GRESCENT Hills • Steen • Beaver Creek

Thursday

December 10, 2015 Volume 21, Issue 50

•Bolte's love for ceramics pg 3 •H-BC girls win basketball opener pg 4

Crescent editor is 'Educator for a day'

By Glenda McGaffee

H-BC Elementary Principal Jason Phelps approached me a couple of weeks ago and asked if I would be an Educator for a Day during National Education Week Nov. 16-20.

I pondered his question and after some thought said, "Yes. It sounds like a fun and exciting experience."

When I was younger, I thought my life-long profession would be a teacher. Living on a farm and having siblings who were older, I spent a lot of time playing by myself, and playing teacher was a fun pastime.

It would also give me a taste of what my youngest daughter, Samantha, experiences every day as a special education teacher in Marshall.

Principal Phelps informed me I would be teaching the third-grade class and accepting the responsibility of teacher Angie Blosmo. State regulations require the teacher to be present in the classroom with me.

I entered the classroom with anticipation of what my day would be. The students were told the day before they would have a substitute teacher. As the students entered the room, I recognized a number of them as some were my piano

Blosmo had the schedule printed out for me, and I was in cnarge of the 29 students.

I decided to begin the day the way I remember back many years ago when I was a thirdgrader in the Hills Elementary School and my teacher was Jean Hanson.

I thought Mrs. Hanson was the kindest teacher I ever had and have fond memories of her classroom. So we started the morning by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The students stood with their hands

Educator for day/see page 2



Hills celebrates holiday Appreciation Day

Monday, Dec. 7, was Hills Appreciation Day at the American Legion Hall in Hills. The event was sponsored by Helping Build Communities Stronger and the businesses in the Hills, Beaver Creek and Steen area. Annette Elbers, representative for HBCS, said about 320 people attended the event. Santa Claus also made an appearance.

Pictured are representatives of the area businesses and HBCS who assisted with the event. They are (front, from left) Annette Elbers, Connie Wiertzema, Aaron Erickson, Kris Frerk, Santa Claus, JoAnn Roemen, (back) Keith Elbers, Bob Walraven, Shirley Flanagan, Mary Rauk, Marcy Fogarty, Laura Weinacht and Trista Bosch.

County Board tables sheriff request for more deputies

By Mavis Fodness

The decision to add up to two full-time deputies to the Rock County Sheriff's Office was put on hold until next year.

At their Dec. 1 meeting, commissioners tabled any increases to the sheriff's office budget for 2016. The topic will be addressed again during budget talks for

In October Sheriff Evan Verbrugge asked for a \$30,000 increase in next year's departmental budget.

The monies would have paid for the annual software and service of computers for the computer-aided dispatch (CAD)

system yet to be installed in his than \$200,000. department's squad cars.

\$30,000 grant from the state's Court Technology Fund Advisory

For several years the commissioners have considered funding the installation and hardware for the CAD system.

The system allows deputies to access network information in the squad cars that traditionally is relayed by dispatch personnel to the officers. The CAD system would also allow officers to complete reports in the field.

The CAD system costs more

Verbrugge has also applied Last week the sheriff's defor an in-squad computer grant. tment received a one-time Thegrantshavebecome available in response to implementing the CAD system statewide by July 2016.

"The courts are getting away from paper," Verbrugge ex-

Commissioners along with Verbrugge supported adding additional sheriff deputies instead of the CAD for 2016.

The CAD system is seen as streamlining an officer's paperwork responsibilities; however, a more immediate concern is reducing overtime expenditures

versus reducing an officer's workload.

"If you break it down — all shifts, 10 people — not counting Evan ... it's less than one call per shift on average," said County Administrator Kyle Oldre.

The Sheriff's Office averages 4,000 hours in overtime for a yearly average cost of \$130,000. The extra hours primarily cover the shift openings created by vacations, sick leaves or officer trainings.

Part-time deputies have been used to cover shift openings, but many have left for

Sheriff request/see page 3

weather **REPORT**



NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 5 WEATHER

High temperature for the week: Low temperature for the week: Average temperature for the week:

Snow amount for the week: Snow total for December:

2.25 in 2.25 in

507-283-2333 www.hillscrescent.com hceditor@star-herald.com

Educator for day/continued from page 1

over their hearts and recited the words, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

I decided to eat lunch with the students and enjoyed the meal with my second-grade neighbor, Isabell Wysong. I love visiting with kids and listening to their perspectives on life.

I asked Blosmo if students still learn the art of cursive writing, which is something I recall learning in third grade. She informed me third-graders have their first encounter with Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment testing, so emphasis is placed on reading and math. I recalled how some of the residents in the nursing home where I'm also employed have some of the most beautiful writing touches.

Something that amazed me throughout the day was how teachers have to teach all levels of students in one classroom. Just imagine if a doctor, lawyer or dentist had 28 people in his office at one time, all of whom had different needs, and some of whom didn't want to be there and were causing trouble, and the doctor, lawyer or dentist, without assistance had to treat them all with professional excellence for nine months. He might then have some conception of the classroom teacher's job.

These students in the classroom are the future — a future with the potential for good or bad.

