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2007-08 Area Guide Book



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Cover Information

Top photo courtesy of Silver Lake City
All other photos by Brenda Fogarty

The cover illustrates how Main Street in Silver Lake has changed over the last 50 years. At the bottom you see the aquatics center, the lake, and the 2006 Pola Czesky Days coronation.

Publisher

2007-2008 Silver Lake Guide
published by McLeod Publishing,
Inc., Glencoe, Minnesota.

The small city with a big heart

Welcome friends:

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to visit and enjoy our wonderful city. Silver Lake has so much to offer its residents and visitors. For our residents, the city is a small town with many of the big town amenities. Our two elementary schools offer great educational opportunities for our young families.

Our community takes great pride in the fact that we have our own police, fire and ambulance service. It brings great comfort and a sense of security to our residents to know that if ever needed, these services are only minutes away.

During the spring and summer months, there are many activities that range from hiking along the Luce Line Trail, relaxing by our newly completed Bruce Maresh Aquatics Center, enjoying some volleyball, basketball or softball, or even throwing a ringer or two in the horseshoe pit.

New this year is a charitable golf tournament in July with all the proceeds going to the youth fund. And, as always, a great group of volunteers pull together and sponsor the Music in the Park on Thursday evenings, which in turn leads right into our annual



Silver Lake Mayor Bruce Bebo

Pola-Czesky Days celebration the first weekend in August.

If you are fortunate enough to be around for our celebration, you will get to witness almost all of our great organizations in action. Trust me, you will be impressed!

Also, there are many activities that take place during the fall and winter months. Some of those events are the Sportsmen's Club turtle soup feed, a

free-will Thanksgiving dinner for all, a Winter Festival that includes horse-drawn rides, the lake association's golf tournament on ice, the Lions brunch, the ever-growing St. Patrick's Day Parade, the Civic Association's Vegas Night, and the list goes on.

The thing that will jump out at anyone who visits our fine city is the friendliness of its residents. The one word that best describes the people of the City of Silver Lake is volunteerism!

All of those events mentioned above, as well as many of the services, are only possible because of these fine people, and they do it in many different fashions. It ranges from volunteering hours and hours of their time, to donating funds if needed, to even risking their lives on a daily basis so all of us can go to sleep at night knowing that if a difficult situation arises, we are in the best possible hands. No one could ask for anything more than that!

Again, welcome. I appreciate you taking the time to visit Silver Lake, and I hope you enjoy all the wonderful things our residents have to offer.

Sincerely,

**Bruce Bebo, Mayor
City of Silver Lake**



Where is Silver Lake?

Silver Lake is located in McLeod County, south-central Minnesota. It is 50 miles west of the Twin Cities, located on Minnesota Highway 7.



Population: 783

City of Silver Lake

308 Main Street West, Silver Lake MN 55336

320-327-2412

www.cityofsilverlake.org

Welcome to the City of Silver Lake

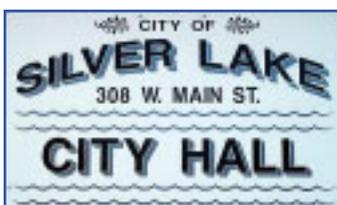
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- ❖ Downtown redevelopment
- ❖ Centrally located between the cities of Hutchinson & Glencoe
- ❖ Economic development
- ❖ Schools, parks, pool

Local Celebrations: Pola-Czesky Days, Music in the Park, St. Patrick's Day Parade, Dairy Days, Winter Festival/Santa Day



City of Silver Lake

PO Box 347, 308 Main St. W.

Silver Lake, MN 55381

320-327-2412 • www.cityofsilverlake.org

Silver Lake City Council



Mayor
Bruce Bebo
217 Summit Ave.
327-3157



Councilman
Karl Wawrzyniak
215 Frank St. NE
327-2276



Councilman
Nolan Johnson
205 E. Main St.
327-2990

Council meetings:
First and third
Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Contact council members
by e-mail:
www.cityofsilverlake.org



Councilman
Dale Miska
140 Main St. W.
327-2778



Councilman
Pat Fogarty
219 Century Lane
327-2541

Other area city councils

Biscay (864-5024): LeRoy Knoll, mayor; Paula Brecht, clerk; Marian Knoll, treasurer; Tom Urban, Dennis McGuire, Dennis Schwanke and Rich Pohlmeier, council members. Meeting: Second Tuesday.

Brownton (328-5318): Curtis Carigan, mayor; Cindy Lindeman, clerk/treasurer; Norman Schwarze, Douglas A. Block, Chuck Warner and Brian Dressel, council members. Meeting: First Tuesday. Fax No. (320) 328-5318

Glencoe (864-5586): Randy Wilson, mayor; Mark Larson, city administrator; Glenn Pohland, Chuck Shamla, Greg Copas, John Schrupp and Gary Ziemer, council members. Meetings: first and third Mondays each month; Fax: 864-6405.

Hutchinson (587-5151): Steve Cook, mayor; Gary Plotz, administrator/treasurer; James M. Haugen, Kay Peterson, Casey Stotts and Bill Arndt, council members. Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesdays. Fax No. (320) 234-4240; e-mail gplotz@ci.hutchinsonmn.us

Lester Prairie (395-2646): Eric Angvall, mayor; Marilyn Pawelk, coordinator/treasurer; Art Mallak, Ron Faust, Larry Hoof and Roland Bruckschen, council members. Meeting: First Monday after first Tuesday. Fax No. (320) 395-2646

New Auburn (864-5831): Roger Becker, mayor; Wendy Becker, clerk, Marlys Becker, treasurer; Catherine Lorenz, Mike Hauan, Elizabeth Frahm and Jim Stark, council members. Meeting: First and third Tuesday.

Plato (238-2570): Bob Becker, mayor; Gwen Werth, clerk and treasurer; Leon Alsleben, Donovan Buckentin, Julie Wischnack and Robert Pflipsen, council members. Meeting: Second Monday.

Stewart (562-2518): Harlin Johnson, mayor; Ronda Huls, clerk/treasurer; Roxanne Burge-Hamm, Wes Holtz, Jason Peirce and Tammy Schaufler, council members. Meeting: Second Monday. Fax. No. (320) 562-2518; e-mail: cityhall@mchsi.com

Winsted (485-2366): Steve Stotko, mayor; Brent Mareck, administrator; Deb Boelter, clerk/treasurer; Bonnie Quast, Tom Ollig, Dave Mochinski and Tom Wiemiller, council members. Meeting: First and third Tuesdays. Fax No. (320) 485-2858; e-mail clerk.winsted@tds.net



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Barbara Dolezal - Proprietor

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Silver Lake city staff

City administration



Kerry Venier
Clerk/treasurer



Jeanne Ray
Deputy city clerk



Silver Lake City Hall, located at 308 Main Street W., houses city police, ambulance and public works staff. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the lobby open until 6 p.m. each day. The city hall phone number is 327-2412.

Public Works employees

Dale Kosek, supervisor
Gary Jerabek

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Silver Lake emergency services

Silver Lake Police

The Silver Lake Police Department is a proactive police department that prides itself on community-oriented policing, with its mission statement being: "To provide public protection from crime and provide services that enhance the safety and quality of life for the City of Silver Lake."

The department consists of a chief, one full-time officer, four part-time officers and five active reservists. Treating everyone in a professional, respectful, and courteous manner is what goes a long way for the Silver Lake Police Department.

Members of the department train and work closely with the Silver Lake Ambulance, Silver Lake Fire Department, and the Silver Lake First Responders.

Roles of the police department include things such as escorts for businesses, checking businesses, security for the public.



The Silver Lake Police Reserve was started in the fall of 1975, assisting the full and part time members of the police department with many things throughout the year. Residents may speak with an officer by calling 320-327-0108, or by contacting the McLeod County dispatch center at 320-864-3134 and leaving a message for an officer. In an emergency, residents are strongly advised to call 911.

Silver Lake Ambulance

Since 1970, the Silver Lake Ambulance has provided the City of Silver Lake, Hale Township and portions of Rich Valley Township with Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance service, responding to approximately 100 calls per year. Approximately 15 to 20 Minnesota certified EMTs staff the ambulance service, providing 24/7 coverage.

The ambulance is a 1995 MedTec on a Ford chassis. Along with the state-required BLS equipment, the service has variances, which allow it to carry and administer several potential life-saving medications.

The ambulance is funded by the City of Silver Lake, Hale Township and Rich Valley Township. In addition, the ambulance staff conducts an annual fund raiser for



additional funding for equipment acquisition.

The ambulance service meets every second Thursday of the month in the Silver Lake Auditorium. Anyone interested in joining the service can contact the Silver Lake City Hall at 320-327-2412.

Silver Lake Fire

For more than 100 years the Silver Lake Fire Department has proudly provided fire and rescue protection to the residents of the city of Silver Lake, Hale Township, and portions of Rich Valley, Winsted and Hassan Valley townships.

With the strong support of the city and townships, the department maintains two pumper trucks, two tanker trucks, a rescue van equipped with the jaws of life, a gamma goat (grass rig) for the fire and rescue activities. The department also maintains a vintage 1932 pumper truck, which is proudly shown in parades.

Silver Lake firefighters are required to attend the basic firefighter course through South Central Technical College during their probationary first year on the department. In addition to their initial training, the firefighters attend drills twice a month and the department holds



monthly meetings.

The department is 28 members strong. In addition to drills and training the department is also active in the schools and the community providing fire prevention training.

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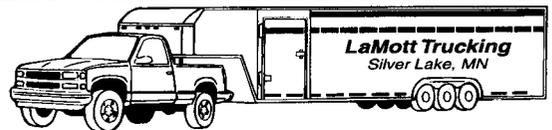
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Despite slow growth, Silver Edge is filling with families

Growth was a bit slow in 2006, but 2007 has had a better start with homes in Silver Edge Estates filling with families.

The second phase of Silver Edge Estates is almost 70 percent filled, with phase three in the planning stages and expected to begin within the next few years.

Phase three includes a playground and possible walking trail. The development also includes a lot for a commercial business opportunity.

The planning commission was appointed by the Silver Lake City Council to oversee land use activities in the city. The zoning administrator has the authority to enforce the zoning ordinances and serves as an adviser and clerk to the planning commission.

The planning committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the lower level auditorium. The meetings are open to the public.

In keeping with the comprehensive plan, city leaders are working to develop an industrial park. The city has looked at the feasibility of an industrial park off of Highway 7.

City leaders feel they need to take advantage of the high traffic volume



The newest residential construction in Silver Lake is on Century Lane by developer David Broll.

of the highway, and that it could be an attraction to businesses to develop there.

Private parties also have approached the council about the possibility of an industrial park off of Highway 7 east of the city.

With the city being centrally located between many big cities, it makes it a nice attraction for potential business opportunities.

The enhancement association continues with fund-raising efforts to enhance the quality of Silver Lake, one of Silver Lake's attractions as a city.

The organization had a fund-raising ice golf tournament in February

2007 and hopes to make it an annual event.

The lake has produced some great fishing, ice and summer angling, and also supplies recreation for winter events.

With the completion of the aquatics center in 2007, it has been a nice attraction to the recreation area on the west end of the city. With tennis courts, volleyball and basketball courts, a softball field and horse-shoe pits, it has become a nice location for a variety of activities,

City organizations also are making efforts to get additional playground equipment that was moved due to the pool expansion.



