are here today to help us honor our volunteers at this celebration. We applaud you volunteers. I like being a volunteer because I get to see the smiles on people’s faces after a long day’s work and knowing I got to help wonderful people. It brings joy to my heart being able to be here today and meet so many new people with something in com-

mon, helping people. Being a volunteer is amazing. You get to learn how to do different things that will also help you in the future. It builds people skills. You learn not to be afraid to public speak or go on job interviews because you know how to work with people. Being a volunteer is the best thing you can do. You get a good feeling inside. It’s the best kind of feeling just knowing that you and I can help make amazing memories together.

Right: Victoria Rollings giving her speech at the Senior Connections Volunteer Appreciation Lunch.
(Photo by Bob Zimmerman)



School News

Eight speech students head to section meet April 11th

A depleted speech team managed to take 4th at subsection competition on Monday, March 30th, at Royalton High School. Advancing to section competition on Saturday, April 11th, is Maddie Nelson, champion, Discussion; Charlie Stejskal, champion, Extemporaneous Speaking; Josie Wagner, 5th, Extemporaneous Reading; Tyler Russell, 2nd, Great Speeches; Victoria Rollings, 4th, Great Speeches; Danni Klimek, 5th, Great Speeches; Catie Medley, 4th, Serious Poetry; and Lexy Medley, 6th, Storytelling. Sam Neutz, Emily Miller, and Karissa Timmers were designated as alternates to the section meet.

Post Prom dinners

The Post Prom committee invites the public to attend their Wednesday dinners at The V from 5-7 p.m. Kids meals are also available. All proceeds support the Post Prom party. You can enter your name to win one of the two door prizes at no additional cost. For to go orders, please call 320-963-3405. Serving choice of: 21 Shrimp, Chicken Strips, Roasted Pork Loin, Bacon Cheeseburger. Meals come with dinner roll (except the burger), salad or coleslaw, hot vegetable, choice of potato, dessert, beverage.
The next Post Prom Dinner is April 8.

District 881 Menus

Breakfast

MONDAY, April 13

Bacon breakfast pizza (elem. and high school), ham n' egg biscuit or choice of WG cereal, WW toast, jelly/margarine, vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

TUESDAY, April 14

No breakfast

WEDNESDAY, April 15

Breakfast fruit crisp (elem. and h.s.), breakfast pizza or choice of WG cereal, WW toast, jelly/margarine, vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

THURSDAY, April 16

Yogurt bar, choice of fruit granola, graham crackers (elem. and h.s.), ham n' egg-wich or choice of WG cereal, WW toast, jelly/margarine, vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

FRIDAY, April 17

Iced WG cinnamon roll (elem. and h.s.), egg n' cheese bagel or choice of WG cereal, WW toast, jelly/margarine, vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

Lunch

MONDAY, April 13

Yogurt pan or popcorn chicken bowl (chicken, gravy, corn), salisbury steak sandwich; mashed potatoes, baby carrots, cauliflower; choice of fruit, milk

TUESDAY, April 14

Turkey ranch wrap or chicken Alfredo pizza, BBQ meatball sub w/cheddar cheese; baked beans, romaine lettuce, celery sticks; choice of fruit, milk

WEDNESDAY, April 15

Chef salad or chicken nuggets, whole wheat bread, turkey BLT, flatbread; baby spinach, tomatoes, peas; choice of fruit, milk

THURSDAY, April 16

Chicken Caesar salad or Italia lasagna, garlic toast, hot ham and cheese on WG bun; green beans, broccoli florets, pepper medley; choice of fruit, milk

FRIDAY, April 17

Buffalo chicken wrap or pulled pork on WG bun, crispy chicken sub; glazed carrots, coleslaw, radishes; fresh fruit, milk



Pencil Pride

A writing program featuring young writers from Maple Lake Elementary School, coordinated by Senior Connections.

Diane Hertwig's 4th grade students wrote essays on what makes them happy.

Corbin Golby - Happiness is my sister going to Minneapolis with my grandma so I get my Dad and Mom to myself. It is getting to go hunting with my Dad because I like spending time with him, or when I get up and Mom says, “No school today!” and I get to watch TV. Happiness is when I win 1st place in sparring. It feels good. Happiness is when I get a touchdown in football and my team gets seven points. Happiness is one thing to one person and another thing to another person.