In the spirit of gratitude and



Educator for a Day Glenda McGaffee is pictured with the third-grade class at H-BC Elementary in Beaver Creek Thursday, Nov. 17.

appreciation we should thank our teachers not only during National Education Week but every day.

I learned firsthand the

amount of time and patience every teacher devotes to his or her classroom, to the students' parents and mostly to the students themselves. Teachers are teachers 24/7 and it's one of a handful of jobs that are more than a job. Teaching is more like a lifestyle.

Teachers can refer to them-

selves as teachers, all of the time, every day, all day. There is a saying that "those who can't do, teach," yet really teachers have to be prepared to do many things — teach students, educate and advise parents and students to nurture, create, listen, comfort and learn.

Teachers do not choose this job to get rich or famous. They choose this job because they love it and the kids. Teachers know that the sacrifices they have made, money they have spent and hours dedicated outside the building are molding the younger generation to grow up to do big things.

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Hills-Beaver Creek Public Schools Lunch Menu:

Monday, Dec. 7: Tater tot hotdish, green beans, mixed fruit, bread.

Tuesday, Dec. 8: Chicken patty on a bun, glazed carrots, pineapple.

Wednesday, Dec. 9: Pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, pears, bread.

Thursday, Dec. 10: Chicken and rice hotdish, peas, mandarin oranges, bread.

Friday, Dec. 11: Taco haystacks, creamed corn, peaches, bread.



Meet Your Neighbor - Bruce Bolte



By Glenda McGaffee

BB's Brush Works is the name of Bruce Bolte's ceramic business located in the basement of his home on 409 Josephine Avenue in Hills.

This fall Bolte attended craft shows at Holy Cross and St. Lamberts Church in Sioux Falls and Grand Falls Casino near Larchwood, Iowa. The most popular wares he sells are for Halloween and Christmas.

Bolte attributes his love of creating ceramic and pottery items to his mother, Inga Bolte, who enjoyed doing crafts.

Bolte said, "I enjoyed art class creating pottery and ceramic items in high school. I took classes at Minnie's Mud Hut in Luverne in the late 1970s and '80s. When the family had her estate sale, I purchased some of her supplies."

The definition of ceramics is "things made from materials which are permanently changed when heated." For example, clay has chemically bonded water in it, which will cause it to slake down (disintegrate) when a dried clay object is put in water.

Bolte buys some of his greenway already molded but makes a number of the molds himself because of cost factors. He has a kiln that is a thermally insulated chamber type of oven that produces temperatures hot enough to complete the process of hardening, drying or chemically changing his projects.

Once heated (fired) to between 660 degrees and 1470 degrees, the clay is converted to ceramic and will never dissolve again.

The word "ceramics" is derived from the ancient Greek word keramos, which referred to potter's clay and the objects made from it.



STOP and look here. This home features 3 bedrooms on the main level a large living room - massive kitchen dining are with hardwood floors and a Main floor laundry with cabinet and counter space that you will love. The home has a large open basement area that would make a great future family room. Hardwood floors are found through out the home with Carpeting in the Bedrooms and living area. The home features sliders to a wooden deck and there is an additional patio area behind the garage, large corner lot. The garage is an oversized two stall attached. It's a wonderful home waiting for your family.



This is a absolutely beautiful 2-bedroom home that has all the updates and improvements, Large living area, Very nice eat-in kitchen, HUGE bathroom, Large bedrooms, partially finished basement w/ family area, 3rd bedroom (Not Legal), Garage and the most beautiful yard you ever seen a MUST SEETO APPRECIATE IIII





BB's Brush Works is the name of Bruce Bolte's ceramic business located in the basement of his home on 409 Josephine Avenue in Hills.

When Bolte places his ceramic items in a kiln, the clay goes from a soft totally fragile substance to one that is rock hard and can withstand water, wind and time. He bakes the items for nearly six hours.

When asked how long it takes to make an item, Bolte said, "It depends on the project. A snowman, for example may take three days."

He prefers using a dry brush instead of glazing. He enjoys the tiny tinkering work on the items — for example, the eyes, which he says are very important.

Bolte won a Reserve Champion Ribbon at the Rock County Fair and a trophy at the WA-MI DAK Ceramics Association. When asked if he ever considered teaching classes he said, "No, I don't have time." Bolte works full time at Golden Plump in Luverne.

Sheriff request/ continued from page 1

full-time positions after completing the necessary training and working on their own for a couple of months.

"We have done that 14 times in nine years," Verbrugge said.

The cost for one full-time deputy, a squad car and equipment is estimated between \$80,000 and \$100,000.

The additional full-time deputies could save on over-time hours but would not eliminate the overtime expenses completely, Verbrugge said.

Chairman Ron Boyenga recommended tabling a decision on hiring deputies until next year, after the state's 2016 legislative session is completed.

"Next year there are some proposals before the Legislature that could give us a fair amount of extra funding," Boyenga said.

The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) is advocating for \$30 million in additional support in county program aid. Under the proposal all 87 Minnesota counties would receive \$350,000 in tax base equalization aid.

Because the equalization is based on land values, Rock County wasn't previously eligible for this tax base aid due to its high land values.