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- Customer service, 1-800-895-4999

Natural Gas — CenterPoint

- Gas leak-emergency, 1-800-722-9236
- Billing, account set-up, 1-800-245-2377
- Web site, www.minnegasco.CenterPointEnergy.com

City water and sanitary sewer

- New accounts, 327-2412
- After hours emergencies, 864-3134

Telephone — Sprint

- New accounts, 1-800-788-3500
- Repairs, 1-800-788-3600

Mail — U.S. Postal Service

- Most city residents require a post office box to receive mail. Check with postmaster.
- Postmaster, 327-2155

Cable television — MediaCom

- New accounts, 1-800-332-0245
- Repairs, 1-800-422-1473

Refuse/recycling service —

Waste Management

- Refuse pickup each Thursday; recycling pickup every other Thursday
- Recycling bins available at city hall.
- New accounts, 1-800-450-9378

Underground utility location — Gopher State One Call

- Call 48 hours before digging, 1-800-252-1166



Some city ordinances to be aware of ...

The following are some of the more applicable city ordinances that people need to be aware of in Silver Lake:

- Building permits are required in Silver Lake for virtually any type of construction/remodeling project and these include plumbing and heating as well. Permit information can be obtained through city hall.
- Animal control ordinance states that if you have more than two cats or dogs you must obtain a permit through city hall, and if you have pets other than cats, dogs, or indoor caged pets, a permit must also be obtained.
- Silver Lake does enforce parking restrictions for snow removal from November to May each year.
- The city's blight ordinance does not permit anything that may cause a blighting factor within the community.
- Water/sewer utility accounts are handled through the city.

This is not a complete listing of all city ordinances. Feel free to contact city hall at (320) 327-2412 for more ordinance information.



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Silver Lake area day care locations

AdventureCare Daycare

605 Main St. W., Silver Lake
Jen Venier, 327-8445

Carrie's Day Care

121 Cleveland St. SE, Silver Lake
Carrie Chap, 327-2673

Michele's Day Care

108 Century Lane, Silver Lake
Michele Ebert, 327-2834

Little Friends Daycare

217 Frank St. NE, Silver Lake
Sandy Heuer, 327-2756

Pam's Country Bugs

24978 County Road 2, Silver Lake
Pam Bayerl, 327-6541

Little Hugs Day Care

640 Grand Ave., Silver Lake
Stacy Anderson, 327-3067

Faith Child Care

108 Main St. W, Silver Lake
327-6548



Silver Lake's elderly housing options



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A look at Silver Lake's Main Street

By Gail Lipe
Staff Writer

Over the years, Silver Lake's Main Street has seen some major changes. Buildings were constructed and later torn down. New buildings have been built.

The businesses in the community also have seen some changes. The community once had a creamery on the west end of town, and later had two filling stations on Main Street.

There also were several grocery stores at different times, along with a dress shop, a couple of millinery (women's hat) shops and various taverns, hardware stores and dance halls.

Florence Merrill and Dodie Chalupsky, who were both born before 1930, walked through memory lane going east along Main Street.

"At one time, Silver Lake was a thriving community with many businesses," said Chalupsky.

Starting on the south side of the street on the west end of town, the first couple of blocks are filled with houses.

The first business was Jerabeks, followed by the Silver Lake Leader office. Merrill said the newspaper, which was started in 1901, was in that office by the time she married her husband, Delbert.

Chalupsky, who is a life-long resident of Silver Lake, said Mrs. Green had a dress-makers shop that also was a millinery near the newspaper office.

The next business, which is currently Jerabek's Meat and Taxidermy on the southwest corner of Main Street and Tower Avenue, was a store originally owned by F. A. Stibal and sold to Joe Lowy in 1920.

Behind it to the south was a dance hall where meetings also were held, said Chalupsky. The building was the hub of the community for a while.

Across Tower Avenue from Lowy's store was the city hall building, which Chalupsky said was called the "opera house." The 1909 building contained the city hall, a jail and the fire department equipment on the ground level, with a stage and a spacious hall that would fit up to 400 people on the second level. The city hall was torn down and the current fire hall constructed in 1960.



Photo courtesy of Florence Merrill

The above city hall building used to be at the southeast corner of Tower Avenue and Main Street. The 1909 building contained, on the ground level, the city hall, a jail and the fire department equipment. On the second level was a stage and a spacious hall. The city hall was torn down and the current fire hall constructed in 1960.

The building next to the fire hall that currently houses Books & Beans was a tavern that was purchased by Jack Horejsi, who moved into the upper level of the building. Horejsi also had an outdoor dining area.

At one time, the post office was in the building, and there also was a dentist office in the upper level.

A tavern previously sat where the current Silver Lake American Legion building sits. There also was a hardware store in the same area.

The next building was a drug store, and Dr. T.J. Truttna had an office in the same building. Later, the post office was in that building until it moved to its current location.

The first Citizens Bank opened in the next building 1902. In the summer of 1919, the charter was revoked and the doors were closed. Many people lost most of their life savings.

On Sept. 15, 1919, the bank opened under a new charter and a new name, The Citizens State Bank of Silver Lake. It eventually purchased the drug store building and spread into both

buildings.

J. J. Danek's Our Own Hardware store was in the next building, which eventually became the Variety Store and is no longer a business. Danek built the store in 1888.

Between 1912 and 1916, a millinery shop, the newspaper editor's office, a doctor and the telephone switchboard were above the store.

The next building was once the Farmers and Merchants Bank. After it closed during the depression, Charlie Podresky and Louis Ruzicka and his son, Raymond, had a tavern there.

The next business was a confectionary store with some groceries. The store later became an ice cream shop and then a meat market. The building still wears the Zanoths Meat Market sign.

The building that currently houses the post office was a furniture store and a mortuary. A little farther up the street was a tailor, Krejci's candy and general merchandise store and Mal-

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lak's store. The Maresh Funeral Home now sits where those businesses were at the southwest corner of Lake Avenue and Main Street.

By 1897, St. Adalbert's Polish Catholic Church had a small wood-frame building on the corner lot where Mallak's store was, said Merrill. The bell was placed on the top of a 12-foot-tower with a roof over it that was not attached to the building.

When the new church was built in 1889 across the street on the northeast corner of Lake Avenue and Main Street, the old one was moved near it and used for a school.

A new school and convent were built in 1919, but two years later the school burned down. While it was being reconstructed, classes were taught in the church using the kneeling boards for benches and the pews for desks.

The building on the southeast corner of Lake Avenue and Main Street used to house a hardware store. At one time it was a shoe store, then a dry goods store and then Slanga's Hardware. Later, the hardware store was owned by Joe Chalupsky.

Going down Main Street a little more was a feed mill, and then a general store that is now apartments. The next building was a restaurant and then a barber shop, which became a garage and no longer houses a business.

60 years of Silver Lake mayors

Bruce Bebo	2003 — present
Roxy Yurek	1997 — 2002
James Butler	1995 — 1996
Duane Yurek	1984 — 1995
Francis Slanga	1977 — 1984
Leo Kaczmarek	1976 — 1977
Donald Koeppe	1974 — 1976
Joseph Gehlen	1967 — 1974
Henry Shimanski	1965 — 1966
Joseph Gehlen	1957 — 1964
Leonard Kaminsky	1955 — 1956
Henry Hawlish	1951 — 1954
Frank Shamla	1947 — 1950



Photo courtesy of Florence Merrill

Joe and Wencel Chalupsky built the above double-store brick building in 1890, with one running a tavern in one half and the other running a general store in the other. The upper level started as a large hall where many dances were held and later was a dentist office and the telephone company. It was torn down to build the current liquor store.

Going back to the west end of Main Street, the first business on the north side of the road was the Silver Lake Creamery, which was organized in 1897. The original building burned and was replaced in 1914 with a building that is still standing.

Chalupsky said the creamery flourished for years. At one time, she and her husband, Howard, did the book-keeping for the creamery.

The creamery closed in the late 1960s.

Continuing down the street, there are houses until the Catholic church, which began as the Church of St. Joseph, a Czech church, in 1895. The current building was constructed the next year, and later the rectory.

A new parish house was built in 1925, and a school was built in 1930.

In 1969, the schools at St. Adalbert's and St. Joseph's consolidated into one school called Silver Lake Catholic Schools.

East of the school was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ruza. Mrs. Ruza was the lamplighter for the village in the early 1900s. Each evening, she would fill and light the kerosene lamps that were set on posts on the street corners.

There are a few more houses and then the park, which was once part of

a large pasture within the village. The city purchased the property for the park in 1912, and the band stand was erected in 1921, with concerts given each week during the summer.

In 1928, the American Legion purchased additional land for the park and donated it to the city. It also constructed the shelter in the park.

The current Kaz's Auto Service station was Navratil's Filling Station.

A home is next, followed by what used to be an implement dealer and garage. Buick cars and Chevrolet and International trucks also were sold there.

The community building now sits on that property. It was started as a Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) project in 1940, at a cost of about \$40,000.

Continuing east was Frank Shamla's oil business, which was purchased by the city in the 1980s and houses the current city hall.

Next was Nathan Produce, then a shoe repair and a millinery store.

The next building was a large brick building constructed by Joe and Wencel Chalupsky that was split in half. One half had a tavern and the other

City history

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City history

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was a general store. Upstairs, was a large hall that later became a dentist office and the telephone company.

The building was torn down to build the current liquor store.

The next building was Horejsi's butcher shop, followed by a barber shop.

Continuing east is the Presbyterian church, followed by what used to be the parsonage for the church and is now a day care.

Across Lake Avenue is the old St. Adalbert's Catholic Church building, which is now a piano repair business.

Farther down the street are residences, and there used to be another filling station.

To the surprise of many, the city of Silver Lake, which was first known as Fremont, grew faster than its sister city, South Silver Lake, which was located on the south side of the lake.

Both communities sprang up around the lake, with the first settlers in the area being of English or Scottish descent. In 1858, the first Moravian settlers came, and the first Czechs came in 1859.

Bohemians and Poles also came to the area. According to the 1874 census, there were 44 Czech families and two Polish families in Rich and Hale Townships. In addition, there were other nationalities represented.

The beginning of Silver Lake was a few houses in 1874. In 1881, the town



Photo courtesy of the McLeod County Historical Museum

Silver Lake had a concert band that played in the gazebo in the park. It also played other places. This photo of the Silver Lake Concert Band was taken in Mankato in 1926.

site was laid out by John Jerabek, John Mimms and John Totusek, who also bought a store and mill that had been there since 1860. That is when the name Silver Lake started to be used.

Shortly after that, in 1886, the Minneapolis Lyndale and Minnetonka Railroad was picking a route through the area to Hutchinson, and it requested \$6,000 from the people in Fremont to run the railroad on the north side of the lake. The businessmen and the farmers could not come up with that kind of money, so the railroad built a track on the south side of the lake.

A small town, called South Silver Lake, grew up near the tracks, and many people believed it would become the central community in the area, not Fremont. It had three grain elevators, a lumber yard, a saloon, general stores and a millinery shop, along with livestock shipping yards and coal yards.

For years, the passenger train went to Minneapolis every morning at 7:30 a.m. and returned at 7:30 p.m. Horse and buggy buses would meet the passenger trains and take the passengers to Silver Lake.

All mail orders and supplies for the

Silver Lake stores came by freight and express, and were hauled by the livery stable to Silver Lake on flat bed wagons. The government let out contracts to haul the mail to and from the Silver Lake post office, from where it was distributed.

When the Luce Line Railroad went through Silver Lake in 1915, it took over all the railroad business at its new station. Soon afterward, South Silver Lake died out.

The first cemetery in Silver Lake was built in 1867 near Bear Creek, four miles south of Silver Lake, by the Czech Catholics. About seven years later, a small church was constructed next to the cemetery.