Jacob Weese - Happiness is my sister going to Duluth with a

friend so I can play Xbox with-out her. It is when my mom and dad play games with me. We have so much fun together. Happiness is getting to play baseball with my friends and not being annoyed by my teammates or when I rank up in a game and get new things so I get better scores in Minecraft. Happiness is when I get home on a Friday and get to play my Kindle and watch YouTube videos. It is getting the iPod I got from Santa two years ago and playing on it every night. Happiness is one thing to one person and another thing to another person.

Sarah Neutz - Happiness is climbing an apple tree and finding a juicy apple. It is helping

my cousins do chores on their farm and getting paid for it. Happiness is when Betty Box comes because she makes us laugh a lot; or when Joe and I play together because then we stay out of trouble. Happiness is getting a good score on a spelling test because I get to have a treat. It is being on the airplane when it takes off and I get that tingly feeling. Happiness is playing with Coco, my dog. I like when she drags us around on a blanket. Happiness is one thing to one person and another thing to another person.

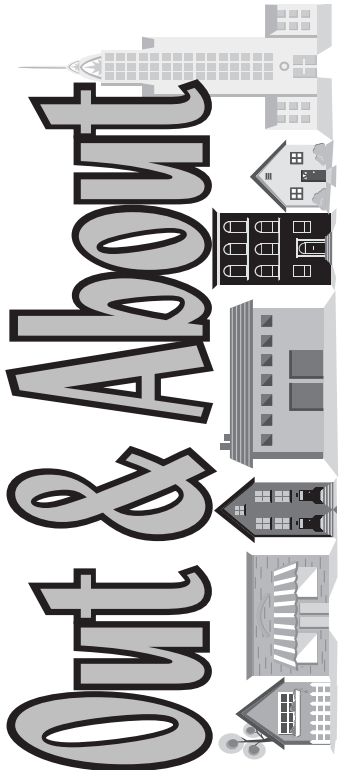
Layton Johnston - Happiness is getting 100% on a really hard math test. It is scoring the buzzer beater in a basketball game so you win the game. Happiness is finding out that you get to go to your favorite restaurant to get your favorite food. It is catching a really big fish at the ice fishing contest and then winning the grand prize fish house. Happiness is one thing to one person and another thing to another person.

Ashanti Blahut - Happiness is when my cat learns a new trick after days of training. It is when my sister goes to her friend’s house when she’s crabby. Happiness is when my soccer team wins first place because we worked hard all year. It is when my family goes to the beach and goes jet skiing on the big waves. Happiness is when I get to have a sleep over at my friend’s house and we stay up

late having fun, watching movies, and eating popcorn. It is when spring break comes and the weather is warm. Happiness is one thing to one person and another thing to another person.

Audrey Beffel - Happiness is waking up and finding out that Grandma sent you a jar of her delicious jelly for your toast. It is when your brother decides to be nice to you because he is never nice. It is going to school and it’s an art day and you’re painting something. It is playing fetch with your dog because she sleeps most of the time. Happiness is a sticky snow day so you can make a snowman. It is when there is a tied game and you score the winning basket. Happiness is when you get a warm hug from your Mom after she’s been at work all day. Happiness is one thing to one person and another thing to another person.

Nate Gage - Warner Happiness is when I see full bars on the internet on my iPod so I can go on the You- Tube. It is when my Mom takes me to my favorite water park with a friend so we can play in the water. Happiness is making a tree house in the summer with my friends and then playing a game in it. It is being at school in the summer when I go to recess and playing football; or a Friday after school when I get to play video games and maybe have a friend sleep over. Happiness is one thing to one person and another thing to another person.



Week of April 10-16

BUFFALO FIVE STAR CINEMAS

- **The Longest Ride (PG-13)**
11:35am, 2:45, 6:10, 9:10
- **Furious 7 (PG-13)**
11:30am, 12:30, 2:40, 4:10, 5:50, 7:30, 8:55
- **Get Hard (R)**
11:35am, 2:00, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30
- **Home (PG)**
11:50am, 2:10, 4:15, 6:30, 9:00
- **It Follows (R)**
12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:30
- **The Divergent Series: Insurgent (PG-13)**
12:15, 3:00, 6:15, 9:00
- **Cinderella (PG)**
11:50am, 3:00, 6:05, 9:05
- **No Passes Allowed**

100 1ST AVE NE (763) 682-3000
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The Annandale Lions Clubs announces...

CASH BAR
Rich's at Russell's
Every Monday night at 6:30 p.m.