Antiques, Collectibles, Beer Signs, Furniture, Household, Guns, Outdoor & Misc. **Saturday December 12, 2015 10:30 am**

American Legion Building, Hills, MN

Grace lived to be 97+ years old and has many things that have been in the family for years with many items that belonged to her parents. There are many antiques and collectibles that won't be discovered until sale date. You don't want to miss this auction.

ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLE FURNITURE: Oak serpentine front dresser, Glass ball footed table; Wooden bed frame; Old steel bed frames; Sofa & chair; Large harvest dining room table w/ 7 leafs; Dressers w/ mirror; Curved glass curio cabinet; China hutch; Many old chairs; Fainting couch; (2) Library Table; Kitchen table w/ chairs; Wicker rocking chair; Wicker plant stand; Wooden high chair; Wooden rocking chair; Plant stand;

ANTIQUES, GLASSWARE & POTTERY: Hohner concertina button accordion; Hohner Corona II concertina button accordion; Mantel Clock; Minnesota Gophers wool blanket; Watt bowls, salt & pepper shakers etc.; Depression glass; Crystal glass; Hand painted dishes; Ruby red cream & sugar bowl (George, IA); Gold metal flour bowl; Winkler honey can; Tabacco cans; Nash coffee can; Nash coffee canister; Coffee cans; Kyoto gold wheat china set (new and in box); Homer Laughlin dishes; Tea cup and saucers; Misc. china pieces; Salt & peeper shakers; Bread pans; Rodgers silverware set; Wooden butter churn; Redwing crocks & jug (2,3,5, 3, 15 gal) Wooden boxes; Parkers Union #25 coffee grinder; Cream Cans; Egg pails; Picture frames; Wooden sled; Copper boiler; Cigar boxes; Nail kegs; Coo-Coo clock; Cookbooks; Lard cans; Camel back trunks; Rinse tubs; Enamelware; Pic Nic basket; Dust pan; Cotton dresses; Baby shoes; Baby buggy; Syrup cans; Milk bottles; Kerosene lamps; Toys; Mickey Mouse toy; Books; World Globe; Cast Iron cookware; Luggage; Old newspapers; Typewriter; Ceramic German pipe bowl; Gas cans; Oil cans; Persian area rug; Weigh–Rite scale; License plate; (4) Maytag wringer washing machine; Blue jars of all sizes; Zinc lids Old hand tools; Ray-Boy wood stove. MUCH MORE YET TO BE DISCOVERED.

SIGNS, BEER SIGNS, CLOCKS & LIGHTS: Berg Barn Equipment signs; Royal 58 beer clock; Olympia Beer clock; Pabst Blue Ribbon light; Miller beer clock; Schmidt Beer light; Hamms beer sign; Segrams 7 light; Budwieser Hitch;

MODERN FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD: Tempus Fugit Grandfather clock; Signature chest deep freezer; Panasonic microwave; Microwave stand; Electric roaster; Kirby Heritage II vacuum; Sewing machine; Small kitchen appliances; Canning supplies; General household items

GUNS: Marlin 20 gauge pump shot gun; Remington 760 30.06

TOOLS, LAWN, GARDEN & OUTDOOR EQUIP: Craftsman 18" tiller; Craftsman trimmer; Craftsman leaf blower; Step ladder; Extension ladder; Hand tools, Masonry tools; Garden hand tools; Coolers; Fert. Spreader;

MUCH MISC. TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION

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HELP SAVE THE PLANET. RECYCLE THIS PAPER!



Girls win opener

By John Rittenhouse

The Hills-Beaver Creek girls' basketball team experienced a $successful 2015\text{--}16\,de but when the$ Patriots traveled to Tyler Thursday.

Taking on the Russell-Tyler-Ruthton Knights on their home floor, the Patriots outscored the hosts in both halves of the game to secure a 76-63 victory.

H-BC led by 11 points (34-23) at the intermission before using a 42-40 scoring edge in the second half to clinch a 13-point win.

Avery Van Roekel (29 points, 16 rebounds, four steals and three assists) Sidney Fick (12 points and three assists) and Kourtney Rozeboom (11 points, seven rebounds and three steals) paced H-BC statistically.

Grace Bundesen added seven rebounds and three steals to the winning cause, while Jasmine Lingen added four steals.

H-BChosts Southwest Christian Friday.

Box score

Bos 0 0 0-0 0, Tilstra 0 0 0-1 0, Spath 1 1 1-4 6, Kolbrek 1 0 0-0 2, Lingen 2 0 3-4 7, Fick 5 0 2-3 12, Bundesen 3 0 3-8 9, Gehrke 0 0 0-0 0, Van Roekel 8 1 10-12 29, Rozeboom

Team statistics

H-BC: 27 of 43 field goals (63 percent), 20 of 34 free throws (59 percent), 46 rebounds.

R-T-R: field goals not available, six of 19 free throws (32 percent), 25 rebounds, 40 turnovers.

Panthers stun boys

By John Rittenhouse

The Hills-Beaver Creek boys' basketball team dropped its third consecutive game to start the season Friday in Ellsworth.

Hampered by a cold night of shooting from the field (26 percent), the Patriots were outscored in both halves of the game during a 67-53 loss to the Panthers.

Ellsworth led 29-24 at the intermission before outscoring the Patriots 38-29 in the second half to win by 14 points.