The work to incorporate Fremont as Silver Lake began in 1887-1888, but not everyone wanted it. There were more Bohemians and Poles against incorporating than in favor of it.

In the old country, they were governed too much, and they cherished their new-found freedom. They wanted as much freedom as possible.

But many people wanted the saloon license fees that were going to McLeod County to stay in the community. They also wanted police protection.

A vote was held in 1889, with 36 people voting. There were 17 votes for incorporating, 15 against and four disqualified ballots. The city was incorporated, which was recorded with the name Silver Lake at the McLeod County Courthouse on Dec. 23, 1889.

City history

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Photo courtesy of Florence Merrill

The above liquor store is one of the businesses in Silver Lake in the early 1900s.

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Some of the opponents of the incorporation were appeased later by being elected to the first city council.

By 1896, the city had a brewery, saloons, general, hardware and furniture stores, a blacksmith, lumber yard, roller mill, grain elevator, harness shop and wagon maker.

The first post office was constructed in 1889, and the first rural mail delivery began in 1902.

The children of the town who attended public school went to a rural school, District 38, which was not far from the city limits. It became a common school district in 1893 when a four-room schoolhouse was built on the lakeshore within city limits.

Until 1912, high school students had to go to neighboring towns. In 1911, the Silver Lake School started a high school department, and the first graduating class of 5 students graduated in 1914. They had completed two years of education at other high schools. The first class to complete all four years at Silver Lake High School graduated in 1916.

Additions were put on the building in 1921, 1957, 1968 and 1985.

The current Glencoe-Silver Lake Lakeside Elementary School property once had a brewery, built by Wencel Chalupsky, and a flouring mill, a steam-powered roller mill that was built and operated by Anton Dlouhy and John Totusek in 1887.

The mill supplied electricity to the town from 1909 to 1916. Then the electricity was supplied by the Northwestern Power Company, later Northern States Power. The mill was sold to the Silver Lake Public School and dismantled.

Also on the current school property, a community fair was held annually in the autumn from 1920 to 1942. It was organized by local merchants, and there were competitions in various classes of fruits, vegetables, flowers, pantry stores, baking, crafts, grain, chickens and rabbits, much like a county fair.

There also was entertainment, and a midway with four rides. The last fair was held in 1942 because of the war.

Transportation was horse and buggy before World War I. After the war, cars became part of the scene.

Pola-Czesky Days named in 1975



The first Silver Lake royalty was crowned in 1955. In 2006, Abbie Rakow (second from the left) was crowned both Pola-Czesky queen and Miss Congeniality and Heidi Jurek (third from the left) was crowned princess. The junior royalty was Heidi Jurek, left, and Hannah Stifter, right.

By Gail Lipe
Staff Writer

Celebrations including dances, parades, crazy days and carnivals have been a part of Silver Lake's history since the early days.

One celebration that still takes place in August received its name, Pola-Czesky Days, around 1975.

The actual origination date of the festival is different depending on where a person looks. The 25th anniversary was celebrated in 1994, which would mean it started in 1969.

Another source states that it started in 1975 as a preview for the United States Bicentennial to show that the different nationalities were living in harmony in Silver Lake for nearly 100 years.

Royalty has been chosen to represent Silver Lake on and off since 1955, with JoAnn Ardolf chosen as the first queen.

Pola-Czesky Days is currently celebrated the first weekend in August,



One of the highlights of Pola-Czesky Days is the grand parade, which is usually held on Sunday and includes lots of candy.

with the queen being selected on Sunday afternoon following the main parade. The competition includes public appearances, interviews with the judges, writing an essay, an evening gown competition, a talent contest and answering questions at the coronation.

Pola-Czesky Days buttons are sold every year, with the first one being produced in 1976.



Faith Presbyterian Church

Rev. Christina Berry

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" - Psalm 122:1

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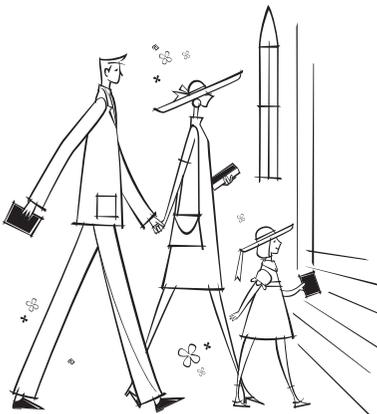
Faith - Main Events!

- Coffee Hour each week after worship
- Presbyterian Women Fall Dinner including Country Store, Annual Quilt Raffle Drawing, Christian Education Candy Sale.
- PolaCzesky Food Stand - offering hotdogs, polish sausage, pop, sno-cones and other treats throughout the weekend!
- Mariner's Music in the Park.



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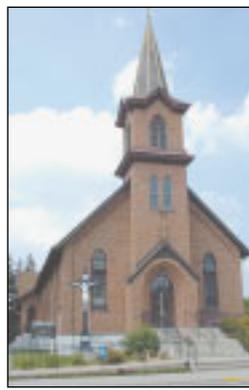
Silver Lake area churches



Faith Presbyterian



Grace Bible Church



Holy Family Catholic

Assembly of God

20924 Highway 7
Hutchinson
Max Myers, pastor
Sunday worship, 10 a.m.

Baptist

Berean Baptist
727 E. 16th St., Glencoe
Paul Friberg, pastor
Sunday worship, 10:20 a.m.
864-6113

Shalom Baptist

1215 Roberts Road SW
Hutchinson
Sam Grozdanov, senior pastor
Adam Krumrie, worship pastor
Sunday worship, 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
320-587-2668
Fax: 320-587-4290
E-mail:
Shalom@hutchtel.net

Catholic Church of the Holy Family

712 W. Main, Silver Lake
Robert Mraz, pastor
Saturday Mass, 8 p.m.; Sunday Masses 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
327-2261

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints

770 School Road N.
Hutchinson
Sunday, 9 a.m.
587-5665

Presbyterian

Faith Presbyterian
108 W. Main St., Silver Lake
Christina Berry, pastor
Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.
327-2452 or e-mail
faithdr@hutchtel.net

United Church of Christ

First Congregational UCC
4th Avenue and Main Street
Hutchinson
Brian Brosz, pastor
Sunday worship, 10:15 a.m.
320-587-2125

Lutheran - ELCA

Bethel Lutheran
77 Lincoln Ave. N.
Lester Prairie
Sunday worship, 9 a.m.
320-395-2125

Non-Denominational

Grace Bible Church
Cleveland St. SW, Silver Lake
Dr. Tom Rakow, pastor
Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.
327-2266 (parsonage)
Dial-A-Bible Story: 320-327-2843
Web site: <http://silver-lakechurch.org>

Word of Life Outreach Center

950 School Road SW
Hutchinson
Jim and Sharee Hall, pastors
Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.
320-587-9443

Grace Bible Church

Non-Denominational
Dr. Tom Rakow, Pastor
300 Cleveland Street, Silver Lake, MN
(Next to the City Water Tower)
Phone: 320-327-2266 or 320-327-2352
<http://silverlakechurch.org>

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Home of The Living Water Puppets • 30-Hour Famine
... and much more!*

* Sea Side Service at Swan Lake June 16, 2007
(Hear a message preached from a boat!)

* Attend Vacation Bible School the week of
July 23-27, 2007!

* Look for our float and then stop in for a FREE
ice-cream cone in the city park after the
Pola-Czesky Parade August 5, 2007!

* Visit our booth at the McLeod County Fair in August!
"For it is by grace you have been saved" (Ephesians 2:8a)





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Silver Lake area clubs and organizations

Silver Lake Sportsman's Club

Purpose: To improve hunting and fishing opportunities around the Silver Lake area, and at the same time conserve our natural resources for future generations.

Founded: 1948.

Meetings: Fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Silver Lake Legion.

Activities: Operates and maintains a clubhouse, sanctuary and aeration system all near Swan Lake; hold annual fund raisers, including turtle soup feed; and sell sportsmen's burgers during Pola Czesky Days.

Membership: 13 officers, 150 members.

Officers: John Vacek, president; Roger Pokornowski, vice president; Dale Wraspir, secretary; Brian Koktan, treasurer.

Memberships: can be purchased from any Silver Lake business or at the annual turtle soup feed for \$10 a year or \$125 for lifetime.

Contact: John Vacek, 587-8845.

Pola Czesky Days Committee

Purpose: Coordinate annual city celebration.

Founded: 1970.

Meetings: January through September, last Monday of each month, 7 p.m. in Silver Lake Auditorium.

Activities: All arrangements necessary to put on Pola-Czesky Days, a three-day celebration honoring Polish and Czechoslovakian ancestry in Silver Lake.

Membership: One member of every city organization that is involved in the event.

Officers: Ron Yurek, chairman; Randy Hlavka, vice chairman; Tiffany Mickolichek, secretary; Kerry Venier, treasurer.

Contact: Ron Yurek, 327-2752

Silver Lake Women's Club

Purpose: The Silver Lake Women's Club GFWC is a non-profit organization which addresses the diverse needs of the community and world. We promote education, preserving natural resources, encourage healthy lifestyles, work on behalf of the elderly and people with disabilities, an advocate for issues of concern to women, children and families, and support participation in the arts.

Activities: Club projects and programs address a wide range of issues: support the schools by donating funds for library books and special education needs and provide a Teacher & Staff Tea during American Education Week; donate time and

funds in planting flowers by the auditorium; organize and help with the Silver Lake Winter Festival; provide a meal and entertainment for the three senior citizen apartments; organize the Pola-Czesky Days Kiddie Parade; serve at Music in the Park; have a bake sale in the citywide sales; help with Thanksgiving meal; Christmas projects for the Silver Lake Dining Site and McLeod County veterans, plus many other activities within the community. We also make donations to McLeod Alliance for Victims of Domestic Violence, Guatemala Mission Group, and McLeod County Food Shelf; involved in Operation Smile, the National GFWC project.

Meetings: Every fourth Thursday of the month during September through May, at the Silver Lake American Legion at 6:30 p.m. with coffee and dessert and meeting at 7 p.m. Each meeting features a speaker.

Membership: Area women of all ages and professions are invited to join.

Contact: Call 327-2783 or 327-2249.

Silver Lake

Enhancement Association

Purpose: To better our lake and community.

Founded: 2004.

Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m.

Members: Over 20 members.

Officers: Tim Foss, president; Jason Horrmann, vice president; Karen Henderickson, treasurer; Bruce Bebo, secretary.

Memberships: are \$10 per individual (over 18 years) and free (under 18).

Contact: Tim Foss, 327-2982.

Silver Lake Lions

Purpose: To serve the community through volunteerism and support the Lions International programs.

Founded: Chartered Sept. 26, 1966.

Meetings: First and third Thursdays, 7 p.m., at Silver Lake Legion

Members: Sixty-five members. Officers are elected annually and take office in July. Membership is \$65 to join.

Contact: Silver Lake Lions, P.O. Box 451, Silver Lake, MN 55381.

Silver Lake organizations

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Silver Lake organizations Continued from page 25

Silver Lake Fire Department

Purpose: Fight fires, provide rescue services and First Responder Services.

Founded: 1889.

Meetings: Drills second and last Mondays and meeting on last Monday each month.

Activities: Established/set up gambling (pull tabs) to help fund the procurement of trucks and fire rescue equipment.

Members: 28. Officers are Gene Wawrzyniak, chief; Dale Kosek, assistant chief; Dan Kieser, treasurer; Darrell Kaczmarek, secretary; training officers, Gary Jerabek, Kyle Wawrzyniak, Tim Grenke, Mike Posusta.