- **Game 1: 36 #s - Win \$200**
- **Game 8: 61 #s - Win \$500**
- **Game 9: 48 #s - Win \$200**
- **Game 16: 61 #s - Win \$500**

BINGO!
Two \$500 Coveralls
License #02921

Get Your Spring On!

It's time for the Annandale Area Chamber of Commerce
19th Annual

FREE Admission!

Expo!
Saturday, April 11
8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Annandale High School

Here is just a partial listing of what's happening!

- 100 Vendors to Serve You • Meet Annandale's Royalty
- Annandale Lions Health Screening • Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast
- Live Entertainment, including the Annandale Community Band
- Annandale Paintball Laser Target Shoot
- 'Kids' Korner - Arts and crafts, games, face painting, carnival fun!
- Inflatable Bounce House for kids • Mascot Challenge
- Lunch Served by Annandale Boy Scouts

Heart of the Lakes
Annandale

What question would you ask God?

God Questions
Series at
Annandale Evangelical Free Church

Are You There? How Do I Know?
Why Should Christianity Interest Me?
Why Is There Evil and Suffering?
What Happened to the Human Race?
Why Did Jesus Die?
Why Pray? Does It Make a Difference?
Why Read the Bible?
Is the Devil Real? Is He After Me?
Is the World Going Crazy?
How Can I Live a Fulfilling Life?
What Happens When I Die?

Beginning Sunday, April 12th
8:30am & 11:00am
www.annandalefree.com
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Item #16573

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Sports

Irish track warms up during first meet of the season



The Irish varsity track team had their first CMC meet of the season at St. Cloud State University on March 20th.

Andrew Schonnessen is pictured at the far left during his high jump.

Runners (from left) Megan Webb, Jason Webb and Brielle Pau- men participated in the relay race.

The next stop for Irish varsity track is Norwood-Young Amer- ica this Thursday, April 9th.

(Photos by Chris Fobbe)



This week's Maple Lake Irish activities

Thursday April 9:
4:00pm Softball: Varsity Game Annandale Schools @ Annandale High School; 4:00pm Softball: JV Game Annandale Schools @ Annandale High School; 4:00pm Track & Field: Varsity Invitational Norwood Young America @ Norwood-Young America HS
Friday April 10:
4:30pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Spectrum @ Irish Stadium; 4:30pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Spectrum @ Irish Stadium
Saturday April 11:

9:00am Speech: Varsity Sections Ogilvie @ Ogilvie High School

Monday April 13:
4:00pm Track & Field: JH Invitational vs. Belgrade-Broten-Elrosa, Dassel-Cokato, Eden Valley-Watkins, Holdingford, Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted, Lester Prairie/Holy Trinity, Litchfield, Rockford Area Schools District, Saint John's Prep, St. Cloud Cathedral @ Maple Lake High School; 4:30pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Rockford Area Schools District @ Maple Lake High School Rockford Home team; 4:30pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Rockford Area Schools District @ Maple Lake High School; 4:30pm Softball: JV Game vs. Rockford Area Schools District @ Maple Lake High School; 4:30pm Softball: C Game vs. Rockford Area Schools District @ Maple Lake High School; 4:30pm Softball: C

Game vs. Rockford Area Schools District @ Maple Lake High School

Tuesday April 14:
4:00pm Baseball: 8th Grade Game vs. Kimball Area @ Bolduan Park; 4:00pm Baseball: 7th Grade Game vs. Kimball Area @ Bolduan Park; 4:00pm Softball: 7th Grade Game Kimball Area @ Kimball Area High School; 4:00pm Softball: 8th Grade Game Kimball Area @ Kimball Area High School; 4:15pm Golf: Girls Varsity CMC Inv vs. Belgrade-Broten-Elrosa, Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted, Kimball Area, Osakis, Pierz Healy, Rockford Area Schools District @ Whispering Pines; 4:30pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Kimball Area @ Maple Lake High School; 4:30pm Softball: JV Game vs. Kimball Area @ Maple Lake High School; 4:30pm Softball: C Game vs. Kimball Area @ Maple Lake High School

Ashley Becker

continued from page 1

The journey really began for the Maple Lake High School graduate back in 2013 when she decided to pit herself against 40 other teenagers for the right to be called Miss Teen of Minnesota.