Stuart Plimpton (14 points, 11 rebounds and three assists) and Zach Scholten (14 points and 10 rebounds) paced H-BC offensively.

Drew Forshey led the Patriots with 12 rebounds, while Cooper Vaughn registered four steals and Isaiah Vis three assists.

The 0-3 Patriots host Heron Lake-Okabena Thursday.

Box score

Vaughn 1 0 2-2 4, Burgers 0 0 0-0 0, Vis 3 0 1-2 7, Plimpton 2 1 7-8 14, Bass 0 1 0-0 3, Kueter 1 0 0-0 2, Scholten 4 2 0-0 14, Dr.Forshey 3 0 3-4 9.

Team statistics

H-BC: 18 of 68 field goals (26 percent) 13 of 16 free throws (81 percent), 49 rebounds, 13 turnovers.

Ellsworth: 22 of 34 field goals (65 percent), 18 of 29 free throws (62 percent), 37 rebounds, 13 turnovers.



Mina Sjaarda, Sean Elbers and Weston Kellenberger are all smiles during the Adopt A Grandparent visit last week at the Tuff Home.



Merry Christmas from the Tuff Memorial Home! The trees are up and decorated, lights twinkle in the dining room and sounds echo from the first caroling group — our home is officially ready for Christmas.

I would like to continue the mini-series on gift-giving to your loved one in a care facility. Sometimes money and gift certificates are the easiest gifts to give, yet are still meaningful to the recipient.

Gift Idea No. 3: Beauty Salon Certificate. One of the highlights of our week is the beauty salon. Giving a gift certificate is a simple but meaningful gift. Arrangements can be made at Valocity Studios.

Gift No. 4: Outing Funds. With the suggestion list for outings growing longer, giving the gift of funds for an outing is a special way of creating memorable opportunities.

Gift Idea No. 5: Magazine subscriptions are another great idea.

Residents greeted December with Tai Chi\Sing-along and Bible study with Pastor Fischer on Tuesday. What a joy it is to hear the familiar Christmas hymns return.



Winnie VanderVliet decorates the Christmas tree with care at the Tuff Memorial Home in Hills.

Residents remained in the chapel Tuesday afternoon to decorate the chapel Christmas tree. The combination of red and gold decorations brings elegance to the chapel this Christmas season.

Wednesday morning was spent decorating the Christmas tree in the activity room. Purple and gold accents and bulbs complete the tree. We cannot decide if the theme of the tree is Vikings or royalty, but either way it brings

Christmas spirit to the room. The second group for Adopt-A-Grandparent joined us that afternoon. It was wonderful to hear the kids' questions through the session. I overheard Harold Etrheim share his after-school chore list and compared it to the chores that Oliver, Daniel and Andrew have to do.

Thursday morning a group of residents enjoyed lotion therapy and the Happy Stitchers group met. Happy Stitchers is open to those who enjoy knitting, crocheting, embroidering, sewing, etc. We enjoy sharing our current projects and tips with each other.

As if we were not already in the Christmas spirit, "HO-HO-HO" filled the dining room as residents played CLAUS Bingo that afternoon. Several residents remained after coffee to help decorate the dining room Christmas

tree, which illuminates beautiful blues and silvers — perfect for a long Minnesota winter.

Friday morning residents gathered for a favorite activity that comes once a year — decorating Christmas cookies. A new entertainer, David Peterson, sang classic country and Christmas songs Friday afternoon. And to top off a great day, the delightfully decorated Christmas cookies were served for coffee.

Looking ahead this week:

•Thursday, Dec. 10: 2:30 p.m. CLAUS Bingo.

•Friday, Dec. 11: 2:30 p.m. Ugly Sweater Contest. •Saturday, Dec.12: 9 a.m.

manicures. •Sunday, Dec. 13: 9 a.m.

Worship. •Monday, Dec. 14: 2:30 p.m.

CLAUS Bingo. •Tuesday, Dec. 15: 2:30 p.m.

Bible Study. •Wednesday, Dec. 16: 10 a.m.

Music with Troy Mader. Resident and staff birthdays

this week include Dan Brower,

Dec. 6; Charlotte Korthals, Dec. 12; Riley Boese, Dec. 13; and McKayla Kramer, Dec. 14. Our thoughts and prayers are

with Donna Gallant and her family as she resides at the Hospice Cottage in Luverne.

Have a great week!

Eagles upend H-BC in home opener

By John Rittenhouse

A late rally by the Hills-Beaver Creekboys' basketball team went unrewarded Dec. 1 when the Patriots made their home debut against Southwest Christian.

After falling behind 35-29 in the first half, H-BC battled back to knot the score at 56 late in the game.

SWC's Levi Vander Woude hit an eight-foot shot with 15 seconds remaining to give the Patriots a 58-56 lead, and H-BC was unable to knot the score in the final seconds of a two-point

Zach Scholten (17 points and

six rebounds) and Isaiah Vis (11 points, five rebounds, four steals and four assists) turned in productive nights for the hosts.

Trenton Bass recorded four assists and Drew Forshey came up with three steals for H-BC.

Box score

Vaughn 3 0 0-0 6, Burgers 0 1 0-0 3, Vis 5 0 1-2 11. Leuthold 0 0 0-0 0. Plimpton 2 0 0-0 4, Bass 0 0 0-0 0, Kueter 4 0 0-0 8, Scholten 5 1 4-4 17, Dr. Forshey 2 0 3-4 7, Dy.Forshey 0 0 0-0 0.