How to join: Contact a member.

Contact: Gene Wawrzyniak, 327-2506; Dale Kosek, 327-2860; Dan Kieser, 327-3184; Darrell Kaczmarek, 327-2496.

Crow River Sno Pros Inc.

Purpose: To have snowmobile trails in McLeod County; keep trails groomed and set up trails in the fall; take down trails in the spring.

Founded: October 1986.

Meetings: First Tuesday of the month at Major Avenue Hunt Club.

Activities: Donate to area schools, police and fire departments; hold picnic in July for landowners where trails cross; hold vintage sled show and swap meet in March; give out scholarships.

Members: About 100. Officers for 2006-07: Ron Metag, president; Lenny Rutledge, vice president; Richard Deckert, treasurer; Christine Holsapple, secretary; board members, Wendy Wosmek, Dan Harbarth, Kevin Cohrs, George Jones; Brian Wosmek, past president;

Memberships: Due by Sept. 1.

Contact: Christine Holsapple, 10786 Hwy. 7, Silver Lake, MN 55381 or call 320-237-2866 or crowriversnopropros@broadband-mn.com

Silver Lake Ambulance

Purpose: Provide ambulance service to city of Silver Lake and surrounding townships.

Founded: 1970.

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month in Silver Lake Auditorium.

Members: 18 EMTs. Officers: Duane Wawrzyniak, chief; Chris Wawrzyniak, assistant chief; Lisa Thompson, secretary; Chris Burt, training officer.

Memberships: Must be a Minnesota-certified EMT; ambulance service pays tuition costs for EMT class.

Contact: City hall at 327-2412 or call 320-327-2751, or contact Silver Lake Ambulance, P.O. Box 160, Silver Lake, MN 55381.

Knights of Columbus

Mother Cabrini Council 1841

Purpose: A Catholic, family, fraternal organization dedicated to values and faith of the Roman Catholic Church. Comprised of Catholic men who seek to ensure the blessings of the Catholic faith through opportunities to provide support of the church, its families, community and youths.

Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

Founded: May 12, 1916.

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Holy Family Catholic Church basement.

Projects: Conduct service projects and provide activities and materials to strengthen and aid the Catholic church, our families, our youths, our community and our council, such as: awards banquet, KC family picnic, Pola-Czesky Days float, Pola-Czesky Days Polka Mass, Pola-Czesky Days cheese curd stand, Holy Family bazaar tent set up, marathon for non-public education, lead the rosary before Mass in October and May, Mass for deceased members, rosary for deceased members, memorial Mass for deceased members of Holy Family parish, fruit baskets for shut-ins, Christmas radio ads, Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest, family Christmas party, Blue Mass, free throw contest, turtle soup feed, Mass servers bowling, prolife pancake breakfast, fish fry, Tootsie Roll drive for M.R. citizens, prolife billboards, fund raisers for parish education, Family Hour of Prayer, birthright ads, support KC student loan fund, Jim Campbell fund, local vocations support, two GSL High School scholarships, contributions to GSL High School students, support a variety of organizations that support our community, community ladies night meetings, family night meetings, insurance available for members and their families, donations to Holy Family Catholic School, and much more.

Memberships: \$15 a year; contact any officer or member for more information.

Contact: Bob Penas, 320-327-2122 or bobpenas@wildbluecoop.com; Silver Lake K of C 1841, P.O. Box 93, Silver Lake, MN 55381-0093.

Silver Lake organizations

Continued on page 27



Silver Lake organizations Continued from page 26

Central Minnesota Two-Cylinder Club

Purpose: Dedicated to the restoration and preservation of antique John Deere two-cylinder tractors, their accessories, lore and literature, and the special place John Deere holds in America's agricultural heritage. The club has members from at least seven counties.

Founded: 1988. The club received its charter on April 22, 1989, and was the first chapter organized in Minnesota.

Activities: Since the beginning, club members participated in and displayed tractors and equipment at: the National Two-Cylinder Expo, the Minneapolis Branch House 100th anniversary celebration, Farmfest, North American Farm and Power Show, and area threshing shows and parades. Members provide assistance at the NTPA tractor pull in Hutchinson and, with members of other clubs, organize the antique farm equipment display and threshing event at the McLeod County Fair.

Meetings: First Monday (second Monday in September.), 8 p.m., usually at the Silver Lake Auditorium. Some meetings are held at members' homes to be able to view their collections.

Contact: Florian Thode, 583-8054; David Ondrachek, 587-9254; Gerald Konerza, 327-2488; Gary Ahlbrecht, 328-5587; Maggie Kritzeck, 543-2888.

Silver Lake Dining Site

Purpose: Provide a nutritional lunch for senior citizens as well as an opportunity to socialize and play cards, bingo, etc.

Founded: 1993.

Meeting dates: Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the senior council meets the third Thursday of the month at the Silver Lake Auditorium.

Activities: Cards, bingo, dice games, music, birthday parties and snacks.

Officers: Senior council is made up of six members.

How to join: Call for a reservation one day in advance.

Contact: Silver Lake Dining Site (320) 327-2621.

Silver Lake Senior Citizens Club

Purpose: To promote the welfare of all people 60 and older in the Silver Lake community and surrounding area.

Founded: Nov. 22, 1965 with 20 members meeting at the public school.

Meeting dates: Second Monday of the month, 1 p.m., at the Silver Lake Auditorium.

Activities: Meet once a month, cards three times a month, county senior citizens picnic, Christmas dinner, Valentines party, quarterly county meeting, various speakers, entertainment and meetings.

Site managers: Luella Kaczmarek and Pearl Brandon. Meals are made at Evergreens Apartments and transported to Silver Lake and delivered to the homebound. The program is put on by Lutheran Social Services Providers.

How to join: \$5 per year; must be 60 years of age, not just from Silver Lake city, but from the surrounding community.

Contact: Ben Lewandowski: 395-2277; Donald Benz: 327-2249; Tony Victorian: 327-2344.





Churches

- 1 Faith Presbyterian Church
- 2 Grace Bible Church
- 3 Holy Family Catholic Church

Recreation Facilities

- 4 American Legion Park
- 5 Corner Stone Park
- 6 Silver Lake Recreational Facility
- 7 Pool/Aquatic Center
- 8 Rumrill/Tschimperle Field

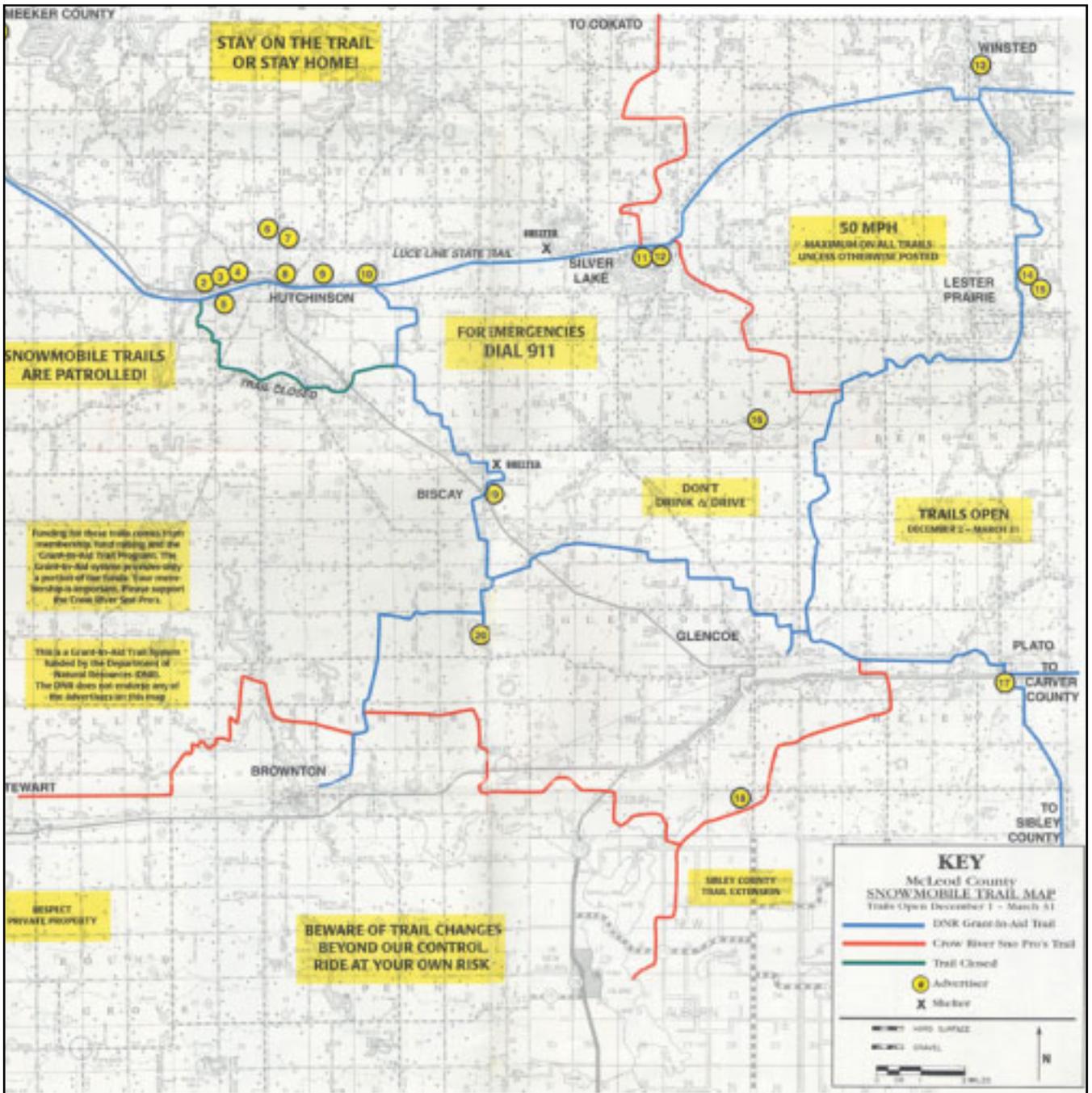
City/County Facilities

- 9 Auditorium
- 10 City Hall/Police/Ambulance/Public Works
- 11 McLeod County Highway Department
- 12 Fire Hall
- 13 Post Office

Schools

- 14 GSL Lakeside
- 15 Holy Family Catholic School





Support Snowmobiling in McLeod County
join Crow River



Have Fun, Meet People,
and Help Promote Safe Snowmobiling

Meetings held 1st Tuesday of each month
at Major Ave. Hunt Club

Annual Mn USA Membership \$20; Sno Pros \$15
Send check for \$35 payable to Crow River Sno Pros,
10796 Hwy 7, Silver Lake, MN 55381

Attention Snowmobilers!

We have a Swap Meet

(New and Used Items)

& Vintage Sled Show

at the McLeod County Fairgrounds in Hutchinson
the Middle of March

Luce Line Trail offers variety of recreation

Running north of Highway 7, the Luce Line Trail offers a variety of recreational options. Accessing it at Silver Lake, one can go northeast to Winsted or west to Hutchinson.

The gravel trail can be used for biking, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, snowmobiling and skiing.

The trail, which is a 63-mile-long former railroad track that runs from the Twin Cities west past Cosmos, stretches across the varied landscapes of metropolitan and rural Minnesota. It is a preserved strip of countryside alive with many varieties of plants and animals.

Rolling stands of sugar maple and basswood, along with many colorful ground-cover plants can be found in the east. West of Hutchinson, the woods give way to remnants of the tall-grass prairie, with many prairie plants still visible.

