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Douglas County

Record

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ICE PANCAKES

Conditions were just right recently to form rare ice pancakes on the Chippewa River seen here between Brandon and Evansville on County Road 82. While there is no snow cover to speak of, water continues to flow through the culvert of the road. Ice pancakes are believed to form when foam on a river begins to freeze and join together. As they are sucked into a swirling current of water, they form into a circular shape as a result. As other bits of frozen foam and ice hit the forming disc, they freeze to it and increase its size.

Brandon City Council accepts bids for street project

Bids for the City of Brandon's 2024 street and utility improvements were opened on Feb. 27 and presented to the city council at its March 4 meeting. Jeremy Anderson of Design Tree Engineering and Land Surveying presented the bids to the council. There were seven

bids received for the base project as well as two alternates. The project will include work on water mains, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, grading, aggregate base and bituminous surface. Anderson recommended the city accept the low bid from R.L. Larson of St. Cloud for

the base bid as well as alternate one, which is mill and overlay on Hayes Avenue. The base bid from R.L. Larson was \$2,372,392.50. The bid for alternate one was \$44,740. The council accepted the bids from R.L. Larson.

Anderson said the estimate for the improvements was \$2,822,000 and the accepted bids are below that estimate. The council decided not to award a bid for the second alternate which includes 5th Street reconstruction in Deere Run.

The city will have a contingency fund of approximately \$400,000 for the project. If the money is not used for the project it can be used for other needs of the city, such as purchasing a new generator for the city's sewer ponds.

The city at the meeting also approved a resolution to use abatements to help pay for part of the project.

Jason Murray of David Brown Associates, Inc. was at the meeting and explained the city will be looking for a bond in the amount of \$3,290,000. The abatement will raise approximately \$1,610,000 for the project. This amount will be issued as General Obligation Tax Abatement bonds. There

are 124 parcels in the abatement with the abatements on a 20-year term. The council approved a resolution calling for the sale of the bonds.

The city also at the meeting approved the proposed fire department budget for 2025. The budget will total \$42,570. This is a 3 percent increase over the previous year's budget.

The budget breakdown shows \$29,373, or 69 percent for Brandon Township; \$10,642.50, or 25 percent, for Moe Township; and \$2,554.20, or 6 percent for Urness Township.

Dave Ahlquist was at the meeting to give a report on the city's sanitary sewer lateral televising project.

Ahlquist said Nelson Sanitation of Rice has completed televising the laterals.

Ahlquist said 309 laterals were found with 260 being paid connections. He added so far there have been 116 failures found with 132 having passed inspection.

There are 36 connections for which a push camera may need to be used in order to find out their condition. Ahlquist said there are also 21 connections with unique circumstances.

Ahlquist also said he will soon be starting to notify residents who need to clean up their property.

Brandon City Clerk Deb Grommesh said there is a leak in the Brandon Auditorium roof but the source of the leak is so far elusive. It will be looked into and hopefully taken care of.

Township elections will be March 12

Voters in most townships in Minnesota will be going to the polls March 12 to vote for supervisors, clerks, treasurers and other items put before the voters.

Here are the voting locations in Douglas County.

Alexandria Township - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Noon-8 p.m., 2702 State Hwy 29 N, Alexandria.

Belle River Township - St. Nicholas Church (Basement), 5-8 p.m. 9473 County Road 3 NE, Carlos.

Holmes City Township - Holmes City Town Hall, 5-8 p.m. 11180 Tewes Trail SW, Farwell.

Hudson Township - Forada City Hall, 4-8 p.m. 10991 Toby's Ave SE, Alexandria.

Ida Township - Ida Town Hall, 5-8 p.m. 4700 County Road 6 NW, Garfield.

Lake Mary Township - Lake Mary Town Hall, 2-8 p.m. 4791 County Road 4 SW, Alexandria.

Leaf Valley Township - Leaf Valley Town Hall, 3-8 p.m. 15240 County Road 6 NW, Garfield.

Lund Township - Lund Town Hall in Melby, 4-8 p.m. 17443 Lakeview Ave NW, Evansville. Millerville Township

Millerville Fire Hall, 5-8 p.m. 16560 County Road 7 NW, Brandon.

Moe Township - Pioneer Park, 5-8 p.m. 14641 Pioneer Park RD SW, Farwell.

Orange Township - Ed Polard Community Center, 4-8 p.m. 20 W Nokomis St, Osakis.

Solem Township - Kensington Rune Stone Park Visitor Center, 5-8 p.m. 8965 County Road 103 SW, Kensington.

Spruce Hill Township - Spruce Hill Town Hall, 5-8 p.m. 12055 Willow Road NE, Miltna.

Urness Township - Urness Town Hall, 5-8 p.m. 2160 County Road 1 SW, Evansville.

Townships that have adopted November elections: Brandon, Evansville, LaGrand, Miltna and Osakis.

For more on the elections see page 7.

Holy week church church schedules

The Record will be printing Holy Week schedules in its March 28 issue.

To be included please send church schedules to The Record by 1 p.m. March 22. Schedules can be sent to: wdrecord@gctel.com.

Daylight-saving time begins on March 10

Time to spring forward! Daylight saving time will begin at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 10.

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour before retiring for the night.

Free!
Take
One

FREE

Douglas County Sheriff's Blotter

Feb. 27

Garfield - I-94, mile marker 94. Traffic stop. Verbal warning for speed.

Nelson - Traffic stop. Verbal warning for headlight out.

Osakis - Traffic stop. Verbal warning for speed, advised on address on drivers license.

Carlos - School patrol.

Alexandria - Complainant woke up and realized her son was not at home. She's unable to reach him by phone. Ongoing issue.

Nelson - Vehicle in his field. See BLOTTER, page 5

WHAT'S INSIDE

NOW AND THEN

The Evansville High School basketball team drove to Nelson last evening...Page 3.

COUNCIL

The Evansville City Council will meet March 11...Page 3.

SPORTS

Knight wrestlers participate at state, girls basketball season ends, boys prepare for playoffs...Page 6.

JUNIOR BOLTS

The A-B-E Junior Bolts completed their season in a tournament...Page 9.

STATEMENTS

Approximately 31,000 property tax statements and value notices will be mailed to Douglas County property owners at the end of March...Page 9.

NEW LIONS

The Evansville Lions Club recently welcomed two new members...Page 12.

OFFICER OF YEAR

Mitch Lawler is the DNR CO of the Year for 2023...Page 12.

Free
Take One

Growing Green with Extension Educator Robin Trott



Handling Unseasonable Weather: Tips for Trees, Shrubs, and Plants

February 2024 ranks among the warmest since the 1800s, prompting early budding in many trees and shrubs. Though winter temperatures are expected to return, the premature growth could disrupt the normal dormancy cycle of plants, causing concern among enthusiasts. While the sight of budding trees may raise concerns, it's important to understand that certain species, like lilacs, natu-

rally form buds in the previous year. Moreover, plants respond not only to temperature but also to daylight duration, which influences their growth patterns. Although early budding typically poses minimal harm, a sudden cold snap could affect flowering later in the season. Keeping records of your plants' responses to unusual weather this year can guide future plant selections.

Concerns have also risen about vulnerable species such as pussy willows and maples.

Public notice

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
IN DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File No. 21-CV-24-15
SUMMONS

Quiet Title Action
Kocur Cabin LLC, Plaintiff,

-vs-
Estate of Andrew Erickson, William Kocur and Bernice C. Kocur, State of Minnesota; Richard J. Duncan and Julie K. Duncan, Jon Emmerich, Alison Lindstrom, David W. Kocur and Nancy L. Kocur, Paul E. Kocur and Mary T. Kocur, Eileen A. Meulners and Ronald P. Meulners, Jane E. Heath and Sean W. Heath, Katherine M. Gillard and Gregory Gillard and all such other unknown heirs of all of said Defendants and all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest or lien in the real estate described in the Complaint herein,
Defendants.

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO
THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

1. YOU ARE BEING SUED. The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiffs Complaint against you is attached to this Summons. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court, and there may be no Court file number on this Summons.

2. YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 21 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You must give or mail to the person who signed this Summons a written response called an Answer within 21 days of the date on which you received this Summons. You must send a copy of your Answer to the person who signed this Summons at 16 First Street SE, Glenwood, MN 56334.

3. YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiffs Complaint. In your Answer, you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiffs should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.

4. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS. If you do not answer within 21 days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiffs everything asked for in the Complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the Complaint, you do not need to respond. A Default Judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.

5. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, the Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

6. ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION. The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an alternative dispute resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even if you expect to use alternate means of resolving this dispute.

7. REAL ESTATE. This lawsuit may affect or bring into question title to real property located in Douglas County, State of Minnesota, legally described as follows: See Exhibit A attached hereto.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

MINNESOTA STATUTE §543.22 REQUIRES US TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A STATEMENT CONTAINING INFORMATION ABOUT ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESSES AS SET FORTH IN MINNESOTA GENERAL RULES OF PRACTICE (MGRP). PARTIES TO A CIVIL ACTION ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEMPT ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA LAW. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INCLUDES MEDIATION, ARBITRATION, AND OTHER PROCESSES AS SET FORTH IN THE DISTRICT COURT RULES. YOU MAY CONTACT THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR ABOUT RESOURCES IN YOUR AREA. IF YOU CANNOT PAY FOR MEDIATION OR ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION, IN SOME COUNTIES, ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH A NONPROFIT PROVIDER OR A COURT PROGRAM.

Dated this 28th day of December, 2023.

ZUBER LAW

/s/ Brianna Zuber Beckwith #0389190
Attorney for the Plaintiff

16 First Street SE Glenwood, Minnesota 56334 Phone (320) 634-4584
brianna@zuberlawmn.com

EXHIBIT "A"

That part of Lot A& B of AUSLAND'S SUBDIVISION OF LOT 2 OF SEC. 7. OF T 127 N. R. 39 W., according to the recorded plat thereof, and that part of Government Lot 2, and that part of the meandered land falling northwest of Government Lot 2, all being within Section 7, Township 127 North, Range 39 West, Douglas County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Commencing at the northeast corner of said Lot B;
thence South 00 degrees 10 minutes 38 seconds West, assumed bearing along the east line of said Lot B, a

While frost may damage new growth, these resilient plants can recover. Similarly, while dormant fruit trees can withstand cold temperatures, flower buds are at risk. Early bloomers like apricots may suffer fruiting setbacks, yet they usually endure such challenges. Even emerging perennials like bleeding hearts may experience leaf damage, but their robust roots remain intact.

With proper attention and care, these plants can rebound and flourish. While it might be premature to begin watering, applying mulch can offer added insulation against sudden temperature fluctuations.

For more insights on how this year's weather could impact spring gardens, visit: <https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and->

distance of 320.41 feet to a point on the southeasterly right-of-way line of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 21-7, according to the recorded plat thereof, said point also being on a 2366.83-foot radius curve in which center of circle bears North 30 degrees 43 minutes 13 seconds West from said point;
thence southwesterly along said southeasterly right-of-way line of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 21-7, and along said 2366.83-foot radius curve, central angle 00 degrees 20 minutes 06 seconds, 13.84 feet to the point of beginning of the land to be described;

thence continuing along said southeasterly right-of-way line of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 21-7, and along said 2366.83-foot radius curve, central angle 16 degrees 13 minutes 48 seconds, 670.45 feet to point B24 as per said MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 21-7;
thence southwesterly along said southeasterly right-of-way line of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 21-7 to point B25 as per said MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 21-7, said southeasterly right-of-way line also being a circular curve very near 75 feet southeasterly and very nearly parallel with the, Euler spiral curve right-of-way acquisition line of Trunk Highway No. 27, said spiral curve having a central angle of 05 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds and a spiral length of 400.00 feet, said circular curve, and said southeasterly right-of-way line having a chord bearing of South 79 degrees 09 minutes 52 seconds West and a chord length of 406.40 feet;
thence South 80 degrees 50 minutes 40 seconds West along said southeasterly right-of-way line of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 21-7, a distance of 86 feet more or less to the waterline of Lake Oscar;
thence southeasterly, southwesterly, southeasterly and northeasterly along said waterline, 1826 feet more or less to aforesaid east line of Lot B;
thence North 00 degrees 10 minutes 38 seconds East along said east line of Lot B, a distance of 921 feet more or less to a line bearing South 30 degrees 37 minutes 42 seconds West from the point of beginning;
thence North 30 degrees 37 minutes 42 seconds West, 23.22 feet to the point of beginning.
The tract contains 18.3 acres more or less subject to easements, reservations or restrictions of record, if any.
Publish Feb. 22, 29; March 7, 2024

garden-news/how-will-warm-winter-affect-my-plants

Until Next Time, Happy Gardening!

"Is the spring coming?" he

Climatology office seeking monitors for the rain, hail and snow network

The Minnesota State Climatology Office is seeking rainfall monitors for the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network. The network includes more than 20,000 volunteers nationwide who measure precipitation in their backyards using a standard 4-inch diameter rain gauge.

Participants submit their precipitation reports online. The data from backyard rain gauges are a critical source of information and it's beneficial to add more volunteer weather observers each year, even in areas where there are already volunteers.

"Rainfall and snowfall amounts can vary widely over a short distance, so a variety of reports is helpful in the same community or area," State Climatologist Luigi Romolo said. "We have some areas in greater Minnesota that have very few reporting stations. The more we have across the state, the better information we all have."

"Over time, as more volunteer reports make our precipitation maps more accurate, these observations provide critical guidance on Minnesota's changing climate," Romolo added. "This

said. "What is it like?"...

"It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine..."

— Frances Hodgson Burnett, The Secret Garden

is also a great educational activity for families with kids and a rewarding hobby for anyone interested in weather or climate."

Volunteers are particularly needed outside the immediate Twin Cities metro area. Volunteers receive training on how to observe weather trends and how to submit their precipitation and weather event reports. All training material is available online. Participants must purchase or provide a standard 4-inch diameter rain gauge (available at discount through CoCoRaHS) and have internet access to submit reports.

For the past four years, Minnesota has won the "CoCoRaHS Cup" for recruiting the most new volunteers of any state. "We're hoping Minnesotans will again come through in 2024 to keep the cup in Minnesota and, more important of course, to improve our state's precipitation recording," Romolo said.

To sign up or for more information, visit CoCoRaHS.org. It opens in a new browser tab or contact Luigi Romolo at luigi.romolo@state.mn.us opens in a new browser tab.

The Douglas County Record

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Now and Then

Excerpts from the Evansville
Historical Foundation Archives

100 Years Ago - 1924
Evansville Enterprise
Basketball
Evansville Wins over
Millerville Basketball

In a hotly contested game of basketball, played on the Millerville floor last Monday evening, the Evansville High School team were victorious. The Millerville boys put up a game fight for the long end of the score throughout the game, but the ball refused to go through the basket when they needed it most. They managed to get four baskets and a free throw in the last half. The Evansville boys held them to six to nothing in the first half, but it was not until the last few minutes of play that they managed to get the two baskets that won the game for them. Two well placed throws by Schultenover made the score 9-10 in favor of the Evansville boys. The game was a wild one from start to finish. The Millerville boys were to play here tomorrow night, but we understand they canceled the game and will not play Evansville anymore.

Another Game for Evansville
The Evansville High School basketball team, with a good number of boosters, drove to Nelson last evening and added another victory to their list by coming home with the long end of the score of 21-29.

County Fair Coming To
Evansville

Leo Ctibor was in Evansville a few days ago and made arrangements with the Legion Theatre to show "The County Fair." A picture featuring Wesley "Freckles" Barry, Helen Eddy and David Butler. Mr. Ctibor has a four piece orchestra with him that will play during the entire show and for a dance afterwards.

50 Years Ago - 1974
Evansville Booster
Checking Account & Savings
Account Go Together in 1974
like ham 'n eggs, boys and girls,
sugar 'n spice.

A checking account helps control expenses, gives you a permanent record of every paid bill for income tax purposes. A savings account that pays an excellent return offers the most convenient way to save money that was ever invented. Together in 1974 they will make a perfect pair. With us, of course. Farmers State Bank of Evansville, Evansville, Minnesota

25 Years Ago - 1999
West Douglas County Record
Boys end season with 4th
straight win

The Brandon-Evansville boys' basketball team ended the year with a 67-54 win over visiting Underwood. The win

was the fourth in a row for the Chargers who ended the regular season with a 6-16 mark and a 4-6 record in the Little Eight Conference. The Rockets were in the lead 14-10 after the first eight minutes, but the Chargers scored 20 points in the second period while allowing just 10 for a 30-24 lead at the half. The Chargers kept up the scoring pressure in the second half scoring 37 points to Underwoods 30. Dan Helder led the Chargers in scoring with 17 points while Tom Slack was right behind with 15. Brent Meissner also scored in double figures for the Chargers with 11 points. Slack led the team in rebounds with nine.