H-BC: 23 of 56 field goals (41 percent), eight of 10 free throws (80 percent), 22 rebounds, 25 turnovers

SWC: 17 of 50 field goals (34 percent), 15 of 30 free throws (50 percent), 23 rebounds,

Rock County Children's Fair

"Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus"



Thursday, December 17 5:00 - 7:00 PM **Luverne Elementary School Commons**

FREE Admission FREE Activities

for Rock County children ages 0 to 6 years with their families

Interactive children's activities! Find out about services available in our county for families and their children while children enjoy the activities.

Call 283-4724 for questions. This activity brought to you by the Rock County Early Childhood Initiative (ECI) and programs that serve children and families.



Close the gate By nancy Kraayenhof

I've lost it

I lose things. Well, not really lose, I guess the word is more like misplace. I do this periodically with all sorts of things and I am absolutely frantic until I find them.

I am constantly reading everything I can get my hands on about dementia and losing one's mind because that is how I feel - doomed to a life of mindless wandering around, leaving a trail of lost stuff like breadcrumbs in a forest.

There is something that actually exists called cognitive biases. A cognitive bias is a mistake we make because of a hole in our thinking. It's a sort of mental blind spot; a lot of the time we don't even know we're doing it, but once we become aware of such a bias, we can either just chalk it up to what it is and live with it, or we can make the conscious choice to do what we can to avoid making the same mistake over and over again expecting different results, which is actually the definition of insanity.

There are hundreds of lifehacks (the new word for sugges-

tions on how to do things better/ easier) about how to avoid losing things and also on how to find lost items. Some of these ideas, when consistently implemented, can act as guardrails to keep you on track if you are like me — a constant loser of things.

uuPutitin the same place all the time. Keys go on the key hook by the door. Cell phone right to the charger on the kitchen counter, etc.

Iknowyou're supposed to do this. If I had the where-with-all or the brains to make it a habit in the first place, I wouldn't be losing my stuff and having to look up life-hacks about how to not lose your stuff.

uuUse crazy, really bizarre memory associations. Create a totally ridiculous mental picture of your item and the place you left it. Use some of the age-old (yet proven) elements of substitution, multiplication, action or violence, out of proportion or (best option) off color.

If I can't remember where I put my stuff, how in the heck am I supposed to remember a short fictional story I have to make up on the spot about where I put it?

I don't get it.

uuBefore bed, take off your jewelry and putit into the proper place in ice cube trays to keep it tangle-free and coordinated.

Ice cube trays? I didn't like them when they were full of ice and I had to whack them on the counter to get the ice out. I've had an automatic icemaker for the past 23 years, and I'll be darned if I'm going to go out and BUY ice cube trays to put my jewelry in. That's just demented.

uuIf you are prone to leaving your grocery list at home, take a picture of it with your phone or take pictures of empty boxes or cartons as you go to document what you need from the store.

Great idea but I'm one of those people who misplaces their cell phone on an hourly basis. It just doesn't fit in the back pocket of my jeans. If I put it in the front pocket of my sweatshirt, I inevitably get hot and take off the sweatshirt and forget to take the phone out. It would be handy to put it in the same place all the tim, e but I am never in that place when it rings. Grocery lists are the least of my worries.

uuLose your reading glass-

es? Buy one of the fashionable necklaces with the ring on them specifically for holding your glasses when you're not wear-

My job and swingy jewelry don't jive so my glasses typically live on top of my head like a headband. Between my readers and my sunnies, I think there is actually a permanent dent in my head where they sit. They help keep my fly-aways in check, and, I think, are quite comely and sporty-looking. They do, however, fly across the room when I do a cartwheel, but that doesn't happenalot so it is an acceptable risk. Besides.. reading glasses are only a dollar, right?

uuWhen you lose something, go back and look where you have found it before when you have lost it.

Hmmm. If I had the mental capacity to recall things like that, I probably wouldn't be the big loser of things that I am. Besides, if I found it in the same place all the time, wouldn't that be the same as putting it in the same place all the time and just forgetting where that place is?

uuDon't panic; be logical;

try to remember where you were the last time you had it.

My car keys? I was driving. My cell phone? I was using it, it was in my hand and I wasn't driving. Good advice but not really applicable to the two things I lose the most.

uuAnd the number one way to remember where you put something is to tell someone to remind you of where you put it.

I work with small children so I cannot see this working there and at home the hubster's memory is almost as bad as mine. I guess I could maybe remember better where I put things if I told him and then made a specific crazy image in my mind of how I looked when I told him where I put whatever, but these days I have trouble picturing my normal self so I don't think a crazed look would be bizarre enough to jog my memory. Too close to reality.

I'll life-hack myway through life, forever tempting fate,

I am forever losing things but I always close the gate.

Cleverly Disguised as a Responsible Adult, I'm Nancy Kraayenhof. ©2015

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Ben Clare United Methodist Church 26762 Ben Clare Ave. Valley Springs, S.D. igtwlb@knology.net **Bill Bates, Pastor**

Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship. 10 a.m. Fellowship. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

> **Valley Springs Reformed Church** 701 Sunnyside Ave. Valley Springs, S.D. Ph. 605-757-6640 Norman Bouwens, Pastor

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.