Since earning that title, she has had a lot to be proud of. Operation Glass Slipper is one of her many causes. It is a program that supplies used formal gowns, shoes and accessories to teens who want to go to the prom, but can't afford an outfit. She has also been involved in the Teens for Jeans Drive which collected 335 pairs of jeans for homeless teenagers last spring, Healing Haiti and fund raisers for St. Jude Children's Hospital. Running for Miss Teen of America was the logical next step.

Held at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel in Bloomington, the

national competition was "comparable to pageants you may have seen on TV," Becker said, complete with a large crowd of spectators to witness the crowning in the final round.

There was an interview portion which included a seven minute interview with five judges and a poise and personality projection that involved walking across a stage in formal wear. The candidates were judged based on their confidence and the appropriateness of their attire, Becker said.

The rest of the competition was based on paperwork that was submitted before the pageant began. Among the paperwork was a copy of Becker's scholastic transcript and other school-related accomplishments.

"I was extremely nervous," Becker admitted. "This was

something that I wanted more than anything and I put my heart and soul into it. I was especially nervous because this is my last year as Miss Teen of Minnesota and I wasn't ready to be finished."

As runner-up, Becker will serve as back-up to the new Miss Teen of America, which means she would take over Hays' responsibilities if Hays were unable to fulfill them herself.

But for now, Becker just plans on continuing what she has been doing all along as Miss Teen of Minnesota, at least until her reign ends this summer.

"Overall it has been a great experience," Becker said of her pageant adventures. "I've met so many amazing people and done great things that I wouldn't have done otherwise."

Lake Central Insurance Services and Lake Central Investments: *Small enough to know you, big enough to serve you*

By Katie Friedman

Offering professional services with a personal touch, insurance agent Paul Manuel and financial advisor John Volden invite area residents to visit Lake Central Insurance Services and Lake Central Investments, which they described as a "one-stop shop for asset protection and wealth management."

"We are two separate companies, operating out of the same office," Volden explained. "We both work to protect your assets – whether they be cash assets or physical assets."

Experienced advisors

With Volden at its helm, Lake Central Investments provides a broad spectrum of investment products, ranging from individual retirement accounts (IRAs) and certificates of deposit to stocks, mutual funds and more. Additionally, Volden said, Lake Central Investments can provide direction on when to use Roth or traditional IRAs, financial and estate planning or 401(k) rollovers and distributions.

For example, he said, "It's IRA season. People should take advantage of that and make sure they make their contributions to their IRA. There's a window of time here where you can take advantage of both tax-year 2014 and 2015. If you haven't already made your 2014 contribution, you have until April 15th to do so. Because we are in calendar year 2015, you're eligible to contribute for this year, also."

Another topical item that falls under Volden's expertise is the 401(k) rollover.

"If someone has left a company and deserted a retirement plan – something we call an 'orphaned account' – they would be eligible to roll that account into an IRA," he explained. "The advantage of an IRA is that you have more control of your investment products. It opens up investment options and allows you to consolidate retirement

plans."

Licensed for over 30 years, Volden has worked for both large and small financial service firms, and has lived in the area for 18 years. Partnered with Cetera Investment Services, a broker-dealer in St. Cloud, Volden says, "They have high-quality, Midwestern values."

Customized options

As for your insurance needs, Manuel says Lake Central Insurance Services offers basically every type of insurance, including property/casualty coverage for your home, auto or toys. He offers all varieties of commercial insurance, as well as life insurance and health insurance for individuals or businesses, and his agents are Medicare and MNsure certified, as well.

"If you have an insurance need," Manuel said, "we have an outlet for it."

As an independent agency, Lake Central represents more than 20 highly-regarded insurance companies, commanding the variety of resources necessary to build an insurance program that works for each individual customer.

"I like to tell prospects, give us your information and let us do the shopping for you," he said. "We'll find the best value for your unique insurance needs."

Lake Central Insurance Services serves the insurance needs of more than 2,500 individuals, families and businesses in the local area from offices in Maple Lake, Annandale and Clearwater. Born and raised in Maple Lake, Manuel is honored to help meet those needs, and said he considers his upbringing in Maple Lake, along with Lake Central's location in downtown Maple Lake, "a natural fit."

Personal attention

To meet the ever-changing financial needs of its customers, Lake Central Financial, Inc. was established by Annandale State Bank in 2009, and Lake Central Investments was launched in September 2011.

Annandale State Agency, Security State Agency of Maple Lake and Clearwater State Agency were consolidated and rebranded as Lake Central Insurance Services in January 2012.