"Once again, everyone contributed in this win. The team is playing pretty well at the right time of the year," said B-E coach Jay Klein. The coach also added that Slack and Dallas Hanson played well defensively for the Chargers while Helder's ball handling ability provided a big advantage for the Chargers over the rockets.

Slack is LEC Player of Week
Slack had 16 points, 10 rebounds, two steals and two assists against Rothsay and had nine points, seven rebounds and

Evansville Council to meet March 11

The Evansville City Council will hold it's regular meeting March 11 at 6:30 p.m.

The agenda includes approving the minutes of the Feb. 12 meeting as well as hearing a fire department report.

A school report is also on the agenda as are the 2024 sewer improvement bids.

Using on-line payments for the city's sewer and water bills is also on the agenda.

The council will also take up PFA fund transfers at the meeting.

The agenda also includes an item concerning semi parking on city streets and the parking lot.

The council will also be reminded the city's board of review will be April 16 at 1 p.m.

The council will also take up any structure permits which

one assist against Parkers Prairie. B-E coach Jay Klein said: "Tom shut down Rothsay's leading scorer in the second half not allowing him a point and against Parkes Prairie he held their top scorer to seven points. He's our best defender and hardest worker.

Boys bow out of playoffs with loss to Browerville

The Brandon Evansville boys' basketball team ended the year in the Northeast Division playoffs with a 59-46 loss to Browerville in Osakis. "We didn't shoot well. We also took shots too quickly and didn't look to get the ball inside as much as we should have said B-E coach Jay Klein.

A visit from a cat, a cat in a hat, imagine that!

The Cat In The Hat visited Evansville elementary classes March 2, the birthday of Dr. Suess. The visit was part of Read Across America month. Schools all over the nation are doing special things to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Suess and to encourage children to read. Personifying the Cat In The Hat was Michael Lutz, son of Evansville third grade teacher Bonnie Lutz. The Cat In The Hat read out loud to the students the book that carries his name.

Evansville Historical Foundation

Winter hours: Tuesdays,
10:00 – 4:00

Additional hours available by appointment.

have come into the city office since the last meeting.

An office report, maintenance report and a Evansville Community Developer's report are also on the agenda.

The agenda also includes correspondence, old or other business, guest concerns and comments and approving the March bills and authorizing payment.

The agenda items were scheduled as of March 4 and are subject to change.

Raising A Reader Big Birthday Bash!!

You and your family are invited
to Celebrate your birthday & Dr. Seuss's

Thursday, March 7
5-6:30 p.m.

Brandon Campus
Gym & Lunchroom

There will be fun Raising A Reader
activities, games, food and
a Surprise Visitor!

Happy Birthday!

Come help celebrate!
80th Birthday Party for

Carol Lenarz

Saturday, March 9 • Noon-4 p.m.
at the Garfield Community Center.

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Douglas County Fairgrounds
Alexandria, MN

Saturday
March 16,
2024
9 to 3 p.m.

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Brandon, Urbank, Hoffman

Parkers Prairie & Henning

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Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

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(320)834-4924 for price information

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(320)834-4924 for price information

Community

Calendar

RAISING A READER BIG BIRTH-

DAY BASH March 7 at the Bran-

don Campus, 5-6:30 p.m. Activities,

games, food.

EASTER PARTY March 23 at the

Brandon Auditorium. 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Easter Bunny, cookie decorating,

kids' games, face painting, bake sale.

Put on by Brandon Community Club.

KC's PANCAKE SAUSAGE and

Scrambled egg breakfast Sunday,

March 24 at Seven Dolors Parish Hall,

Millerville. Serving 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Free-will offering, take out orders

available. Proceeds for pro-life.

THE MILLERVILLE TOWN-

SHIP meetings are held the second

Thursday of each month. November-

April, 3 p.m.; May-Oct., 6 p.m. at

Millerville Fire Hall.

Brandon American Legion will meet

at 7 pm the Fourth Tuesday of each

month, March through October, at

the Brandon Hall. New Members

Welcome. For questions, please call

320-304-5333 or email carl196545@

hotmail.com

Brandon American Legion Auxiliary

will meet at 7 pm the Fourth Tuesday

of each month, March, April, May,

June and October, at the Brandon

Hall. New Members Welcome. For

questions, please call 320-304-0809

or email hzabroski@yahoo.com.

A REMINDER TO ALL EVANS-

VILLE City Residents: Sump Pumps

cannot discharge into the sanitary

sewer. Please make sure your sump

pump is discharging outside!!

TO EVANSVILLE RESIDENTS:

If you would like to be added to the

email event listing please email your

name and email address to evansvil@

gctel.com and ask to be added.

THE BRANDON LIONS MEET-

INGS are the first Wednesday of the

month at the Brandon Community

Center (fall, winter, spring) and at

Lion's Park (summer months), 7 pm.

New members welcome.

THE CITY OF BRANDON has re-

ceived numerous complaints of dogs

running loose. Please keep your pets

on your property and under your di-

rect control. City ordinance prohibits

dogs running at large.

THE EVANSVILLE SENIOR CITI-

ZENS meet each month on the third

Wednesday for a potluck noon meal

at the Senior Center.

THE BRANDON FIN & FEATH-

ER SPORTSMAN'S CLUB will be

meeting monthly at 7 PM on the third

Wednesday on the month at the Bran-

don Community Center. New mem-

bers welcome!

THE GARFIELD LIONS CLUB

MEETINGS are the second Monday

of the month at the Garfield City Hall,

7 p.m. New Members are welcome.

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See Community Calendar, page 5.



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MEETINGS are the third Wednesdays of the month at the Soderholm Insurance, 7 p.m. New members welcome.

THE EVANSVILLE AREA SPORTSMEN CLUB meets at the Evansville City Hall in Evansville the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

LUND TOWNSHIP meetings are the third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Lund Townhall in Melby.

THE EVANSVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Evansville City Hall at 7 p.m. January, February, March, April and December; at 8 p.m. all other months

THE BRANDON TOWNSHIP holds its monthly meetings on the 3rd Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Brandon Township Hall at 106 Mallard Lane, Brandon. The exceptions are that in January and February, the monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday due to legal holidays.

THE URNESS TOWNBOARD meets the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Town Hall.

AREA MEETINGS: Evansville City Council, second Monday, 6:30 p.m.; Brandon City Council, first Monday, 6:30 p.m.; Brandon-Evansville School Board, third Monday at Evansville Senior Center, at 7 p.m.

BLOTTER

Continued from page 1

Parked in tan approach, there is other access to the field. Will check it later.

Alexandria - Medical call. Low oxygen.

Kensington - Book reading and DARE.

Alexandria - Complainant would like advice on a potential/possible scam.

Osakis - Elderly male stopped in front of a stop sign. Pulled over to receive a call.

Carlos - School patrol.

Osakis - Medical call. 76-year-old male, possible stroke.

Miltona - School patrol.

Osakis - Checking on two vehicles facing each other. Waiting on a tow.

Alexandria - Traffic stop. Citation issued for expired registration. Advised would avoid the ticket if registered owner was able to provide current registration by March 1.

Miltona - South bound on C.R. 3, last known direction. Black Ford Mustang with either white or silver striping travelling at high rate of speed through the area.

Alexandria - Theft. Per complainant, person one took \$2,500 without his consent.

Alexandria - Traffic stop. Stop sign violation.

Feb. 28

Alexandria - Male slumped over in vehicle.

Alexandria - Traffic stop. Person one arrested for seven Douglas County warrants and one Pope County warrant.

Alexandria - Head-on crash. State crash report, person two cited for keeping to the right.

Alexandria - Alarm. East corner bedroom window. Front door unlocked with no signs of forced entry. All other doors secured. Left voicemail for homeowner.

Alexandria - Medical call.

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Female fell and unable to get up. Unknown injuries.

Alexandria - Motorist stall. Unoccupied or a hazard. No working contacts in house.

Alexandria - Traffic stop. Toyota Matrix. Warning, no front plate and obstructed rear plate.