> First Presbyterian Church 201 S. 3rd St. **Beaver Creek** Ph. 673-2428

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship. 9:45 a.m. Sunday School.

Third Wednesdays: 1:30 p.m. Deborah Circle.

First Lutheran Church 300 Maple St. Valley Springs, S.D. Ph. 605-757-6662 firstpalisade@alliancecom.net Ray Heidenson, Pastor

Sunday, Dec. 13: 9 a.m. WELCA Ladies Cookie Wrap. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. 11 a.m. WELCA Annual Meting.

Tuesday, Dec. 15: 7 p.m. Church Council meeting. Wednesday, Dec. 16: 7 p.m. Confirmation; choir practice at First Lutheran.

> **Palisade Lutheran Church** 211 121st St. Garretson, S.D.

Ph. 507-597-6257 firstpalisade@alliancecom.net Ray Heidenson, Pastor

Sunday, Dec. 13: 9 a.m. Worship Service. 10 a.m. Sunday School.

Wednesday, Dec. 16: 7 p.m. Confirmation at First Lutheran.

> **Steen Reformed Church** 112 W. Church Ave. Steen Ph. 855-2336 Reuben Sinnema **Youth Pastor**

Sunday, Dec. 13: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 11 a.m. Sunday School. 6:30 p.m. RCYF.

> **Bethlehem Lutheran Church Interim Pastor Grant Fisher** 112 N. Main St., Hills Ph. 962-3270

e-mail: bethlehemluth@alliance com.net

Saturday, Dec. 12: Youth Group helping with Down Syndrome Christmas party in Brandon.

Sunday, Dec. 13: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Chapel; Christmas Program Practice. 10:30 a.m. Worship at Bethlehem. 7 p.m. Grades 6-8 Youth Night.

Tuesday, Dec. 15: 2:30 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff. 3:15 p.m. Bible Study at the Village.

Wednesday, Dec. 16:9 a.m. Quilting. 7 p.m. Confirmation; Circle of Hope. 7:30 p.m. Grades 9-12 Youth Night.

> **Hills United Reformed Church** 410 E. Central Ave., Hills Office Ph. 962-3254 e-mail: hillsurc@alliancecom.net Alan Camarigg, Pastor

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship Services. Sunday School and Catechism after morning worship. 1st Sunday of each month: Fellowship dinner after Sunday School



Whither-soever By Glenda McGaffee

By Glenda McGaffee

The Christmas season is the most wonderful time of the year. Listening to Christmas music is one of my favorite things to do this time of year along with watching Christmas movies on the Hallmark television channel. I enjoy listening to "A Prairie Christmas" with Jeff Gould on KELO FM radio.

I'm sure many of you are busy getting your Christmas cards ready to be sent out or have already sent them. Have you ever wondered who invented the first Christmas card?

The year was 1842 and a 16-year-old boy, working in a cold attic, sketched a quaint skating scene on a smooth sheet of copper, then he added to it a Punch and Judy show and a banquet scene. He titled this "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," little dreaming his Yuletide greeting would become the most popular one ever composed.

His name was William Maw Egley, an apprentice engraver, and his work on that cold wintry dayin London, England, became the world's first Christmas card.

William's card was a failure commercially. The sedate English were in the habit of composing their Yuletide letters on specially decorated stationery, and they ridiculed this card as "too conventional." But within 20 years Egley's card proved to be the forerunner of a lot of new and colorful Yuletide customs, changing the once solemn holiday into the gay festive occasion we now celebrate.

Louis Prang of Boston produced the first complete line of American Christmas cards in 1875. The first religious cards appeared in Belfast, Ireland, that same year.

Today Christmas cards have become an inseparable part of holiday customs, being exchanged by friends and loved ones every year by the billions in our United States.

This week I have a poem to help us remember the reason for the holiday season.

Facing Christmas

I shall attend to my little errands of love

Early this year,

So that the brief days before Christmas may be

Unhampered and clear
Of the fever of hurry. The

breathless rushing
That I have known in the past

That I have known in the past Shall not possess me. I shall be calm in my soul

And ready at last

For Christmas: "The Mass of Christ."

I shall kneel and call out His

name; I shall take time to watch the

beautiful light
Of a candle's flame;

I shall have leisure — I shall go out alone

From my roof and my door; I shall not miss the silver silence of stars

As I have before;

And, oh, perhaps — if I stand there very still.

And very long —

I shall hear what the clamor of living has kept from me;

The Angels' song!

This week I have two recipes for cookies to try this holiday

Frosted Anise Cookies

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon anise extract
- 2 3/4 cups all-purpose flour 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 can (16 ounces) vanilla frosting

Holiday sprinkles

Cream butter and sugar in a large bowl until light and fluffy. Beat in egg and extract. Combine the flour, baking soda and baking powder; gradually add to creamed mixture and mix well.

Drop by tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart onto ungreased baking sheets. Bake at 375 degrees for 9 to 11 minutes or until cookies are golden brown. Remove to wire racks to cool completely.