Wildlife inhabitants range from deer, fox and mink to owls and pheasants. Many adjacent lakes also support ducks and geese.

Near Silver Lake, the trail angles across Hale Township, from the northeast corner to the southwest corner. People can access both the city of Silver Lake and Swan Lake County Park from the trail.

The Luce Line Trail started as a railroad track that reached Silver Lake in 1914. The Electric Short Line Railroad Company began construction of the line in 1913 and reached Hutchinson in 1915. Construction resumed several years later, and the tracks reached Cosmos in 1922 and Lake Lillian in 1923. The railroad's alignment partially followed a trail used by the Dakota people nearly two centuries earlier.

The line was a boon to early tourists and vacationers, transporting them quickly to popular resort areas on Medicine Lake, Parkers Lake and Lake Minnetonka.

By the early 1920s, one freight train per day was scheduled each direction between Minneapolis and Lake Lillian.

In 1924, the line was sold and reorganized as the Minnesota Western Railroad Company. The plans called for an extension to Montevideo, and then on to Brookings, S.D.

In 1927, the line reached Gluek, about 12 miles east of Montevideo.

All funds had been expended, and

Harry Pence, president of the Minneapolis, Northfield & Southern Railroad, bought the line in December 1927.

From the late 1920s, hauling grain, lumber and other commodities was the railroad's major role.

The line changed hands twice during the 1950s. Its final owner was the Chicago & North Western Railway Company, which purchased it in 1960.

The 1960s brought increasing competition from other modes of transportation creating an unprofitable situation for the rail line. The Luce Line was formally abandoned in 1970.

The Luce Line Trail Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the Luce Line Trail, was organized to promote acquisition of the entire line for trail use by snowmobile clubs, hiking clubs, horse clubs and environmental groups. It sponsored and published an engineering feasibility report on converting it into a trail in 1973, and successfully lobbied the Legislature to designate the Luce Line as a state trail.

In 1975, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) acquired a major portion of the rights-of-way, with all but about three miles of right-of-way acquired by 1977.

A lawsuit was filed by adjoining property owners because they believed the original contracts stipulated the rights-of-way would return to the property owners if the rail line was abandoned.

The Supreme Court ruled in 1988 that a recreation trail was a legitimate public transportation use of rail corridors.

The first master plan for the Luce Line Trail was completed in 1978.

About 30 miles of the trail, from Plymouth to Winsted, has a limestone surface with a parallel treadway for



The Luce Line Trail, a 63-mile recreation trail from Plymouth to Cosmos is used for walking, biking, horseback riding and snowmobiling.

horseback riding.

The trail from Winsted to Hutchinson was developed with a class five aggregate base in 2002. Through Hutchinson, the trail is paved, and from Hutchinson to Cedar Mills it has a crushed granite surface.

In 2006, the city of Silver Lake passed a resolution that supported requesting that the DNR pave the trail from Winsted to Hutchinson with bond money.

If the trail were to be paved from Winsted to Cedar Mills, the cost would be about \$2.3 million, or nearly \$100,000 per mile.

Some of the benefits of a paved trail include a better surface for bicyclists and the possibility of economic benefits for cities that would accompany increased use of the trail.

Some of the disadvantages include the potential for increased property taxes for land owners along the trail, heavy equipment crossings for farmers, maintenance of tile lines, trespassing problems on adjacent property and tar being hard on horses' legs.

GSL School District 2859



Jodi Braband

201 Douglas Drive, Glencoe
864-4001 (home)



Clark Christianson

310 Wacker Drive, Glencoe
864-6227 (home)



Glenn Gruenhagen

16367 401st St., Glencoe
864-5903 (home)



Nancy Morris

1611 McLeod Ave., Glencoe
864-5826 (home)



Anne Twiss

208 W. 18th St., Glencoe
864-3625 (home)



Loren Mathews

Silver Lake
327- 2267 (home)

Administration

John Hornung, superintendent

Lincoln Elementary School
864-2498

Dr. Dale Hurni, business manager

Lincoln School
864-2496

Scot Kerbaugh, principal

Glencoe-Silver Lake High School
864-2401

Chris Sonju, principal

Glencoe-Silver Lake Junior High School
864-2455

Julie Warweg, principal

Lakeside Elementary
864-2500

Travis Olson, principal

Helen Baker Elementary
864-2666

Chris Sonju, activities director

864-2403 (high school)

Transportation

864-2636 (bus garage)

Tina Hurni, Community Education

864-2692

Holy Family Catholic School

Board of Education

Nancy Emery, Paul Davis, Cindy Entinger, Don Navratil, Shirley Nowak, Duane Wawrzyniak, Donna Fehrenbach and Deb Posusta.

Administration

William Berning, 864-3214

GSL School information

Central office, 864-2499; Fax: 864-6320

High school, 864-2400; Fax: 864-6475

Activities line, 864-2444

Lakeside, 864-2500; Fax: 327-3122

Activities line, 864-2555

Lincoln Elementary, 864-2455; Fax: 864-2475

Attendance line, 864-2488

Helen Baker Elementary, 864-2666; Fax 864-2682

Attendance line, 864-2688

Glencoe-Silver Lake Community Education,
864-2960; Fax: 864-2695

Panther Field House, 864-2698

Early Childhood/Family Education, 864-2681

District School Nurse, 864-2604

School Counselor, 864-2406

School liaison officer, 864-2473

Adult Farm Management, 864-2461; Fax: 864-2477

GSL: Comprehensive offerings for all

Another state football championship. State entries in a variety of other sports. A state Knowledge Bowl team. A Destination ImagiNation team that advanced to international competition, while a handful of science fair state winners competed internationally as well.

The Glencoe-Silver Lake School District combines brains with brawn to offer a formidable number of opportunities for its students.

Silver Lake is one of five communities — Biscay, Glencoe, New Auburn, Plato, and Silver Lake — whose pre-school, school-aged and adult populations are proudly served by Glencoe-Silver Lake School District 2859.

Consolidated in 1996 from the former Silver Lake School District 425 and the Glencoe School District 422, GSL School District 2859 provides a quality array of academic, co-curricular, extracurricular, social, recreational and community programs and services to 1,617 students in grades P-K-12.

The grade level configuration of the school district beginning 2007-08 is P-K-2, 3-6, 7, 8-12 with educational programming located in four facilities. Helen Baker Elementary (Glencoe) houses the district's pre-school and K-2 students, while Lakeside Elementary (Silver Lake) serves all district students in grades 3-6. Lincoln Junior High (Glencoe), grade 7 youngsters, and Glencoe-Silver Lake High School (Glencoe), grade 8-12 students, are located on a common site, along with the multipurpose Panther Field House and new outdoor athletic complex in northeast Glencoe.

The district's special education provider, the Little Crow Special Education Cooperative.

The school district is governed by a six-member school board which meets monthly (typically on the second Monday) in the media center at Glencoe-Silver Lake High School at 1825 E. 16th St., Glencoe.

GSL's teaching, specialist, support and administrative staffs are dedicated to providing quality programs and ser-

vices to the pre-school, school-aged and adult populations.

Staff in-service training and curriculum development ensures the school district's staff employs "best instructional practices" and "current curricular (subject) content."

Christopher Sonju, Lincoln Junior High principal and activities director in 2006-07, will become the new school superintendent in 2007-08. Providing other leadership are principals, Travis Olson, Helen Baker Elementary; Julie Warweg, Lakeside Elementary; Scot Kerbaugh, GSL High School; Jan Mackenthun, director of

into the world of work, post-secondary technical college training, or university study, as personal goals and interests may dictate.

Course offerings at GSL High School are found in 12 subject matter disciplines, including agricultural education, art, business, English, family and consumer science, industrial technology, mathematics, music, physical education/health, science, social studies, and world languages. Qualifying students at the high school level may participate in the "College in the Classroom" courses, which offer dual (both high school and college/university) credit. The district also offers students a progressive technology program.

Extracurricular and co-curricular programs and events, as well as a broad range of academic, club and leadership competitions, enhance the physical, intellectual and social development of the district's students, and provide abundant thrills for loyal patrons, parents, staff and students.

In 2006-07, the school district's fine arts program (vocal and instrumental music, art and dramatics) continued to be superlative, despite budget cuts.

GSL's athletic prowess flourished with state level participation by teams or individuals in girls' cross country, football, girls' tennis, gymnastics, wrestling, track and field and golf.

Specialty programs abound at GSL to address special circumstances, needs and interests of students. The district proudly operates a comprehensive, district-wide special education program for students with a range of handicapping conditions; a migrant summer school program to address the limited English proficiency; drivers' education; adult recreation, enrichment, and training programs; and more.

The school district operates the Panther Field House, a multi-purpose facility which offers resident membership in/access to an excellent array of fitness equipment, walking track, basketball courts, racquetball court, weightlifting and other opportunities.



In 2006, the GSL football team claimed its third Class 3A championship in the last seven years.

early childhood/family education and pre-school; Laural Olson, coordinator of ALP; Wyatt Bienfang and Erin McKenna, school resource officers; Jeff Jenson, director of technology and information systems, and Tina Hurni, director of community education/Panther Field House coordinator.

GSL has a sterling reputation among school districts in central Minnesota for providing an appealing array of program and service features, including school-aged childcare; learning readiness and ECFE programming; all day/every day kindergarten; low class sizes, and an excellent programs and services at all organizational levels.

The school district's instructional programming is comprehensive in its design, preparing students for entry

Glencoe-Silver Lake Public Schools

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT # 2859

*Proudly serving the communities of Biscay, Glencoe,
New Auburn, Plato, and Silver Lake*



MISSION STATEMENT

To meet the needs of all students by providing curriculum relevant to the twenty-first century in partnerships with community and parents. This shall be accomplished through a positive, respectful environment, high expectations, and a commitment to life long learning.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

Helen Baker Elementary School

Grades Pre-K through 2 ~ 320-864-2666
405 16th St. E., Glencoe

Lakeside Elementary School

Grades 3-6 ~ 320-864-2500
229 Lake Ave., Silver Lake

Lincoln Junior High School

Grade 7 ~ 320-864-2455
1621 E. 16th St., Glencoe
District Office ~ 320-864-2491



Glencoe-Silver Lake High School

Grades 8-12 ~ 1825 16th St. E., Glencoe ~ 320-864-2400

SCHOOL BOARD

Jodi Braband, Chairperson
Glenn Gruenhagen, Vice Chairperson
Loren Mathews, Clerk
Nancy Morris, Treasurer
Clark Christianson, Director
Anne Twiss, Director

Panther Field House/ Community Education

1825 16th St. E., Glencoe ~ 320-864-2690

Visit us on the web
at <http://gsl.k12.mn.us>

Sumter Mutual Insurance Company

~ SINCE 1879 ~

117 W. Main St., P.O. Box 269, Silver Lake, MN 55381
320-327-2887

LARRY DOERR AGENCY
866-630-5991 OR 320-327-3020

LAURIE MICKOLICHEK AGENCY
320-327-3173

LAURA SCHIROO
320-864-3990

HUTCHINSON AGENCY, INC.
320-587-4939

FAUST INSURANCE AGENCY
320-286-2231

CITIZENS INSURANCE SERVICES
952-467-2535



421 Main Street West
P.O. Box 343
Silver Lake, MN 55381
Telephone: 320-327-2216
Fax: 320-327-2530
sleader@earthlink.net

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Willard Exsted welcomes you to explore your options in the Glencoe area's best neighborhoods!

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We have buyers willing to pay top dollar for farm land. If you are looking to sell your farm, or just downsize the number of acres you have, give us a call.