Alexandria - Fraud. Person one cashed a fraudulent cashier's check at Glenwood State Bank. Referred to the city since suspect and bank are in Alexandria.

Garfield - Complainant has questions about his custody agreement with his children's mother. Mother claims will involve law enforcement to force exchange. Already working with CPS on active case and non-profit. Advised to contact attorney.

Alexandria - Person one missed 1 p.m. test.

Alexandria - Black SUV stalled in the middle of the road. Been there for 20 minutes. White truck there now trying to pull it.

Carlos - Complainant is unable to get up and states she is very sick. Has been going on for four days. Profuse sweating. Feeling faint and unable to keep water down.

Alexandria - Road-rage incident. Honda CRV, red or maroon in color. Was driving aggressively around the complainant and threw something at the complainant's vehicle. Complainant will call back if she sees damage in morning but nothing right now.

Alexandria - Complainant's husband called and stated he believes his wife may be the subject of a scam. Complainant states that there are people from Publisher's Clearing House coming tomorrow with a check. Complainant not out any money or personal information. Advised complainant on actions moving forward.

Kensington - Traffic stop. Speed.

Alexandria - Complainant states that one of his cameras on his house went out and made a funny noise. Complainant would like someone to take a look and see if there is something wrong. Nothing on driveway that appeared that someone was there. House secure.

Feb. 29

Miltona - Suspicious activity. Can see a male breaking into their home. Going in and out of garage. Mid-sized SUV in driveway. Cleaning person at

residence at unexpected time. Not the usual person. All okay.

Nelson - White SUV on the shoulder of the road somewhere on C.R. 73. Caller did not know if someone was inside.

Alexandria - Traffic hazard. Garbage bag of clothes in road, moved.

Alexandria - Suspicious person. Male party wanting to turn himself in at the lobby but has no active warrants and won't tell me why.

Alexandria - Person one has multiple warrants and may be staying at this address. Possibly aggressive dogs there. Person one arrested on his warrants without incident.

Alexandria - Suspicious activity. Complainant's donor platform is being used by fraudulent credit cards.

Alexandria - Medical call. Male with shortness of breath.

Alexandria - Public assist. Complainant is having gathering were drinking will happen and has questions about making sure everything will be safe. Requested extra patrol.

Alexandria - Passenger was walking around outside. It appeared driver and passenger were in an argument, but they were waiting for gas from a friend. They did not need any assistance and will call if that changes.

Alexandria - Two males, one with a hoodie, came to the house and then walked around back. White truck with utility back end. While on the phone, complainant stated his property manager was going to run over to the property to check things out. He will call back if he needs law enforcement.

Kensington - Person one cited for driving after revocation and no insurance. Warning for no front plate and suspended object from mirror.

Alexandria - Male in black jacket trying to start a fight outside. Person one arrested for obstructing legal process and disorderly conduct

Carlos - Suspicious vehicle. Male showed up at complainant's house. Has a large crack in his windshield. Male was asking for water. Black BMW. White male, bad teeth, flannel shirt, Twins baseball cap. There is also a female in the car. Having vehicle troubles. Car was not safe to drive and nobody had a license. Arranged a private tow.

Alexandria - Person two, juvenile, was biking and was

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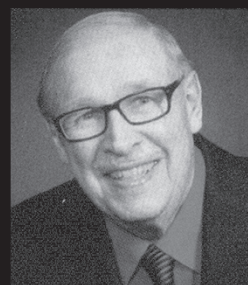
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causing a traffic hazard. Made contact and stated she was going to a store. Called her mom to confirm and mom denied that she was allowed so followed person two back home and dad had just got home when arrived.

Alexandria - Third-party call. Caller states that their friend called them stating they are overdosing. Red Honda Accord. Large amounts of ibuprofen and cough syrup.

Glenwood - Complainant states mother is 90-year-old, fell and hit her head. Brother does have a violent dog on scene. Brother is there and does have some cognitive challenges.

Alexandria - Complainant states she lost her phone at an airport in Florida. Complainant states she received a notification that it was at the address listed. Complainant has questions about the issue. Phone recovered with person one. Will speak with records to facilitate it going back to the owner.

March 1

Alexandria - Domestic. Complainant states girlfriend is throwing things at him. He is currently outside, complainant states she hasn't taken her medication.

Alexandria - Traffic stop. Warning for expired tags and suspended object from mirror.

Alexandria - Found debit cards and school ID on DATA Trail.

Alexandria - Female ran out of the ally stating a male had a gun and was shooting.

Alexandria - Resident left approximately one hour ago stating he would be going to ER. They have called there twice and he hasn't showed up. He is wearing black sweat pants gray, black jacket, gray tennis shoes. He is 63-year-old, Person one arrived at hospital.

Carlos - Concerns by grandparents about living situation with mother.

Alexandria - Medical call. 58-year-old diabetic male party sick for last couple days. Not

responding but breathing.

Osakis - Caller is in an argument with a neighbor over loud music. Male party is wearing red shorts and green coat refusing to leave. Spoke to complainant and suspect.

Alexandria - Water complaint. 75-year-old male, fell through the ice with 4-wheeler. Person one drove into an open, bad spot. Water was waist deep. Others jumped in to help get the wheeler out. Was no water emergency.

Alexandria - Male party that is not staying at the hotel keeps calling the front desk and harassing the staff. Spoke to the male who was continuously calling into hotel from restricted number. Refused to provide any information. Gave room number to unoccupied room. Advised hotel on some options.

March 2

Lake Christina - 911 hang-up from the middle of the lake. Could not hear anything on the phone. Call came from a 911 phone. Can't call back. Unable to locate anyone in distress.

Miltona - Stating someone came to his shop and stated there is a grass fire east of town. There is someone watching the fire. No burning permits activated in that area. Controlled burn with person one attending fire. Person one was unaware of burning permit required. Showed how to get permit online and advised of burning restrictions.

Miltona - Complainant states her brother threatened her and blocked the door so she couldn't leave her mother's house three days ago.

Nelson - Male and female yelling at each other, running around the lot, while on the phone they got into a dark SUV. Heading south towards C.R. 82. Complainant attempted to get a plate, possible first three letters. County units, Alex PD and Osakis PD checked for suspects vehicle.

Kensington - Traffic stop. Verbal warning for speed.

Girls fall to W-H-N in opening round

The Brandon-Evansville girls basketball team was seeded No. 4 for the South Sub-Section tourney and W-H-N was seeded No. 5.

The two teams battled it out Feb. 29 in Evansville with the Warriors dominating the early parts of the first half and building a big lead. The Chargers chipped away at the lead and earned a 28-28 halftime score.

In the second half B-E built a 50-43 lead. However, four consecutive steals by W-H-N gave them a one-point lead they were able to hang onto and with free throws ended the game with a 66-64 win.

“Just wasn’t in the cards

tonight for the Chargers,” said B-E Coach Stephen Schreiber.

Haddy Baune led the Chargers in scoring with 21 points while Mia Elmer had 17 and Kylee Dingwall 16.

Julie Schmidt of the Warriors led all scorers with 29 points while Braylen Schmidt had 12 points for W-H-N.

“I just want to say how proud I am of this group and the work they put in the last 11 months to make the improvements they did. I believe we played even better than expected this year and the leadership Skylar, Maddy Anderson and Kylee gave to this team will continue on even in their absence next

year,” added the coach.

The Chargers finished 17-8 on the year.

In other first-round games it was Hancock over Benson, 84-26; Breckenridge over Parkers Prairie, 79-46; and West Central Area over C-G-B, 70-43.

In the sub-section semifinals March 2 it was Hancock over W-H-N 71-34 and Breckenridge over WCA, 59-58.

Hancock and Breckenridge played for the sub-section title March 6. The winner of that game will play the winner of the North Sub-Section title game March 8 at 7 p.m. in the Fergus Falls Roosevelt gym for the overall section title.



B-E's Skylar Bitzan brought the ball down the court on this possession for the Chargers when they played W-H-N.

Boys play Ashby to end regular season

The Brandon-Evansville boys basketball team closed out the regular season March 1 at Ashby.

The Chargers led by as much as 20 in the contest holding a 33-18 halftime lead.

In the second session the Arrows got their shots to fall as they managed to outscore B-E 42-27 to force an overtime period.

In the overtime the Arrows outscored B-E 10-8 for a 70-68 Little Eight Conference win.