Spread cookies with frosting

and decorate with sprinkles. Let stand until set. Store in an airtight container.

Prep time: 30 minutes. Makes: 31/2 dozen cookies.

Jam Thumbprint Cookies

- 1 1/2 cups butter, softened 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup flaked coconut
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1/3 cup apricot or red raspberry preserves

Confectioners' sugar, optional

In a large bowl, cream the butter, sugar, vanilla and salt until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in flour. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 30 minutes or until easy to handle.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place coconut in a small bowl. In a separate bowl, whisk egg and water. Shape cookie dough into 1-inch balls; dip tops in egg mixture, then in coconut, pressing slightly to adhere. Place 2 inches apart on parchment paper-lined baking sheets, coconut side up.

Press a deep indentation in center of each with the end of a wooden spoon handle. Fill with preserves.

Bake 18 to 20 minutes or until bottoms are browned. Remove to wire racks to cool. If desired, dust tops with confectioners' sugar.

Makes about 5 dozen

N/I - - 43 -- ---

Meetings

Beaver Creek Township will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the township hall.

Sound Cascade Sweet Adeline Chorus rehearses at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Prairie Creek, 4400 W. Creekside Dr., Sioux Falls. Call 507-597-6288.

Carnegie extends holiday hours

The Carnegie Cultural Centeris hosting its annual Festival of Trees on North Freeman Avenue and will be open from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday until Christmas.

Christmas at the Palace Dec. 12

Christmas at the Palace will be at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Historic Palace Theatre in Luverne. Admission is \$12 for advanced reserved tickets available at the Palace Theatre Box Office 507-283-4339 (open Monday-Friday from 1-5 p.m.)

CoffeeBreak meets Tuesdays

CoffeeBreak will meet at 9:30 a.m. each Tuesday through April 2 at the Luverne Christian Reformed Church (605 N. Estey St.). The Book of Isaiah will be the Bible study.

StoryHour, a time of play and Bible stories, will be available for children ages 2 through kindergarten, and a nursery is available for the littlest ones.



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Thursday December 17, 2015 Sale Time 10:00 am More Information, Maps & Land Data at www.elbersauction.com

Location of Land: From Steen Corner on Highway 270 go 1 Mile East or from Highway 75 & Highway 270 go 2 miles West on Highway 270. Land will be sold at the farm corner of Highway 270 & 110 Ave. Watch for Auction Signs.

<u>LEGAL DESCRIPTION:</u> West ½ of NW ¼ , Section-28, Twp-101N, Range 45W, Clinton Township, Rock Co. MN.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This is a very productive 80 +/- acre tract that consists of 76.06 acres of tillable acres and 3.94 acres of roadway and ditches. According to Rock Co. Assessors Office this tract has a CER rating of 96.23. Tract does not contain a wetland. Predominate soil types are Splitrock silty clay loam, Whitewood silty clay loam and Marcus silty clay loam.

CORN/SOYBEAN BASE & YIELD: The corn base on this tract is 38.2 acres with a PLC Yield of 1176 bu. Soybean base of 37.7 acres with A PLC Yield of 47 bu. TAXES: Current Real Estate Taxes are \$3630.00. Taxes reflect Non Homestead status. Taxes will pro-rated to date of possession

<u>POSSESSION:</u> Land will be available for the 2016 crop year with possession given on March 1, 2016

TERMS: 15% down (non-refundable) immediately after auction. Buyer will be required to sign a purchase agreement at time of auction with the balance due and payable on or before February 1, 2016 when a clear and marketable abstract of title and warranty deed will be delivered to the buyer. Elbers Auction Service represents the sellers only in this transaction. Property is sold being offered "AS IS" with no warranty given or implied as to the condition or use of property. This property is offered as a cash sale with no financing contingency. Although every effort has been made to the accuracy of information given all potential buyers are encouraged to verify all information given. Property will be offered for sale subject to any easements, restrictions, reservations or right a way easement of record if any. Sale of property is subject to owner's confirmation. Any announcements made the day of auction will take precedence over any printed material. Informational booklets & maps are available on request, by contacting one of the auctioneers or by visiting website at www.elbersauction.com

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: It is a pleasure for us to offer this very attractive tract of farmland for the Teunis Tuene Family and this is an excellent opportunity to purchase a very highly productive tract of farmland that would be a great addition to your current farming operation or as in investment in some prime farmland. If you are in the market for a very desirable tract of farmland you don't want to miss this auction

Teunis & Nellie Teune Family Trust, Owner

Douglas E. Eisma, Attorney for seller

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10 years ago (2005)

•Students who attended H-BC's Little Patriot Academy Preschool performed several Christmas selections at their holiday concert on Tuesday. The students wore holiday hats they created in class and sang 12 selections.

20 years ago (1995)

•Senior cheerleaders Heather Van Wyhe, Jenny Chesley, Laressa Sandstede, and Teresa Bly were awarded Coca-Cola's Unsung Hero Award last week. The cheerleaders were nominated by Dan Ellingson and Steve Wiertzema.

50 years ago (1965)

•The Commercial Club of Hills held its annual meeting Monday evening. 57 members and their wives were present.

Don Toms will serve as president for 1996 and Gerald Hakk will be vice president.