"We wanted to have a common name in each community," Manuel explained.

Volden maintains his office in Annandale, and is available by appointment in Maple Lake and Clearwater. Manuel typically travels between the Maple Lake and Annandale offices. The three offices are fully staffed with insurance professionals every day. Krista Wurm, who specializes in personal lines, has worked in the Maple Lake insurance office approaching 25 years. Anna Pribyl, who joined the staff in early 2013, is licensed in property/casualty and life/health, and handles all types of personal lines insurance as well as commercial insurances. She, too, is Medicare and MNsure certified and is knowledgeable in all health insurance lines. Pete Edmonson manages the Clearwater insurance office.

Volden and Manuel like to say, "Lake Central is small enough to know you, and big enough to serve you."

"The point is," Manuel said, "we pride ourselves on our customer service. If you call us and we're with a client, leave a voice-mail. We'll get back to you, typically within the hour."

"We are in the relationship business, and customer service is our top priority," he explained. "It's the philosophy I've lived by since I worked in my parents' grocery store, Andy's Red Owl, while growing up. In a competitive world, we strive to exceed our clients' expectations every day."

Lake Central Insurance Services and Lake Central Investments can be found at 10 Birch Ave. S. in Maple Lake. For more information, call 320-963-3163 or visit www.mylakecentral.com.



LAKE CENTRAL

INSURANCE SERVICES
INVESTMENTS



Above: Insurance agent Paul Manuel (right) and financial advisor John Volden (left) invite area residents to visit Lake Central Insurance Services and Lake Central Investments, conveniently located in downtown Maple Lake on the corner of Birch Ave. and Division St. Manuel and Volden describe Lake Central Insurance Services and Lake Central Investments as a "one-stop shop for asset protection and wealth management." Right: Anna Pribyl is a valued member of Lake Central's insurance staff. (Photos by Katie Friedman)



Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE
MAPLE LAKE TOWNSHIP
Request for Bids

Notice is hereby given that the Town Board of Maple Lake Township, Wright County, State of Minnesota, is soliciting bids for an undetermined amount of gallons of magnesium, or calcium chloride, bid to include both prices, no less than 30%. Bid price to include both material and application on Town roads up to 24 feet in width, and applied prior to June 15, 2015. For other information in regard to bidding, please contact our maintenance department, telephone 320-963-3927.

The board of supervisors reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Bids are due by 7:00 P.M. April 21, 2015, at the town hall

located at 6298 Bishop Avenue NW and County Road 37. Bids may be mailed or delivered to Dick Hogan, Clerk, at the Maple Lake Town Hall. Maple Lake Township Dick Hogan, Clerk (27-28c)

ASSESSMENT NOTICE
SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization of the TOWNSHIP OF SILVER CREEK of Wright County, Minnesota, will meet at the Office of the Clerk in said Township, at 1:00:00 p.m., on the year 2015. All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment, or who wish to complain that the property of

another is assessed too low, are hereby notified to appear at said meeting, and show cause of having such assessment corrected. No complaint that another person is assessed to low will be acted upon until the person so assessed, or his agent, shall have been notified of such complaint. Given under my hand this 23rd day of March, 2015. Nancy Betzler, Clerk of the Township of Silver Creek (28c)

CITY OF MAPLE LAKE
NOTICE OF HEARING ON IMPROVEMENT
Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Maple

Lake, Minnesota will meet in the Council Chambers of the City of Maple Lake, 10 Maple Avenue South, Maple Lake, Minnesota at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, to consider the making of the 2015 Sewer Repairs Project in the rear yard acres between 22 Elm Ave. S and 44 Elm Ave. S. Proposed improvements include sanitary sewer and water main replacement. The improvements are made pursuant to Minn. Stat §§429.011 to 429.111. The area proposed to be assessed for such improvement is the properties abutting said improvements. The estimated cost of the improvement is \$166,100.00. A reasonable estimate of the total amount to be assessed and a description of the methodology used to calculate indi-

vidual assessments for affected parcels will be available at the hearing. Such person as desire to be heard with reference to the proposed improvement will be heard at this meeting. Additional information on the 2015 Sewer Repairs can be found on the City's website at ci.maple-lake.mn.us. Lee Ann Yager City Clerk/Treasurer (28-29c)