“We shot 16 of 29 from the free-throw line. That doesn’t win basketball games. We let Ashby dictate the pace and physicality of the game throughout the last 10 minutes of the game. They deserved to win. Congrats to their four seniors on fantastic careers,” said B-E Coach Trent Hintermeister.

Micah Fuller led the Chargers in scoring with 21 points while Colton Breitreutz had 12 for the Chargers.

Jake Norby scored 21 for the

Arrows with teammate Richie Johnson getting 13.

Riley Perleberg led B-E in rebounds with nine.

The Chargers end the regular season at 12-14. The team was seeded No. 3 for the sub-section tournament and will take on Ashby in Evansville at 7 p.m. March 7.

Ashby 70, B-E 68				
	1	2	OT	T
B-E	33	27	8	68
Ashby	18	42	10	70
Player	Pts.	Rbs.	Stls.	Asts.
Micah Fuller	21	6	2	0
Riley Perleberg	8	9	1	2
Bryce Froemming	1	1	1	0
Tanner Riedel	0	3	0	0
Gracin Klimek	5	0	0	0
Carter White	3	0	0	1
Jaxon Gackle	6	2	0	0
Lucas Fuller	5	3	2	1
Colton Breitreutz	12	6	2	3
Dustin Gillespie	7	7	1	2

Rustan finishes second at state wrestling tournament

Four members of the boys WCA-Ashby-Brandon-Evansville wrestling team took part in the state tournament last week.

Lucea Wales represented the Knights in the girls state tournament.

On the boys side Will Rustan placed second at 285 pounds. He lost to Keegan Kuball of WEM-JWP in the title tilt 7-2.

In the first round Rustan defeated Jasen Janson of Quad County 13-1 and then defeated Jaren Winselman of Adrian Area, 11-6.

Own Gruchow competed at 127 pounds placing sixth. He defeated Carson Othoudt of Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial Area 8-2 and then defeated Wyatt Novitzki of Holdingford by pin in one minute, 56 seconds. He then lost to Devin Carter of Tracey-Milroy-

Balaton-Westbrook-Walnut Grove, 9-0.

In the wrestle-backs Gruchow lost to Carson Metrly of WEM-JWP and then fell to Novitski in the fifth-place match, 12-3.

Adam Lohse at 145 pounds lost in the first round to Gavin Johnson of Kenyon-Wanamingo at 5:23 and then lost to Sam Drietz of Canby, 7-0.

Jaremy Blascyk competed at 189 pounds. He lost to Nick Wagner of Canby, 8-1 in the first round and then lost to Hank Meyer of Kimball Area 10-0.

Wales lost to Kamdyn Sauter of Rosemount at the one-minute mark in the first round. She then defeated Raya Koski of Hopkins by pin in 2:37. In the fifth-place match she lost to Chloe Berg of Chatrfield in 51 seconds.

Charger boys are seeded No. 3 for South Sub-Section tourney

The Brandon-Evansville boys basketball team was seeded No. 3 for the Section 6A South Sub-Section tournament. The Chargers will open play against No 6 seeded Ashby on Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. in Evansville.

The other seedings for the South sub-section include 1. WCA, 2. B-B-E, 4. Hancock, 5. Border West, 7. Benson, 8. Parkers Prairie, 9. Breckenridge, 10. Ortonville.

Other first round games have Breckenridge at WCA; Border West at Hancock; and Benson at B-B-E.

The tournament continues Feb. 9 at Minnewaska High

School for the sub-section quarterfinals with the final March 13 at Minnewaska at 7 p.m.

The seeding for the North is as follows: 1. Henning, 2. Ada-Borup-West, 3. Hillcrest, 4. Park Christian, 5. NCE-UH, 6. Underwood, 7. Battle Lake, 8. Frazee, 9. Lake Park-Audubon, 10. New York Mills, 11. Rothsay.

The North quarterfinals will be March 7 with the final March 9.

The sub-section champions will face off for the overall section title March 15 at the Fergus Falls Roosevelt gym at 7 p.m.

Boys Section 6A South Sub-Section

No. 1 WCA at WCA tMarch 7		
No. 9 Brecken.	6 p.m. Minnewaska March 9	
No. 4 Hancock at Hancock March 7		
No. 5 Border West		7 p.m. Minnewaska March 13
No. 2 B-B-E at B-B-E March 7		
No. 7 Benson	7:45 p.m. Minnewaska March 9	
No. 3 B-E at B-E March 7		
No. 6 Ashby		

The South Sub-Section champion will play the North Sub-Section champion March 15 at 7 p.m. at Fergus Falls Roosevelt gym..

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Minnesota township meetings, elections will be held March 12

Minnesota's 1,777 townships will hold their annual meeting on Tuesday, March 12. Known as Township Day, these annual meetings are held every year on the second Tuesday in March and sets townships apart from other forms of local government. At this meeting, residents of the townships will meet to voice their opinions about local issues with other township residents and also vote directly on their annual tax levy -- direct democracy in action. Citizens attending annual meetings also often discuss and vote on other local issues.

In addition, many of the state's townships will hold their township officer elections on Tuesday's Township Day.

"Township Day 2024 will put grassroots democracy on display. We encourage all residents to show up, express themselves, and weigh in on topics like their tax levy and local elections," said Minnesota Association of Townships Executive Director

Jeff Krueger.

"If you live in a township, please participate in your township's annual meeting on Tuesday, March 12. You can find the location and time by checking the published notice in the local newspaper, township website, or by contacting the township clerk," continued Krueger.

"Townships today include over 900,000 Minnesota residents, and we represent an extraordinary form of local government. Township Day annual meetings are your chance to participate in grassroots government," concluded Krueger.

Information on Minnesota's townships: There are approximately 918,256 township residents in 1,777 townships in Minnesota. Townships exist in every area of the state, including the metropolitan area. Some, with populations of more than 1,000, function in much the same way as a small city. While many town-

ships remain rural agricultural centers, other host a variety of residential, light commercial, and industrial development.

The tradition of Township Day: The tradition of a town meeting has roots in colonial America. New England town meetings gave citizens a way to exercise local authority. Those

Enrollment open for Minnesota's Walk-In Access program

Enrollment is open for Minnesota's 2024 Walk-In Access program, which pays landowners to allow public hunting on private lands.

Since 2011, the Walk-In Access program has enrolled parcels of 40 acres or larger with high-quality natural cover. Land enrolled in conservation programs like the Conservation Reserve Program or Reinvest in Minnesota is preferred, but is not a requirement. The program is currently ten thousand acres under its cap, so there is room to grow within counties that are eligible. Contact your local soil

meetings were especially important in the development of democracy because it emphasized problem-solving through group efforts.

Background on townships: Townships were the original form of local government in Minnesota, established in the

1800s when Congress ordered a survey that divided the Minnesota territory into 36 square mile tracts of land. Today, the term "township" generally refers to public corporations governed by a local board of supervisors and created to provide services to residents.

Access program coordinator.

"Hunters have 29,000 acres of privately-owned Walk-In Access land available to them," Knutson said. "Hunters can have confidence that they're welcome on these parcels."

Participating hunters can access Walk-In Access parcels Sept. 1 through May 31. Hunting laws are enforced by Minnesota DNR conservation officers. Landowners aren't required to purchase additional liability insurance since enrolled lands are covered by recreational use laws under

See OPEN, page 9.

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Minnesota’s newborn screening program now includes Krabbe disease

Minnesota’s Newborn Screening Program began universal screening recently for Krabbe disease. As technology and treatments have improved in recent decades, Minnesota has expanded its newborn screening panel to help detect more disorders.

“Minnesota has one of the most comprehensive newborn screening programs in the country,” said Minnesota Commissioner of Health Dr. Brooke Cunningham. “Adding Krabbe disease to the long list of conditions the lab already screens for will help identify more children earlier, slow the progression of their symptoms and even

increase their lifespan.” Krabbe disease is a rare, genetic condition in which the newborn cannot fully break down certain fats. These fats build up in the body and can lead to damage to the nerves affecting a person’s ability to eat, walk and speak. In the most severe form, infantile Krabbe disease, symptoms can progress to death within the first two years of life.

There is no cure for Krabbe disease, but treatment can help manage symptoms and improve quality of life. Currently, the only treatment is a stem cell transplant, which is ideally performed before a baby identified

with infantile Krabbe disease is 30 days old. Due to the importance of early treatment, the process from screening to diagnostic exams and treatment must move quickly.