To view properties in your area or to arrange an appointment, call 320-864-5544.

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We Value our Silver Lake Neighbors!



Al's Auto Sales, Inc.

WANT TO SPECIAL ORDER?
CALL US TODAY

9522 Hwy. 22, Glencoe
320-864-6897
or 800-376-1240

www.alsautosales.com

Scott & Cindy Lilienthal purchased the business effective Jan. 1, 2005. Al Gruenhagen has successfully retired after 11 years!

We have over 45 years of combined experience in the automobile business. Scott Lilienthal and Jerry Rechtzigel are most happy to meet your transportation needs.

At Al's Auto Sales, Inc. we offer top quality pre-owned vehicles. We offer every make and model, from nearly all manufacturers, domestic and foreign, including mini-vans, trucks and sport utility vehicles. For your convenience, we also have available for sale many auto accessories and detailing products. If you are looking to clean your car or have it detailed, stop in at our self serve car wash and full service detailing center in Hutchinson. Manager Connie Stock can help you with all your detailing needs.

Daily and weekly rentals are also available. Contact us for pricing and details. We look forward to meeting you, with the same great service as in the past.

Scott & Cindy Lilienthal, Jerry Rechtzigel, Connie Stock, Phillip Khamoua, & Tyler Lilienthal

Member of Northland Independent Automobile Dealers Association, the National Independent Automobile Dealers Association, and the Better Business Bureau



Scott



Cindy



Jerry



Tyler

Al's Car Wash & Detail Center - Hutchinson

Featuring:

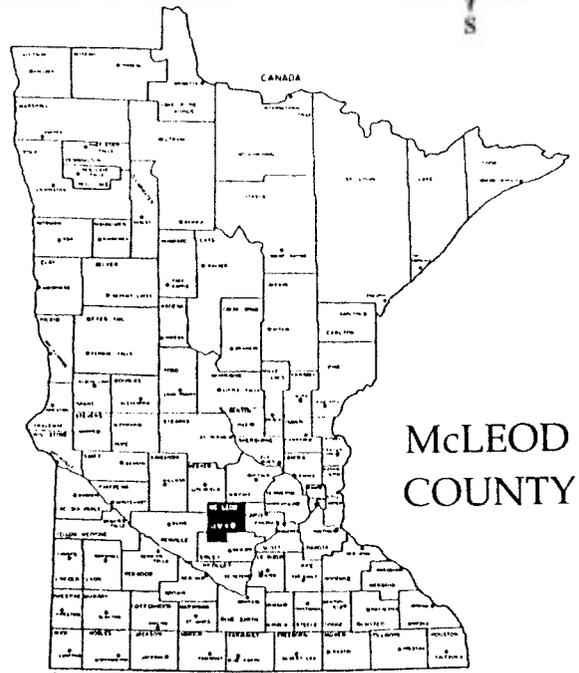
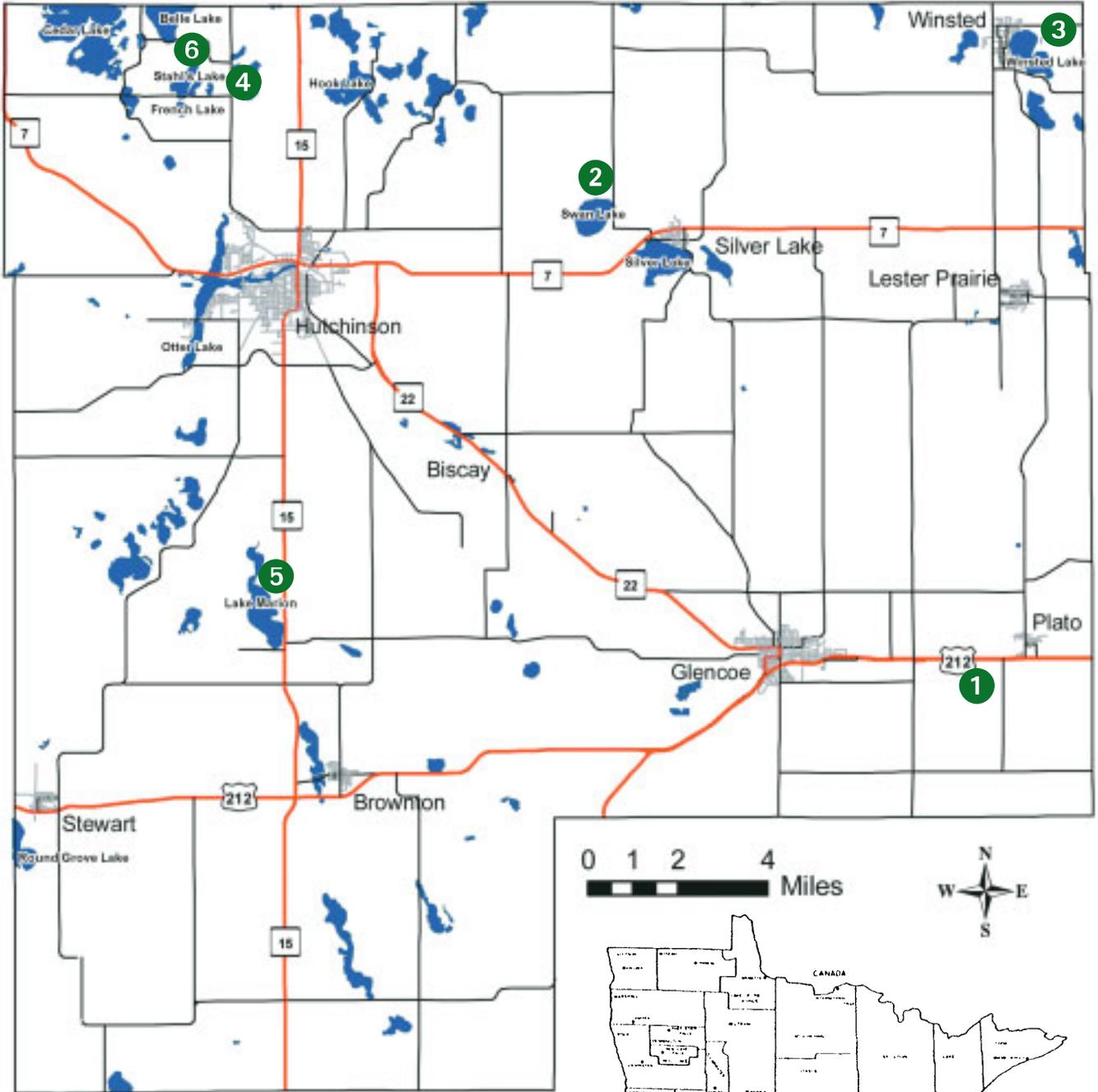
- 4 Self-Service Bays
- 12 ft. Doors
- Completely Remodeled Facility
- All NEW Equipment
- Heated Bays



Connie Stock
Car Wash Manager

320-587-5611

McLeod County Parks



- 1. Buffalo Creek Park**
- 2. Swan Lake Park**
- 3. William May Park**
- 4. Stahls Lake Park**
- 5. Lake Marion Park**
- 6. Piepenburg Park**

County parks offer recreation options

The McLeod County park system offers services for everything from an occasional picnic to a full-blown camping and fishing trip.

There are six parks in the system. Two of those — Lake Marion Park and Piepenburg Park — offer camping, public boat landings, volleyball courts, softball fields, picnic shelters, showers and other amenities.

Lake Marion Park is located on the northeast corner of Lake Marion, north and west of Brownton. It is served by U.S. Highway 15 and located about 12 miles west of Glencoe. Those coming from Glencoe can reach the lake by driving west on County Road 3.

The 86-acre park opened in the spring of 1981. The land, which was formerly home to one of the larger mink ranches in the United States, was bought in 1975.

The facilities available include two picnic shelters and grills, a one-mile hiking trail, a beach (there is no lifeguard on duty), a fishing pier, boat landing, main shower building, camper dump station, playground equipment, volleyball pit and a softball field. Also, in season, there are groomed cross-country ski trails.

Lake Marion Park offers campers 36 RV sites and 14 tent sites.

There are many campsites available. Fees for campers who require electrical service are \$17 a day, \$90 per week or \$340 a month.

Fees for campers who do not require electrical service are \$15 a day, \$79 a week or \$270 a month.

There is an additional cost for air conditioning hookups and use of the camper dumping station.

To make camping reservations, contact caretaker Patricia Carey at 11655 State Highway 15, Brownton, MN 55312, 320-328-4479. The camping area is open May 1 to Oct. 1.

There is a \$35 fee to reserve a park shelter at any of the county parks. Contact the McLeod County



Swan Lake Park

Swan Lake Park is located three miles northwest of Silver Lake along County Road 16. Its 82 acres feature a picnic shelter, fishing pier, grills, open-space activities, natural trails, duck pond, large stand of spruce trees and groomed cross-country ski trails.

Parks Office, 320-587-0770, to make reservations.

On the south edge of Lake Marion is the Brownton Rod & Gun Club, which offers a boat landing, a picnic and beach area, plus a concession stand. Each Friday night at the clubroom, there is a steak and pork chop fry.

Piepenburg Park is located on the southeast corner of Belle Lake. From Hutchinson, go north on Highway 15 to County Road 60, turn west and continue for 5 miles.

The park features two picnic shelters with grills, a red rock trail, a beach (no lifeguard on duty), a boat landing, a fishing pier, a main shower building, a camper dumping station, natural prairie, playground equipment and horseshoe pits, volleyball court and softball field — plus groomed cross-country ski trails.

The fees for camping and the park shelter are the same as for Lake Marion Park. To make reservations, contact Merle and Ethel Olson, 21104 Belle Lake Road, Hutchinson, MN 55350, 320-587-2082.

Reservations for the park shelters at Piepenburg may be made by contacting the county parks office.

Buffalo Creek Park, three miles southeast of Glencoe (near the air-

port), is a little more than 45 acres and features a picnic shelter with tables and grills, playground equipment, open space activities, nature trail, duck pond, a large stand of spruce trees and groomed cross-country ski trails.

Swan Lake Park is located three miles northwest of Silver Lake on County Road 16 and is 82 acres in size. It features a picnic shelter, fishing pier, grills, open space activities, natural trail, duck pond, large stand of spruce trees and groomed cross-country trails.

William May Park is located three miles east of Winsted off of County Road 85. Seventy-one acres in size, it features a picnic shelter, tables, grills, nature trail and a large stand of maple trees.

Stahl's Lake Park is located 6 1/2 miles northwest of Hutchinson and is 127 acres in size. It features a picnic shelter, tables, grills, a boat tile connecting French Lake to Stahl's Lake, a nature trail, a duck pond, a tree nursery and groomed cross country ski trails.

The hours at all the parks are from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For additional information, contact the McLeod County Parks Office located at the county fairgrounds in Hutchinson, 320-587-0770.

Silver Lake Statistics

And Recycling Facts!

In 2006, the city residents of Silver Lake recycled 86,940 pounds of material through their 5-sort curbside program. Which calculates to:

43.47 tons

Each **household** in Silver Lake recycled **21.9 pounds** of material **per month!** Or **9.5 pounds** of material **per person per month!**

Did you know that 30% of your household waste stream is packaging?*

Boxes & Paper Sort:

- ↪ Start recycling those food and beverage boxes.
- ↪ Recycle paper egg cartons.
- ↪ Flour & sugar are sold in paper sacs - Recycle them!
- ↪ Gift wrap is recyclable.
- ↪ Laundry & dishwashing detergent boxes - Recycle!
- ↪ Recycle paper towel & bathroom tissue cores.