ALBION TOWNSHIP
ASSESSMENT NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization of the Township of Albion of Wright County, Minnesota,

will meet at the Albion Town Hall 9020 30th St NW, Annandale; at 7:30pm, on Monday the 20th of April, 2015, for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment of said township for the year 2015. All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment, or who wish to complain that the property of another is assessed too low, are hereby notified to appear at said meeting and show cause of having such assessment corrected. No complaint that another person is assessed too low will be acted upon until the person so assessed, or his agent, shall have been notified of such complaint. Debbie Uecker Albion Township Clerk (28-29c)

Sarah Brinza

continued from page 1

Recently, Brinza was given the opportunity to run for Miss California. Recognizing the opportunity, she still hesitated, never having felt like a 'pageant' girl, likening herself more to the bumbling Sandra Bullock character in the movie, 'Miss Congeniality'. Nevertheless, she made the decision to throw her hat in the ring. Having set her course, Brinza feels that while running for Miss California may not be

her thing, she believes she is living with a purpose. Success at the pageant would give her a platform to not only reach women in the entertainment industry, but young girls in general who are battling issues related to self-esteem and self-worth. Anyone wishing to aid Brinza in her bid for Miss California can visit http://www.gofundme.com/sarahashley02

Programs & Events

continued from page 4

Radon and Other Risks community forum

On Monday, April 20, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Buffalo Hospital Medical Office Building there will be a community forum about radon, other risks and understanding the environment's role in lung cancer. Learn more about what radon is, why it is harmful, how to test for it, and how to reduce levels in your home. Also learn about the effects of tobacco, pollution, and other environmental hazards. This event is free but registration is requested. Please call 763-684-7025.

MN Railroads at Cokato Historical Society

The Cokato Historical Society is presenting Steve Glischinski, author of "Minnesota Railroads: A Photographic History, 1940-2012" on April 21, 7 p.m., at the centennial room in the library/museum building. This program is free to the public; you do not have to be a historical society member to attend. The 2015 annual meeting of the historical society will precede Glischinski's presentation.

Crisis Nursery Spring fundraiser is April 24

The 17th Annual Spring Fundraiser for Crisis Nursery serving Wright County is being held on Friday, April 24, from 6:00 to approximately 10 p.m. at the Buffalo Civic Center. Enjoy a delicious BBQ buffet from 6 to 7:30 p.m. that is catered by Red's of Montrose, music, a raffle for dollars, silent auction and the live auction takes place at 7:30 p.m. where they will be auctioning off some "interesting" items and having fun with the audience. To order tickets, donate an auction item, or for more information, contact Jill Gatzke at the Crisis Nursery Office at 763-271-1674. This special event is helping to raise awareness of April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.



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\$15 million in credits available with \$7.5 million dedicated to:

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- businesses with proprietary technology or proprietary product, process or service in:
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 - ✓ Tourism ✓ Mining ✓ Transportation

Detailed information: mn.gov/deed/angelcredit



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1998 Dodge Durango - 293,000 miles, runs well, in Maple Lake. \$1,999. Call 207-391-2176. (27-29p)

For Rent

One bedroom upstairs apartment in Maple Lake, References and damage deposit required; \$550/month. 320-963-3986 (28-30p)

Help Wanted

Wanted Part-Time Driving Caregiver in Maple Lake, to provide transportation and light housekeeping for 3 kids (ages 11, 13 & 15). Must be caring, reliable, punctual and tobacco-free. Needed June - August / Monday - Thursday / 4 hrs per day. Email larsonv@gmail.com if interested for more details. (27-29p)

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10-15 hours per week
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Sudoku

ANSWER:

9	2	6	5	3	8	1	4	7
1	8	5	7	2	4	6	9	3
4	7	3	6	1	9	8	5	2
2	6	1	9	4	3	7	8	5
8	9	7	1	5	6	2	3	4
5	3	4	8	7	2	9	6	1
3	4	8	2	6	7	5	1	9
6	1	2	3	9	5	4	7	8
7	5	9	4	8	1	3	2	6

Maple Lake WINE & SPIRITS

LEAD CLERK - LIQUOR STORE

The City of Maple Lake is accepting applications for a full-time Lead Clerk for the Municipal Liquor Store. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, and must be able to lift 50 pounds. Retail and supervisory experience a plus. Salary is \$12.

Application and job description may be obtained at Maple Lake Wine & Spirits, 901 State Hwy. 55 E., Maple Lake, MN 55358, or online at www.ci.maple-lake.mn.us. Submit application and resume to the Liquor Store by 4 p.m., April 10, 2015.