Identifying infantile Krabbe disease in newborns allows families to receive early diagnosis and monitoring, education and appropriate medical care. When newborn screening identifies a baby at risk for infantile Krabbe disease, the family is referred by their doctor to metabolic specialists at M Health Fairview, which is currently the only center in the region equipped to perform stem cell transplants in newborns.

In August 2023, Commissioner Cunningham approved the Newborn Screening Advisory Committee’s recommendation to add Krabbe disease to the list of conditions for which Minnesota newborns are routinely screened. Since then, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Newborn Screening Program has been working diligently to prepare for screening by validating a testing method, working with partners across the state.

Since 1964 when Minnesota started screening for PKU (phenylketonuria), blood samples from all Minnesota newborns have been sent to MDH’s Public

Health Lab for screening unless their parents opt out. The lab now screens all babies born in Minnesota for more than 60 conditions.

In 2023, the lab screened more than 60,400 newborns from across the state and recommended early intervention and treatment for conditions detected in about 400 of them. When a condition is detected, MDH contacts the child’s health care provider to discuss the result, educate them about the condition and review the recommended follow-up.

More information about newborn screening is available on the MDH website at Newborn Screening Program.

March skies feature winter constellations

By Deane Morrison

In March the iconic winter constellations come out in the south to southwest at nightfall. If you haven’t seen them yet, grab a star chart and enjoy everything from brilliant Sirius, at the bottom of the array, to aloof and majestic Capella, which caps the assembly.

Compare these stars to Jupiter, the beacon to the west. To the east, the spring constellation Leo, the lion, rears up as if preparing to drive the winter stars westward. Watch the waxing moon pass Jupiter on the 13th and the Pleiades star cluster on the 14th. The evening of the 18th, the moon will be close to Pollux, the brighter Gemini twin.

On the 16th, we get the highest first quarter moon of the year. This is no random event; at the spring equinox the Northern Hemisphere tilts most strongly toward the position of a first quarter moon. Conversely, on the 3rd a very low last quarter moon will appear in the southern predawn sky close to Antares, the red heart of Scorpius.

Both quarter moons make good objects for binocular viewing. Being so low, the last quarter phase will be easier on the neck muscles. However, it rises in the middle of the night and sets—depending on your location—approximately eight hours later, whereas the first quarter moon rises in mid-morning and is up for about twice as long.

The moon becomes full at 2 a.m. on March 25. Most of this full moon will pass through Earth’s penumbra—our planet’s light outer shadow. The penumbra will be hard to detect from Earth, but if you were on the moon you’d be watching a partial eclipse of the sun.

Spring arrives with the equinox at 10:06 p.m. on March 19. At that moment the sun crosses the equator on its journey north and Earth will be lighted from pole to pole.

Public notice

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: September 27, 2018

MORTGAGOR: John J Laber and McKinzie Laber, Husband and Wife.

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, its successors and assigns. DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded September 28, 2018 Douglas County Recorder, Document No. 404236.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp. Dated March 25, 2022 Recorded March 31, 2022, as Document No. A440702.

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

TRANSACTION AGENT’S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: 1006037-9000524251-1

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: Carrington Mortgage Services LLC

MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 609 North McKay Avenue, Alexandria, MN 56308

TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 63-6055-000 and 63-0669-795

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

TRACT A -

That part of the Southeast Quarter of Northeast Quarter of Section 17, Township 128, Range 37, DOUGLAS COUNTY, MINNESOTA, described as follows: Commencing at the SW corner of said Southeast Quarter Northeast Quarter of said Section 17, running thence due North 100 feet, with this point as the point of beginning, running thence due North 150 feet; thence due East 300 feet; thence due South 150 feet; thence due West 300 feet to the point of beginning.

TRACT B -

Outlot A of OAKDALE, Douglas County, Minnesota, according to the recorded plat on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder, Douglas County, Minnesota.

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Douglas

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$161,616.00

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$169,375.79

That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; That no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: August 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM

PLACE OF SALE: Lobby of Sheriff’s Office, 216 Seventh Ave. W., Alexandria, MN 56308

to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys’ fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on February 20, 2024, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

“THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR’S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.”

Dated: June 15, 2023

J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp.

Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.

Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

4500 Park Glen Road #300

Minneapolis, MN 55416

(952) 925-6888

85 - 23-003610 FC

IN THE EVENT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW: THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Publish June 29; July 6, 13, 20, 27; Aug. 3, 2023

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 580.07, the foregoing foreclosure sale is postponed until October 26, 2023 at 10:00 AM at the Lobby of Sheriff’s Office, 216 Seventh Ave. W., Alexandria, MN 56308, in said county and state.

Dated: August 15, 2023.

J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp.

Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.

Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

4500 Park Glen Road #300

Minneapolis, MN 55416

(952) 925-6888

85 - 23-003610 FC

IN THE EVENT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW: THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Publish Aug. 24, 2023

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 580.07, the foregoing foreclosure sale is postponed until January 11, 2024 at 10:00 AM at the Lobby of Sheriff’s Office, 216 Seventh Ave. W., Alexandria, MN 56308, in said county and state.

Dated: October 24, 2023.

J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp.

Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.

Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

4500 Park Glen Road #300

Minneapolis, MN 55416

(952) 925-6888

85 - 23-003610 FC

IN THE EVENT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW: THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Publish Nov. 2, 2023

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 580.07, the foregoing foreclosure sale is postponed until February 29, 2024 at 10:00 AM at the Lobby of Sheriff’s Office, 216 Seventh Ave. W., Alexandria, MN 56308, in said county and state.

Dated: January 9, 2024.

J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp.

Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.

Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

4500 Park Glen Road #300

Minneapolis, MN 55416

(952) 925-6888

85 - 23-003610 FC

IN THE EVENT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW: THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Publish Jan. 18, 2024

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 580.07, the foregoing foreclosure sale is postponed until April 11, 2024 at 10:00 AM at the Lobby of Sheriff’s Office, 216 Seventh Ave. W., Alexandria, MN 56308, in said county and state.

Dated: February 27, 2024.

J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp.

Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P.

Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

4500 Park Glen Road #300

Minneapolis, MN 55416

(952) 925-6888

85 - 23-003610 FC

IN THE EVENT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW: THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Publish March 7, 2024



JUNIOR BOLTS

The Ashby-Brandon-Evansville Bolts 5th grade girls basketball team took second place in their final tournament of the season at Benson Feb. 24. Front row, left to right: Mya F., Aoife S., Charlie S. and Grace D. Back row, Brielle E., Josie T., Lola T., Abigail S. and Avaya S.

Douglas County tax statements will be sent out at end of March

Approximately 31,000 property tax statements and value notices will be mailed to Douglas County property owners at the end of March.

Local boards of appeal and equalization and open book meetings will begin April 9th and run through April 19th. Appointments are required. Your Valuation Notice will specify the date and location of the meeting for each district. An appeal cannot be made to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization in June unless an appeal was first heard by the Local Board (City or Township) of Appeal and Equalization. The Assessor's office is available by phone or email if you have questions. Note that these meetings cannot take any action on the taxes currently due.

Douglas County Sales and Valuation Summary:

The high demand for housing in the Alexandria area has continued to affect market values. Every district in Douglas County will see an increase in the 2024 values (taxes payable 2025). The number of sales countywide for residential and seasonal residential properties decreased by approximately -19.45 percent while the average sales price increased by roughly 14 percent. Lakefront properties continue to be a hot market with 114 lake sales and an average sale price of \$580,000. This is an increase of 17 percent compared to last year. Based on sales on the chain of lakes, front foot value

increases range from \$400 - \$600 depending on the lake.

Douglas County had 21 ag sales in last year's sales study period (Oct 1, 2022 - Sept 30, 2023). The sales price per AC overall was higher than the market values; properties will see increases to tillable and non-tillable acreage of approximately 14 percent.

Why do values change each year? The Assessor's office uses land and building schedules to value property consistently throughout the county and be relatively close to the sales prices. Sales of real estate are the primary impact to the county's mass appraisal system. With different motivations of buyers and sellers however, it is virtually impossible to value properties at their sales price.

Property taxes- The value put on your property does not directly affect your property tax bill. It is used to calculate your share of the local property tax levy for the year. The levy is the total property tax revenue needed to fund the budgets set by the county, city, or township, and school district. Your property's taxable market value is multiplied by its classification rate to determine its share of the levy. Increasing or decreasing your property's market value does not change the overall amount of property tax collected.