75 years ago (1940)

• "Melody Comes To Town," an all-Hollywood production, will be the main feature at the free show to be given in the Hills school next Saturday afternoon, at the annual John Deere day, sponsored by Sjolseth's Implements.

A special invitation is extended to the farmers of this territory to attend the program.

100 years ago (1915)

ullet The deal was closed last week whereby Nelson & Halverson, the local garage men, sold their building and equipment to Ralph Anderson and E. J. Flessner, both from near Ben Clare, S.D. Possession will be given March 1st. ...

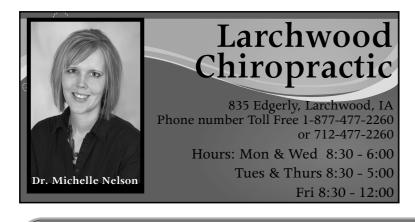
Mr. Ralph Anderson, member of the new firm, needs no introduction to our readers, as he lived in and around Hills all his life, being the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Anderson.



Glenda McGaffee photo/1210 Main Street building

Improvements continue on Main Street building

The building on the corner of Main Street and 2nd Avenue in Hills continues to show improvement. Chris Gannon, who recently purchased the building, is currently removing the tin siding on the building and restoring the brick. Gannon, who owns and operates Transmissions Specialists, plans to do automotive transmission work on specialty sport cars, possibly employing local people. Gannon gutted the inside of the building and is continuing with his plans to preserve the historic structure. This photograph was taken Monday, Dec. 7.







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Education	Division of School Finance 1500 Highway 36 West Roseville, MN 55113-4266			ED-00110-38								
GENERAL INFORMATION: Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.10, requires that every school board shall publish the subject data of this report.												
District Name:	District Number:	671										
FUND	FY 2015 BEGINNING FUND BALANCES		FY 2015 ACTUAL REVENUES AND TRANSFERS IN	FY 2015 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS OUT	JUNE 30, 2015 ACTUAL FUND BALANCES	FY 2016 BUDGET REVENUES AND TRANSFERS IN	FY 2016 BUDGET EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS OUT	JUNE 30, 2016 PROJECTED FUND BALANCES				
General Fund/Restricted	\$	701,128	\$ 369,850	\$ 401,701	\$ 669,277	\$ 317,387	\$ 316,706	\$ 669,958				
General Fund/Other	\$	159,097	\$ 3,444,683	\$ 2,830,874	\$ 772,906	\$ 3,396,526	\$ 3,263,213	\$ 906,219				
Food Service Fund	\$	-	\$ 171,854	\$ 180,936	\$ (9,082)	\$ 153,300	\$ 170,665	\$ (26,447)				
Community Service Fund	\$	40,353	\$ 90,178	\$ 103,087	\$ 27,444	\$ 74,011	\$ 80,809	\$ 20,646				
Building Construction Fund	\$	-	\$ 101,018	\$ 92,355	\$ 8,663	\$ -	\$ 6,645	\$ 2,018				
Debt Service Fund	\$	117,721	\$ 785,820	\$ 853,202	\$ 50,339	\$ 792,185	\$ 744,000	\$ 98,524				
Trust Fund	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Internal Service Fund	\$	-			\$ -			\$ -				
* OPEB Revocable Trust Fund	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
OPEB Irrevocable Trust Fund	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
OPEB Debt Service Fund	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$	1,018,299	\$ 4,963,403	\$ 4,462,155	\$ 1,519,547	\$ 4,733,409	\$ 4,582,038	\$ 1,670,918				
LONG-TERM DEBT	\$	-		CURRENT STATUTORY	OPERATING DEBT PER N SECTION 123B.81							
Outstanding July 1, 2014	\$	10,900,000		AMOUNT OF GENERAL FUND DEFICIT, IF ANY, IN EXCESS OF 2.5% OF			Ś	_				
Plus: New Issues	\$	99,000		E	EXPENDITURES 06/30/201	7	_					
Less: Redemeed Issues	\$	449,000										
Outstanding June 30, 2015	\$	10,550,000			VERAGE DAILY MEMBER							
SHORT-TERM DEBT					AL OPERATING EXPENDIT	\$ 3,269,206.00						
Certificates of Indebtedness	\$	-		FY 2015 TOTAL ADM SERVED + TUITIONED OUT ADM + ADJUSTED EXTENDED ADM				348.21				
Other Short-Term Indebtedness	\$	-		FY 20	15 OPERATING COST PER	\$ 9,388.60						
The complete budget may be inspected upon request to the superintendent.												

^{*} Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

Comments:

classifieds

windows

help wanted

help wanted

misc.

misc.

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EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

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The Rock County Administrator's Office is currently accepting applications for Work Site Supervisor for the Rock/Nobles Community Corrections organization until December 23, 2015. This is a full time position that coordinates community service work site opportunities and schedules and supervises clients at assigned work sites. Job qualifications for this position are a High School diploma or GED, a valid State of Minnesota driver's license with 6-months experience in carpentry, painting and supervision or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities for this position. This is a full time position with full benefits and starting hourly wage range of \$17.00 - \$18.39 DOQ.

To obtain a full job description and an application for this position, please visist county's web site at http://www.co.rock.mn.us/employment.html or contact the Rock County Administrator's office at 507-283-5065. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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