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Maple Lake Ice-Out Dates

2015: April 5

2014: April 26

2013: May 3

2012: March 19

2011: April 14

2010: April 1

2009: April 14

2008: April 24

2007: April 1

2006: April 7

2005: April 8

2004: April 4

2003: April 12

2002: April 16

2001: April 20

2000: March 19

1999: April 1

1998: April 1

1997: April 20

1996: April 24

1995: April 11

1994: April 12

1993: April 18

1992: April 6

1991: April 7

1990: March 31

1989: April 18

1988: April 6

1987: March 23

1986: April 8

1985: April 12

1984: April 13

1983: April 14

1982: April 18

1981: March 25

1980: April 19

1979: April 23

1978: April 17

1977: April 10

1976: April 6

1975: April 28

1974: April 19

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County Board
continued from page 3

In other items on the March 31 agenda, the board:

- * Approved allowing Franklin Township to continue with negotiations to purchase a land parcel to use as a township park. The plan has been evolving over the last two years and has become quite controversial. The plan calls for the county to allow Franklin Township to utilize the \$114,000 in its parks dedication fund for the purchase of the property and making the land suitable as a public park. Wallace Johnson, who served on the Franklin Township parks sub-committee, expressed concerns about not moving forward with the project until it can be demonstrated that the township will be able to afford the maintenance of a new park – concerns that he said has resulted in verbal attacks against him as well as receiving anonymous hate mail. The board approved allowing the negotiation process to continue, but made it clear that any township park will have to live up to the same safety standards as county parks.
- * Authorized signatures on a memorandum of understanding with Community Behavioral Health Hospital that would allow temporary housing of patients in the old jail facility in the event of an emergency or critical event, such as a tornado. The CBHH is required by law to have backup facilities in place in the event of a catastrophe, but it's unlikely the jail

would actually get used. The CBHH has a first alternate facility in place, but the law requires it have at least two alternatives.

- * Approved a request from Cokato Township to allow the township to access the \$10,413 in its parks dedication fund to do a pavement overlay improvement on a trail that connects the cities of Dassel and Cokato. The biking/walking trail was constructed in 1994, which, in hindsight, was done with short-sighted thinking that there wasn't money set aside for maintenance and repairs. The parks commission voted to deny the request because parks dedication funds aren't used for maintenance, but the overlay project would be viewed as a significant trail improvement, not merely maintenance.
- * Laid over discussion of a time cutoff for employees to submit reimbursement forms for work-related expenses. The proposal calls for a 60-day cutoff. Some departments submit expense reports immediately,

while others submit them on a quarterly basis. The goal is to find a uniform system. The item was referred to the April 9 leadership committee meeting.

- * Approved a memo of understanding with the International Union of Operating Engineers to work four 10-hour shifts during the summer months as opposed to the standard five eight-hour work shifts for the rest of the year.
- * Acknowledged receipt of the 2014 annual report from the parks department.
- * Authorized Parks Administrator Marc Mattice and Commissioner Mark Daleiden to represent the county at the next meeting of the Three Rivers Parks District, which includes Hennepin, Carver, Dakota, Scott and Ramsey counties.
- * Approved the re-appointment of Daniel Dawson as a public sector representative with the Wright County Community Action board of directors. Dawson was appointed to a three-year term.



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"What I Like Most About Maple Lake"

Cash prizes for each level!
\$50 for 1st place • \$25 for 2nd place

3 Writing Levels:
K-6th grade - 50 to 300 words
7-12th grade - 150 to 500 words
Adults - 300 to 1000 words

Entries judged on:
Creativity • Content • Grammar

Do NOT put your name on the essay.
Include a cover letter with your:
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Winner notified by May 29th.

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NOTICE OF THE 84th ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE LAKE REGION COOPERATIVE OIL ASSOCIATION OF MAPLE LAKE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS WILL BE HELD AT **THE V by HH** in Maple Lake

TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 2015 AT 7:00 PM

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

1. To review the minutes of last year's annual meeting.
2. To review the yearend audit.
3. To elect a director from the following districts: 2, 3
4. Nominations will be taken from the floor for elections of those members of good standing.
5. Eligible voting will be for those who spent \$500.00 or more in the past year. Those that paid with cash or credit card, please bring proof of purchase.

By order of the Board of Directors
Amanda Berndt, Secretary

Buffet Dinner will be served following the meeting tentatively 7:30.
Door prizes will be awarded.



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