The Tax Statement itemizes the property owner's share of the taxes payable in 2024 and is based on the 2023 assessed

values and classification. The various Local Boards of Appeal listed on the Valuation Notice cannot take any action affecting the tax statement for taxes payable in 2024.

Douglas County offers several convenient ways to pay property taxes. Residents wanting to pay in person need to remember the Auditor/Treasurer's office has moved from the courthouse to the Administration Building at 821 Cedar Street. There is a drop box in the parking lot in addition to one on the west side of the building.

OPEN Continued from page 7

Minnesota state statute.

This program is primarily funded through a Voluntary Public Access grant through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Additional funding sources come through a \$5 surcharge on all nonresident hunting licenses, Walk-In Access validations, and donations made by hunters purchasing deer and small game licenses.

Landowners can sign up for the program at their local soil and water conservation district office or by contacting Amber Knutson at 507-706-6172. More information is available at the Minnesota DNR's Walk-In Access webpage.

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UMM participating in program for a 3-year bachelor's degree

By Sue Dieter

For the past three years, the University of Minnesota Morris has been one of 13 institutions participating in a nationwide pilot program to create three-year bachelor's degree programs.

Chancellor Janet Schrunk Ericksen is excited to roll out the "Degree in Three" program for the Morris campus. Degree in Three at UMN Morris could save the average student as much as \$20,000 on the total cost of their college attendance.

"The cost of college continues to be a concern. For families and students looking for value along with high quality, the Degree in Three option at UMN Morris might be the perfect fit. With Minnesota's extensive Postsecondary Enrollment Options and College in the Classroom offerings in high schools, a three-year degree is an especially attractive and very manageable option for students."

Around 60 percent of this year's UMN Morris first-year students came in with some college credit. Approximately one-third had more than one semester of credits, and around 20 percent came in with more than one year's worth of credit (sophomore standing or higher).

While cost is one of the advantages, there are other reasons to consider the Degree in Three option.

Students may want to start a graduate program or enter the workforce sooner, or they may simply want to have room for more of the experiences that employers have noted they consider in hiring, such as a longer term internship or study abroad.

Many of the other institutions involved in the "College in 3" pilot program led by Robert Zemsky, a professor of higher education at the University of Pennsylvania, and Lori Carrell, chancellor of the University of Minnesota at Rochester, are rolling out the option for select majors or creating new

programs with revised curriculum. At UMN Morris, Ericksen notes, more than thirty majors have a three-year path, a breadth that to her knowledge no other campus in the U.S. is offering.

"The three-year option will look different for each major, and students may have to take a few summer courses depending on whether or not they come in with credit. But this is a flexible, affordable option for any student and one that includes opportunities for hands-on learning through research, internships, and studying abroad."

The UMN Morris plans allow students to achieve a University of Minnesota degree while working closely with faculty and staff in an environment that stresses critical thinking and problem-solving. And they can do it while still participating in the high-impact experiences that can make a major difference to their future.

Ericksen stresses that regardless of whether a student finishes their education in three or four years, "UMN Morris delivers a top-notch education that prepares students for lives of leadership and service, for graduate and professional school, and for the shifting landscape of work that they are entering."

For more information about Degree in Three at UMN Morris, visit morris.umn.edu/degree-three.

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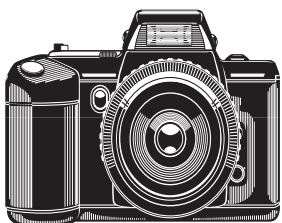
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Housing Stability Act helps renters who use assistance

Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan recently highlighted the Housing Stability Act, legislation that builds on historic investments in housing and ensures Minnesotans are not denied housing because they receive rental assistance.

"This bill makes clear that landlords who choose not to accept renters based on their use of housing vouchers are breaking the law," said Lieutenant Governor Flanagan. "Housing vouchers provided me with a safe place to live as a child, and we know that housing stability is the foundation of educational growth, stable employment, health, and safety. That's why every Minnesotan deserves access to stable housing without discrimination."

The Housing Stability Act clarifies the state's civil rights law to ensure that landlords cannot refuse to rent to or

Public notice

CERTIFICATE OF
ASSUMED NAME

ASSUMED NAME:

Lucky Penny Ranch

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:
5659 County Road 34 NW, Alexandria, MN 56308.

NAMEHOLDER(S):

Lucky Penny Ranch, LLC, 5659 County Road 34 NW, Alexandria, MN 56308.

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. Jennifer Klecker
Publish Feb. 29; March 7, 2024

Public notice

CERTIFICATE OF
ASSUMED NAME

ASSUMED NAME:

Geyer Rental Service of Alexandria

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:
1405 N. Nokomis Street NE, Alexandria, MN 56308.

APPLICANT(S):

Hilltop Lumber of Glenwood, Inc., 1405 N. Nokomis Street NE, Alexandria, MN 56308.

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. Brian Klimek
Publish March 7, 14, 2024

otherwise discriminate against someone because they receive and use rental assistance to pay their rent.

Public notice

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

DISTRICT COURT

SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

[PROBATE DIVISION]

Court File No.: 21-PR-24-266

In Re: Estate of

Nicholas Joseph Montague,

Decedent.

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on April 8, 2024 at 4:00 pm o'clock, a hearing will be held in this Court at the Douglas County Courthouse, 305 Eighth Ave W, Alexandria, Minnesota 56308, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of Decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of Katherine Montague, whose address is 1610 Jasmine Drive, Alexandria, MN 56308, as personal representative of the Decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the Decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; to sell real and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the Decedent's estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

This is an administrative hearing and your appearance is not required.

BY THE COURT

Dated: 2/28/24

/s/Timothy Churchwell

Judge of District Court

Kim Peterson

Court Administrator

Velde Moore, Ltd.

Christopher W. Huether

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1118 Broadway

Alexandria, MN 56308

Telephone: (320) 763-6561

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ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
Publish March 7, 14, 2024

"In 1973, Minnesota legislators decided it is a violation of the Minnesota Human Rights Act for a landlord to discriminate against someone because they pay their rent with rental assistance. For over 50 years, our Department has enforced that law," said Minnesota Department of Human Rights Commissioner Rebecca Luce-ro. "In 2010, a Court of Appeals case misapplied the Minnesota Human Rights Act with regards to housing vouchers – now is the time for legislatures to fix the law and get this right."

"Getting help to afford housing shouldn't disqualify you from renting the place you want to live, but that is happening too often," said Director of the Metropolitan Council's Housing Redevelopment Authority (Metro HRA) Terri Smith. "This bill ensures that families who receive housing vouchers can find a place to call home and have an opportunity to live near better jobs, high performing schools for their children and begin to thrive in other areas of their lives."

"Providing long-term rental assistance is a win-win situation for the renter and the property owner. The renter has stability in their housing, and the owner receives a guaranteed payment," said Minnesota Housing Commissioner Jennifer Ho. "Last year the state legislature created approximately 5,000 more vouchers. Now is the time to make sure properties accept eligible applicants and don't discriminate based on source of income."

In 2023, Governor Tim Walz signed into law the largest single investment in housing in state history. The \$1.3 billion investment includes an estimated \$124 million in rental assistance for Minnesotans. With these funds, Minnesota is anticipated to help about 5,000 community members and their families pay for their rent through housing vouchers.

State budget situation improves slightly with latest forecast

Peter Callaghan
MinnPost

Minnesota's budget situation improved slightly recently when an updated economic and revenue forecast was released by state economists.

That doesn't mean that Gov. Tim Walz and DFL leaders of the Legislature have changed their message about adding spending to the already record

budget adopted last year.

"Caution" remained the buzzword.

Compared to the last forecast in December, the national and state economies are projected to perform somewhat better. That translates into better-than-expected performance of existing state taxes on income, sales and other activities.

The current two-year budget

period set to spend \$70.5 billion will end with a surplus of \$3.7 billion in June of 2025, assuming no additional spending is appropriated this legislative session. That compares to a projection of \$2.4 billion extra in the November forecast.

And the projection for how much money will come in during the 2026-2027 budget period has improved as well. By then, the state will be spending \$66.3 billion over two years - down from the current budget because some of the spending is one-time spending. During that period, the state will collect \$1.5 billion less than it is expected to spend. In November, this imbalance was projected to be \$2.3 billion.