Plastics:

- ↪ If it has a #1 or a #2 on the bottom - Recycle it!
- 🌐 Shampoo bottles 🌐 Peanut butter/jelly containers
- 🌐 Soap dispensers 🌐 Dressing & sauce bottles
- 🌐 Aspirin containers
- 🌐 Caps off or on? Doesn't matter!

If you are interested in reducing your monthly or weekly garbage generation, consider backyard composting! Bins** can be purchased for \$30 (plus tax) by calling the McLeod County Solid Waste Management Department at 1 (800) 335-0575. With your purchase, you will also get a Backyard Composting booklet to teach you the ropes! Who knows, with all this recycling and composting, you may be able to decrease your garbage container size and save \$\$\$\$ while helping the environment.



*Source-MN Office of Environmental Assistance
** While supplies last

**MCLEOD
COUNTY SOLID
WASTE
MANAGEMENT**

2007 Municipal Recycling Schedule

LEGEND

Holidays Underlined

**Winsted
Brownton
Stewart** **Green**

Glencoe
*-every Monday or Thursday
on Garbage Day*

**Plato
Lester Prairie** **Purple**

Silver Lake **Red**

Hutchinson
*-Every Week Day on
Garbage Day*

**Scheduled
pick-ups on or
after a Holiday:
Recyclables
will be picked-up
one day later.**

1065 5th Avenue SE
Hutchinson, MN 55350

Phone:
1 800 335-0575

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	<u>1</u>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30	31			

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25	26	27	28			

March

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

June

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October

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November

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New aquatic center at Silver Lake

With the opening of the new pool in Silver Lake in June 2006, attendance at the pool tripled from 2005. Total attendance was more than 7,000 by the time the pool closed on Aug. 27, and people came from as far away as Mound.

The new aquatics center is called the Bruce Maresh Aquatic Center, after the late Bruce Maresh. Maresh was the person who started the drive for a new pool and formed the Silver Lake Pool and Parks Organization in 2002.

The pool, which was designed by AquaLogic, includes a new bath house, a zero-entry to 3-foot deep pool and a 3-foot deep to 10.5-foot deep main pool with a diving board and a tube slide.

There also is a concession stand and security lighting at the bath house. Dale Kosek, president of the pool and parks committee, said the goal is to eventually have lighting on the pool so pool hours can be extended into the evening.

The opening of the pool on June 15, 2006, went smooth, and there were no operational problems through the year, which Kosek said he hopes continues.

The committee, which is a 501c3 non-profit organization, constructed the nearly \$600,000 pool through donations and fundraising. The community and area businesses joined in the project by donating labor for taking out the old pool, raising rafters, putting shingles on the bath house, pouring concrete, etc.

Kosek said the main fund raiser, outside donations, is the raffle the committee holds through the spring and summer, with drawings for cash prizes being held during Polaczsky Days in August. With funds from that and other fund raisers, he anticipates the committee will be able to pay off the balance of the pool project this year.

Once the pool was completed, it was turned over to the city of Silver Lake, which currently hires a man-



The new Silver Lake pool, which is called the Bruce Maresh Aquatic Center, opened June 15, 2006. It offers a zero-entry to 3-foot deep pool and a 3-foot deep to 10.5-foot deep pool with a diving board and a tube slide.



ager to run it and Red Cross certified life guards. All the admissions collected go to the city for operation of the facility.

The receipts from the concessions the first year were more than the city projected, said Kosek, who also is Silver Lake's public works super-

visor and pool operator.

He also said Silver Lake has always had a strong swimming lessons program, which includes a full compliment of lessons. Last

Pool

Turn to page 18



Pool Continued from page 17

year's numbers were down, and he thinks it could be because people were not sure if the pool would be open in time.

A new item the city is working on includes early childhood lessons at the pool.

The city installed a new swing set in the park on the west side of the pool, and is planning on expanding the playground equipment. Kosek said the plan is to do something every year to upgrade the park.

Another long-range goal for the city is paving the parking lot on the north side of the pool.

Committee officers include: Kosek, president; Harvey Mickolichuk, vice president; Deb Blazinski, secretary; and Beth Rakow, treasurer.

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2004 population: 36,198

County seat: Glencoe

Courthouse Telephone: 320-864-5551

Size: 503 square miles; 311,388 acres

Township roads: 465.35 miles

County roads: 401

State highways: 102 miles

Townships: 14 (Glencoe, Helen, Bergen, Acoma, Rich Valley, Collins, Sumter, Round Grove, Penn, Lynn, Hassan Valley, Hutchinson, Hale and Winsted.)

Cities: 9 (Glencoe, Hutchinson, Brown-ton, Stewart, Silver Lake, Biscay, Plato, Winsted and Lester Prairie).



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485-2181



**Sheldon Nies,
4th District**
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587-5117



**Kermit Terlinden,
2nd District**
1112 14th St.,
Glencoe
864-3738



**Beverly Wangerin,
5th District**
19369 Judson Circle,
Hutchinson
587-6869



**Grant Knutson,
3rd District**
14267 County Road 7,
Hutchinson
587-9108

Elected county officials



**Cindy Schultz,
county auditor**
Glencoe
Office: 864-1263



**Scott Rehmann,
county sheriff**
Winsted
Office: 864-3134



**Michael K. Junge,
county attorney**
Hutchinson
Office: 864-1265



**Linda J. Radtke,
county treasurer**
Glencoe
Office: 864-1271



McLeod County District Court judges

Michael Savre
Glencoe
Office: 864-1284



Terry Conkel
Glencoe
Office: 864-1281



**LynnEtte Schrupp,
recorder**
Glencoe
Office: 864-1327

Appointed office heads

Nan Crary, county administrator
Office: 864-1324, Hutchinson

Bob Schmidt, court administrator
Office: 864-1284, Glencoe

Dr. Janis Amatusio, county coroner
Midwest Forensic Pathology
Office: 763-236-9050, Coon Rapids

Jeff Rausch, county surveyor
Office: 587-4789, Hutchinson

Gary Sprynczynatyk, social services director
Office: 864-1395

John Brunkhorst, county highway engineer
Office: 864-3156, Hutchinson

Sue Schulz, county assessor
Office: 864-1200, Glencoe

James Lauer, veterans officer
Office: 864-1211, Glencoe

Kevin Mathews, emergency services director
Office: 864-1339, Glencoe

Nathan Winter, county extension director
Office: 864-5551 or 234-4303, Hutchinson

Cindy Petersen, county extension agent
Office: 234-4303, Hutchinson

Allan Koglin, agricultural inspector
Office: 864-3156, Hutchinson

Becky Felling, public health director
Office: 864-1373, Hutchinson

Ed Homan Jr., solid waste director
Office: 320-234-4316, Hutchinson

Allan Koglin, parks superintendent
Office: 587-2082, Hutchinson

Wayne Rosenfeld, buildings supervisor
Office: 864-1221, Glencoe

Larry Gasow, zoning administrator
Office: 864-1218, Hutchinson

Roger Berggren, environmentalist
Office: 864-1214, Glencoe

Tom Keefe, information services
Office: 864-1325

McLeod County committees, commissions

Board of Adjustment: Franklin Boller, Hutchinson; James Hueser, Glencoe; Francis Burch, Norwood Young America; Paul Wright, Hutchinson; Donna Wahl, Hutchinson.

Board of Health: County commissioners Ray Bayerl, Kermit Terlinden, Grant Knutson, Sheldon Nies and Bev Wangerin.

Buffalo Creek Watershed managers: Donald Belter, Glencoe; Corey Henke, Stewart; Larry Phillips, Glencoe; Charles Kubesh, Buffalo Lake; George Schlagel, Buffalo Lake.

Ditch inspectors: Commissioner Ray Bayerl, District 1; Roger Berggren, Districts 2, 3, 4, 5.

Extension committee: Brigett Buss and Elisa Schlueter, youth representatives; Barb Lamp, Brownton; Paul Wright, Hutchinson; Bill Hard, Hutchinson; Lanette Dammann, Plato; Scott Sederstrom, Hutchinson; Cindy Schultz, county auditor; commissioners Sheldon Nies and Bev Wangerin.

Fairgrounds commission: Bob Krcil, Hutchinson; Mark Vacek, Glencoe; Tim Ulrich, Hutchinson; Jill Grams, Extension educator; Al Koglin, parks director; Marian Filk, fairgrounds coordinator; commissioners Grant Knutson and Bev Wangerin.

High Island Watershed managers: Leonard Eibs, Henderson; Herman Miller, Brownton; Orville Polzin, Glencoe; Vern Schlueter, Arlington; Dwight Swanson, Hector.

Hike and bike trail committee: Gary Lenz, Winsted; Elynn Lepel, Plato; Martin Briggs, Hutchinson; Larry Mulenburg, Glencoe; Ed Doring, Hutchinson.

McLeod County HRA: Frank Fay, Hutchinson; James Mills, Hutchinson; Charles Lemke, Glencoe; Charles Warner, Brownton; Dorothy Merrill, Silver Lake; Chris Schwegler, Hutchinson; Commissioner Sheldon Nies.

Individual Septic Treatment Systems (ISTS): Commissioner Ray Bayerl; William Hard, Hutchinson; Mark Johnson, Plato; Robert Billiet, Hutchinson; Franklin Boller, Hutchinson; Herman Miller, Brownton; Donald Albrecht, Brownton; Robert Heil, Brownton; Nathan Winter, extension director; Roger Berggren, environmentalist; Larry Gasow, zoning administrator; Lori Brinkman, environmental technologist.

Law enforcement building committee: All five commissioners; Nan Crary, administrator; Cindy Schultz, auditor; Lt. Dennis Johnson, jail administrator; Sheriff Scott Rehmann; Chief Deputy Tim Langenfeld.

Long-range planning: All five commissioners; Charles Warner, Brownton; Francis Burch, Norwood Young America;



McLeod County Courthouse, located on 11th Street in Glencoe.

Don Albrecht, Brownton; Roger K. Olson, Hutchinson; Gale Hoese, Glencoe; Ed Doring, Hutchinson.

McLeod Treatment Program Inc: Roger Hilgers, Glencoe; Gerard Stifter, Winsted; Barbara Mathwig, Brownton; Larry Herrmann, Brownton; Linda Aaberg, Victoria; Joyce Schad, Glencoe; commissioners Ray Bayerl and Grant Knutson.

Noxious weeds appeal committee: Michael A. Laxen, Winsted; commissioners Grant Knutson, Sheldon Nies, Ray Bayerl, Kermit Terlinden and Bev Wangerin.

Parks commission: Doug Kenning, Hutchinson; Doug Krueger, Glencoe; Tim Rassat, Winsted; Dan Rickert, Brownton; Gene T. Jeseritz, Hutchinson.

Pioneerland Library: Commissioner Bev Wangerin; and Kim Hausladen, Lester Prairie.

Planning Advisory Commission: Herman Miller, Brownton; Franklin Boller, Hutchinson; Mark Johnson, Plato; William Hard, Hutchinson; commissioner Ray Bayerl; Larry Gasow, zoning administrator.

Public Health nursing advisory committee: Jane Otto, Lester Prairie; Ron Sandell, Stewart; Alice Nowak, Silver Lake; Joan Ewald, Brownton; Dr. Catherine McGinnis, Hutchinson; Bev Fritz-Hults, Glencoe; commissioners Grant Knutson and Bev Wangerin.