That is termed a "structural imbalance" by budget officials. Is it a projected deficit as Republicans said again Thursday? Did DFLers really go from a \$19 billion surplus in 2023 to a \$1.5 billion deficit by 2025? Yes. And No.

Welcome to the world of budget accounting. Because the state will end the current budget period with extra money - that \$3.7 billion - it can use those funds to supplement what it is projected to collect in taxes to cover what it is projected to spend. By that accounting, the state can cover the bills due in that future budget period.

But without those rollover funds, it wouldn't. Thus the so-called structural imbalance. But until that future budget is approved by a future Legislature, it isn't technically a deficit.

After being lambasted at the

December forecast for the apparent verbal gymnastics over when is an imbalance a deficit, Walz and DFL leaders were prepared to push back.

"Our forecast is good news. Our economy is humming along," Walz said. The programs and spending in the current budget are helping residents and helping the economy, he said.

"The bottom line is we have surpluses. We have responsible spending. We have cut the cost of living for the middle class," Walz said. "We have to have some folks stop rooting against Minnesota. This is positive."

GOPladers remained unconvinced. Senate Majority Leader Mark Johnson riffed on the fact that the forecast was released on Leap Day.

"There's no leaping over it, Democrats' tax-and-spend policies lead to a boom-and-bust budget," the East Grand Forks Republican said. "Democrats continue to entertain more spending this session while state officials urge caution, especially as the looming deficit signals risk to the state's credit rating."

His House counterpart, Rep. Lisa Demuth of Cold Spring, said the forecast shows a deficit despite how budget officials cast it.

Senate Minority Leader Mark Johnson (R) at Thursday's budget forecast. Credit: MinnPost photo by Tom Olmscheid

"You hear structural imbalance but it is definitely going to be a structural deficit going forward," she said.

But all the math changes if the 2024 Legislature increases spending. Every dollar added to the budget now is one dollar less in the surplus and one dollar less to roll over into 2025-26 to cover projected costs.

"The forecast doesn't change our focus for this session," Walz said. "We're focused on imple-

mentation and infrastructure." He'll produce a supplemental budget in a few weeks but urged caution, "because revenues and spending are pretty much in balance."

Because the state's borrowing levels are related to how much it collects in taxes, any increases in the forecast can also allow more borrowing via bond sales to investors. So Thursday's improved forecast also increased the potential size of a bonding bill to pay for construction projects - from \$830 million to \$980 million. The capital construction budget also sometimes include cash in addition to borrowing and this forecast could free up some one-time spending on construction.

House Speaker Melissa Hortman was more clear about new spending.

"We have our eyes on that structural imbalance in the tails," the Brooklyn Park DFLer said, referring to the 2025-2026 budget period. "I do not foresee making any commitments to spending that we can't pay for."

Speaker Melissa Hortman (DFL) and Senate Majority Leader Erin Murphy (DFL) at Thursday's budget forecast. Credit: MinnPost photo by Tom Olmscheid

One spending area that could get some attention with these numbers is an emergency infusion of \$120 million into emergency services in Greater Minnesota. That one-time spending is being requested by ambulance and EMT providers. But requests such as increasing the income levels for child care subsidies is less certain.

Budget officials attribute the slight improvement in the forecast to enhancements to predictions of gross domestic product nationally. That broad measure of the economy has been increased due to actual economic growth and expectations that it will continue as inflation - and interest rates - come down.

The state's corporate franchise tax - and increased corporate profits in the state - is driving most of the increased tax collections.

"The outlook for the national economy continues to improve," said Erin Campbell, the commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget. Unemployment is also expected to be better than the national average. While that can lead to pressure on businesses to pay higher wages to attract workers, she said she doesn't expect it to affect inflation.

The state also has a Rainy Day savings account and other cash-flow accounts that hold \$3.3 billion.

But she, too, said spending this year could make the numbers worse in 2025.

"Minnesota remains on very solid fiscal footing," she said.

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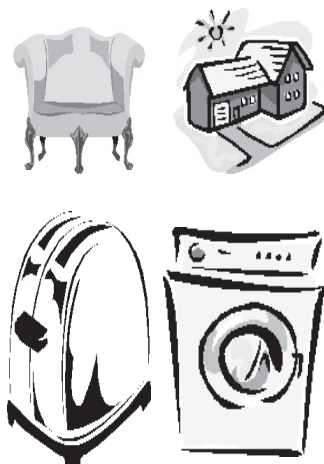
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NEW LIONS
On Feb. 12 two new members were inducted into the Evansville Lions Club. Above, left to right are: Evansville Lions member Ron Buse, new members Joni and Jeff Lipinski with their daughter Lillian, and Lions District Governor Sue Kulbelk. The new members were inducted at a joint meeting of the Evansville, Ashby and Brandon Lions clubs held at the Ashby American Legion Hall. The Lipinskis own and operate Schatzi's Restaurant in Evansville.

Mitch Lawler named 2023 CO of the Year

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officer Mitch Lawler has been named the 2023 DNR Conservation Officer of the Year, an annual award presented to an officer for outstanding overall career performance. Col. Rodmen Smith, director of the DNR Enforcement Division, presented awards to Lawler and four other officers last month at Camp Ripley.

Lawler works the Alexandria station, where he's been since joining the DNR in 2012. Before that, he was a sheriff's deputy in Mille Lacs County. The Alexandria station includes an abundance of water bodies and public lands, which means people are out recreating year-round. Lawler also speaks frequently with community groups, school classes and students taking part in all-terrain vehicle, firearms and snowmobile safety training classes. In addition to his regular duty as a conservation officer to protect Minnesota's people and natural resources, Lawler spends time every year training the state's newest conservation officers and is active on the Enforcement Division's team that works to recruit new conservation officers.

"Mitch is the epitome of what we look for in a conservation officer and is extremely deserving of this recognition," Smith said. "He understands the unique position conservation officers hold in their communities and is a positive reflection not just of the Enforcement Division, but the department as a whole."

Lawler also was named the 2023 Minnesota Wildlife Officer of the Year by the Shikar Safari Club International and received the 2023 Law En-

forcement Award from the Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Other Enforcement Division honorees include:

Boat and Water Safety Achievement Award – CO James Fogarty

CO James Fogarty, who is stationed in Prior Lake, is a leader in the Enforcement Division when it comes to keeping people safe on the water. He's been a CO since 2016 and is a consistent presence on waters in his area as well as on the busiest lakes and rivers throughout the state.

"James is a solid all-around conservation officer, but he really shines when it comes to educating people about staying safe on the water and removing people who operate watercrafts while under the influence," Smith said. "He does an excellent job on his busy station waters, including Prior Lake, but also routinely works some of the state's busiest lakes and rivers."

Waterfowl Enforcement Achievement Award – CO Mike Fairbanks

CO Mike Fairbanks, who is stationed in Deer River, has been a CO since 2005 and works with his K9 partner Fennec. It's common for hunters to see the two of them early and late in the day, and in the hard-to-reach areas that waterfowl hunters often target.

"Mike is well-known to the waterfowl hunters in the area he patrols – whether because he's checked them in previous seasons, provided them tips for having a successful hunt, or coached or mentored them in the past," Smith said. "It takes dedication to be a good waterfowl enforcement officer,

and Mike is among the best of the best."

Willard Munger Wetlands Achievement Award – CO Andrew Goodman

CO Andrew Goodman, who is stationed in Perham and has been a CO since 2018, places a high priority on investigating and resolving complaints and violations related to the wetlands and water resources in his area.

"Regulations surrounding wetlands and waters tend to be complex and include a number of agencies," Smith said. "However, protecting these precious resources is important to the people of Minnesota and, as such, is an extremely important part of conservation officers' work. Andrew is dedicated to that work and is very deserving of this award."

Enforcement Education Achievement Award – CO Marc Johnson

CO Marc Johnson, who is stationed in Hibbing and has been a conservation officer since 2019, is active not only in speaking at safety training classes, but also in ensuring the volunteers who deliver the safety training program have everything they need. He works tirelessly to provide outdoor safety education to youth and adults. He's also active in training his law enforcement peers to ensure they have the knowledge they need to stay safe while doing their jobs.

"Marc has always prioritized the safety aspect of his job as a conservation officer," Smith said. "There's no doubt the people who recreate outdoors and the law enforcement personnel who protect public safety in Minnesota are safer because of his efforts."



Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney

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