Solid waste advisory committee: Becky Felling, public health; John Brunkhorst, highway engineer; Paul Wright, Hutchinson; Jeff Bertram, West Central Sanitation; Kay Peterson, Hutchinson; Pam Fleischacker, Waste Management; Don Albrecht, township representative; Brent Mareck, Winsted city administrator; Mark

Reinert, Spruce Ridge Resource Management; Fred Prieve, Brownton; Sarah Young, solid waste coordinator; Ed Homan, solid waste administrator; Darren Gores, 3M Company; Gary Schreifels, Glencoe; Gary Plotz, Hutchinson; commissioners Sheldon Nies, Ray Bayerl, Bev Wangerin, Kermit Terlinden and Grant Knutson; Cindy Schultz, auditor; Linda Radtke, treasurer; and Nan Crary, administrator.

Trailblazer Transit Joint Powers Board: McLeod County commissioners, Ray Bayerl, Sheldon Nies and Kermit Terlinden; and Sibley County commissioners, Leo Bauer and Bill Pinsky.

Water planning task force: Warren Klammer, Stewart; Ryan Freitag, Glencoe; Skip Quade, Hutchinson; Virgil Voigt, Hutchinson; Edmund Ehrke, Plato; Gerald Harris, Silver Lake; Tom Fischer, BWSR; Lisa Buckner, NRCS; Lee Sundmark, Hutchinson; Nathan Winter, Extension; Becky Felling, public health; commissioner Grant Knutson; Roger Berggren, environmentalist; Larry Gasow, zoning administrator; Lori Brinkman, environmental technologist.

Wetlands technical advisory committee: John Brunkhorst, highway engineer; Tom Fischer, BWSR; Roger Berggren, environmentalist; Ryan Freitag, SWCD; Herman Miller, Brownton; Commissioner Grant Knutson; Nathan Winter, extension; Cindy Schultz, county auditor; Skip Quade, Hutchinson; Corey Henke, Buffalo Creek Watershed; Warren Klammer, High Island Watershed; Roger Schultz, SWCD; Lisa Buckner, NRCS.

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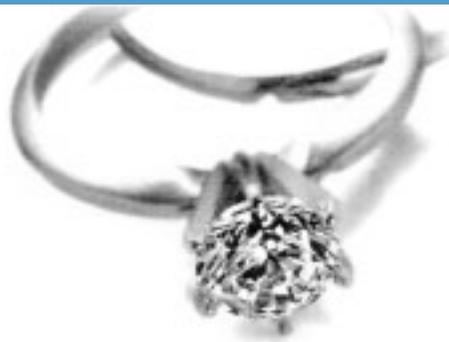
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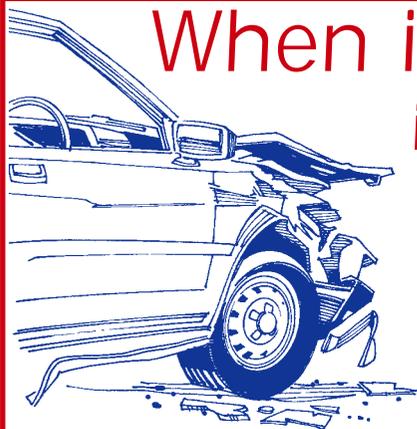
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Bergen Township (395-0173): Anita Bahr, clerk; Melissa Tonn, treasurer; Albert Teubert, Sheldon Ehrke and Francis Burch, supervisors. Meetings: Second Thursday.

Collins Township (562-2567): Alan Fredrickson, clerk; Daniel Benson, treasurer; Larry A. Maiers, James Friedrichs and Ross Doerr, supervisors. Meetings: Second Tuesday.

Glencoe Township (864-3584): Loren Mackenthun, clerk; Bruce Bargmann, treasurer; James Hueser, Duane Haag and John Albers, supervisors. Meetings: First Wednesday.

Hale Township (327-2790): Celeste Zirbes, clerk; Colleen Kaczmarek, treasurer; Clarence Juncewski, Roger Pokornowski and Ron Mickolich, supervisors. Meetings: Second Thursday.

Hassan Valley Township (587-6055): Robert E. Anderson, clerk; Joan Harren, treasurer; Garrett Luthens, Steve Reiner and Mark Seller, supervisors. Meetings: Second Tuesday.

Helen Township (238-2460): Sharon Dummer, clerk; Tammy Mathews, treasurer; Rodney Mathews, Edmund Ehrke and Leslie Engelmann, supervisors. Meetings: Second Thursday.

Hutchinson Township (587-9431): Donna Wahl, clerk; Marlys Swenson, treasurer; Brent Uecker, Jon Christensen and David Ondracek, supervisors. Meetings: Second Thursday.

Lynn Township (587-2746): Cheryl Bleil, clerk; Bernice Baumetz, treasurer; Robert Theuringer, Gary Duesterhoeft and Paul Merkins, supervisors. Meetings: First Tuesday.

Penn Township (328-5375): Donald R. Albrecht, clerk; David E. Schuch, deputy clerk; Veryl Becker, treasurer;



Rich Valley Township Hall

Kevin Lindeman, deputy treasurer; Lester Lindeman, Wilbert Hahn and Kevin Miller, supervisors. Meetings: Second Monday.

Rich Valley Township (864-6647): Theresa A. Rusten, clerk; Bill Schaeve, treasurer; Donald Lhotka, Jim Popelka and Bob Novak, supervisors. Meeting: Second Wednesday.

Round Grove Township (328-5277): Deborah Zellmann, clerk; LeRoy Hedtke, treasurer; Robert Doerr, Elmer Rettig and Darwin Wagner, supervisors. Meetings: Second Monday.

Sumter Township (328-5789): Janel Zimmerman, clerk; Donald Husske, treasurer; Kathy Engelsmeier, Gary Waller and Joel Griebie, supervisors. Meetings: Second Thursday.

Winsted Township (485-3552): Susan Goebel, clerk; Denice Stifter, treasurer; Craig Yellick, Michael Laxen and Gary Wessling, supervisors. Meetings: Second Thursday.

How townships were named

The origins of the names of townships in McLeod County as taken from page 317 of the Minnesota Historical Society Collections, Vol. 17-1902:

Glencoe — Valley in Scotland where McDonald clan was massacred.

Hassan (Valley) — Indian word haza or hahzah meaning sugar, maple sap or sweet juice. South branch of the Crow River was called Hassan River, 1860-69.

Acoma — Named for a Pueblo village in New Mexico by Dr. Kennedy.

Bergen — Named for city of that name in Norway.

Biscay — Named for Bay of Biscay bordering France and Spain.

Brownton — The townsite was the former farm of Alonzo Brown.

Collins — Named after an early settler by that name.

Hale — Either named for an early settler by that name or for a prominent

statesman by that name.

Helen — Wife of Sheriff Armstrong and first white woman to settle in that township.

Hutchinson — Group of singers who founded the town.

Lester Prairie — For John Lester on whose farmstead the town began in 1888.

Lynn — Town in Massachusetts.

Penn — By Germans from Pennsylvania.

Plato — Named for Greek philosopher Plato.

Rich Valley — For its rich soil.

Round Grove — For a large grove of trees in that vicinity.

Stewart — For founder Dr. D.A. Stewart.

Sumter — After Fort Sumter.

Winsted — After Winsted, Connecticut.

Weather facts

1934 — An extreme drought hit the area with daily temperatures up to near 110. The entire summer went without rain, and only the smallest of corn crops was raised.

1936 — The most prolonged cold snap occurred, beginning Jan. 15, as temperatures held below zero, day and night, for 26 days. Temperatures reached 35 below zero and froze water mains that were six feet under ground.

Nov. 11, 1940 — The Veterans Day storm of 1940 started out with a warm rain with fog, but by 9 a.m. a violent storm front rolled in and hit the area with one of its worst snowstorms of the century. The raging snow storm closed roads, trapped hunters and killed numerous people throughout the state as temperatures dipped to 13 below zero before the day ended. The cold temperatures prevailed without a thaw until mid April of 1941.



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Silver Lake native son goes to Capitol

Silver Lake native son, Ron Shimanski, first ran for the Minnesota House of Representatives seat in District 18A in 2006, and won.

Now the first-year representative is learning the ropes at the state Capitol in St. Paul.

Shimanski took office on Jan. 3, 2007, and said he heeded the advice of veteran representatives: "Do a lot more listening than talking."

As a minority party member, Shimanski said the job of House Republicans is "to make sure there is no runaway budget, no tax increases."

Before the swearing in ceremony, Shimanski said he went through a three-day orientation period that included an introduction to the internal workings of the Capitol and its staff. It also included lessons in how to best utilize those state departments for research and other matters. "It would have taken me three or four years to figure that out."

Shimanski, a Republican, grew up on a farm north of Silver Lake. He has been in the orchard business for the past 10 years on a part-



Rep. Ron Shimanski

time basis, and bought the orchard about four years ago. He also farms and raises beef cattle.

On top of that, Shimanski is a draftsman/design technician with Littfin Lumber Company, after years in the insurance business.

A graduate of Willmar Community College with an associate of science degree in agricultural busi-

ness, Shimanski said he did additional course work in business and management through other colleges.

His wife, Lois, died 10 years ago, and he has three sons, Vince, Ben and Chris.

Shimanski has been an active member in the local Republican Party for years.

His platform when running for the the House seat vacated by fellow Republican Scott Newman was to work on conservative family values, including tax fairness, control of government spending and ensuring quality of life issues, like state government should assure basic, equitable education funding, should provide for public safety, should ensure access to affordable healthcare and safeguard the state's natural resources.

"I have a strong belief in the family structure, which is the basis for society. Good, strong families equal a healthy society."

As a legislator, Shimanski said he will be holding to his beliefs, sticking to his guns, "although some compromise is necessary."

Other surrounding area celebrations

- * Winsted's Winstock, second weekend in June.
- * Glencoe Days, second weekend in June.
- * Lester Prairie Longhorn Days, third weekend in June.
- * Hutchinson Water Carnival, third weekend in June.
- * Hamburg Summerfest, third weekend in June.
- * Stewart Summerfest, last weekend in June.
- * New Auburn Fourth of July.
- * Silver Lake Pola-Czesky Days, first weekend in August.
- * Sibley County Fair, first weekend in August (Thursday through Sunday).
- * Carver County Fair, second weekend in August (Wednesday through Sunday).
- * McLeod County Fair, third weekend in August (Wednesday through Sunday).
- * Renville County Fair, third weekend in August (Wednesday through Saturday).
- * Norwood Young America Stiftungfest, fourth weekend in August.
- * Hutchinson Arts & Craft in Park, second weekend after Labor Day.

(These are approximate dates that are subject to change from year to year.)



Above is the rodeo at the Sibley County Fair, below is the Glencoe Days royalty.



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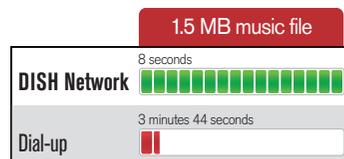
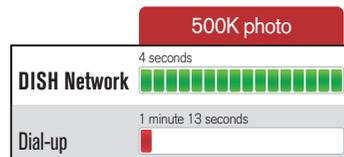
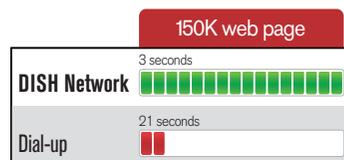
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¹Upload Threshold is the volume of data that can be uploaded during the previous 30 days before the Fair Access Policy may restrict the user's speeds.

²Download Threshold is the volume of data that can be downloaded during the previous 30 days before the Fair Access Policy may restrict the user's speeds.

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