



Wrestlers win EV-W triangular on Friday.
See page 1B.

Junior Ryan VanLuik wins his 50th career match.
See page 1B.



NEWS BRIEFS

Mobile Food Drop is set for January 7

The Pope County Mobile Food Drop will be held Tuesday, Jan. 7, at Glenwood United Parish, 10 17th Ave NW, Glenwood. Registration is at 11 a.m. and food distribution will begin at 12 p.m. Please bring boxes to carry your food.

The Mobile Food Drop is a monthly food distribution event. Anyone who eats and lives in Pope County is able to utilize this program.

Upcoming food drop dates are Feb. 11, March 10, April 14 and May 12.

This monthly event is made possible by the United Way of Pope and Douglas Counties.

County to meet in regular session Tuesday

The Pope County Board of Commissioners' regular meeting, scheduled for Thursday, December 26, was cancelled. The next Pope County board of commissioners meeting will be held tomorrow, Jan. 7, beginning at 9 a.m. in the county board room on the second floor of the Pope County Courthouse in Glenwood.

Pope County Expo set for April 4

Save the date for the the annual Pope County Community Expo.

The 2020 Expo will be held on Saturday, April 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Minnewaska Area High School. The Expo attracts many vendors, features special programs and attracts a large crowd each year. Local businesses can also consider sponsoring this event. Sponsors receive free booth space, first choice of booth location, free newspaper and radio advertising and promotion. Those interested should contact the Glenwood Lakes Area Chamber for more information.

OBITUARIES

Carole M. Chevalier
86, Glenwood, formerly of Benson

Daniel M. Schliesman
85, Glenwood

Jeanne E. Vangsness
86, Glenwood

Louis M. Gunvalson
93, Alexandria

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Former mayor, chamber director to face charges

A former Glenwood mayor and former executive director of the Glenwood Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce was formally charged Dec. 26 with two counts of credit card fraud and three counts of theft.

Scott Allen Formo, 49, was charged in Pope County District Court Dec. 26 with two counts of unauthorized use of a credit card and three counts of theft from the Glenwood Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce. He was summoned to appear in court on the charges on



Scott Formo

Feb. 3, according to the complaint.

The charges stem back to June of 2018, when Formo was working as executive director of the chamber and was also mayor of Glenwood. In September of 2018, an accountant hired by Glenwood Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce discovered a \$160 charge to Verizon on a chamber

credit card issued to Formo. Formo acknowledged the charge was for a personal expense and he reimbursed the chamber through two payroll deductions, according to the complaint.

That incident, however, prompted the chamber board to review activity on the credit card and in November of 2018, the chamber made a report to the Glenwood Police Department citing "suspicious activity" on the credit card dating back to 2012. At that time, the Glenwood police requested assis-

tance from the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) because Formo was a "sitting mayor of Glenwood" during the alleged activity period, it stated in the statement of probable cause from Aaron K. Jordan, Stevens County Attorney who is functioning as a special assistant to the Pope County Attorney's office.

After investigation of chamber credit card records and chamber funds in a PayPal account, See **Charges** Page 2A

POPE COUNTY TRIBUNE celebrating 100 years



The current staff at the Pope County Tribune includes, from left, Mark Beasley, sports editor; Zach Anderson, news reporter; Emma Nyhammer, composition and advertising sales; Erica Stoen, graphic design; Erika Andreas, accounting and office manager; Tim Douglass, publisher/editor; and Celeste Rapp, news reporter. Not pictured are Morgan Lemke, advertising sales; and Matthew Cooley, proofreader.

The very first edition of the Pope County Tribune was published in Glenwood on June 18, 1920.

That means that in just a few short months from now, this local newspaper will have printed and distributed 5,200 weekly issues since that first one came off the press in Glenwood.

That's a lot of news, and a lot of history recorded by a newspa-

per in and about Pope County. Most of those issues are bound by year and take up an entire room at the Tribune office in Glenwood.

Those bound copies document the life and times of the Glenwood and surrounding community. They remain the best source for local history and are used to document history in other forms in the community,

including at the Pope County Museum.

Today, the Pope County Tribune continues to go about its business, bringing the news, advertising and information to local readers, whether it be through its print edition or online. The Tribune is among the oldest continuously operated

See **Tribune turns 100** Page 3A

Kruger Farms retail, online businesses will close

Local hunting, fishing store will liquidate in January-February

Kruger Farms, a retail outlet near Starbuck and its online business, krugerfarms.com will be going out of business, it was announced last week.

Krugerfarms.com and the Starbuck warehouse and retail store were part of a larger marketing company and that company decided it was closing the businesses, according to Russ Barkeim, who has been general manager of the retail site for the past 10 years. The closing will eliminate four full-time jobs and a number of part-time jobs, Barkeim said last Friday.

The retail store will be closed for inventory and will reopen on Jan. 11 and sell everything it can through the end of February. "Whatever doesn't sell by the end of February will go be auctioned off" through Zielsdorf Auctioneer service, Barkeim said.

Krugerfarms.com featured guide-recommended gear for hunting, fishing and outdoors and sold gear, firearms, fishing and archery equipment from top brands in the field. It has been operating online for about 15 years. The warehouse and retail store is located at 30344 County Road 18, just south of Starbuck.

Program for first-time mothers offered in Pope County

By Celeste Rapp
news@pctrubune.com

Supporting Hands Nurse Family Partnership (SHNFP) is a free program for first-time mothers to utilize. With the closest SHNFP based in Morris, home visitors hired by SHNFP travel to mothers throughout the area, including Pope County, to help with whatever the mother may need.

The home visitor is a personal nurse that works with the new mother to learn about breastfeeding, nutrition, child development, safe sleep techniques and is also a confidante and emotional support for the mother. According to the SHNFP website, the personal nurses are "registered nurses (RNs),

with experience in public health nursing, maternal and child health, labor and delivery, pediatrics and other related fields."

Sara Staples, RN and public health nurse (PHN) with SHNFP described her job as a home visitor, "I visit first time pregnant moms and can continue to visit them until their baby is two years old. We can assist in finding additional resources, answer questions, listen to and discuss any concerns they have."

SHNFP client Averii Hutton benefitted from the program for two and a half years, until her child turned two. She said of SHNFP, "They provided me with so many resources in all areas. They gave me education on every aspect of my life through each stage of par-

enthood."

She said that she learned how to be a better parent and how to better herself and that her personal nurse answered any questions she had. "I began the program when I was halfway through my pregnancy. I was nervous and unsure about the program at first, and even considered canceling my first meeting. However, I am forever grateful that I didn't."

First time mothers have to enroll in the program on or before their 28th week of pregnancy. Mothers can then stay in the program until their child turns two years old. Currently, there are six clients in Pope County who are using the SHNFP program and there have been 56 total clients from

Pope County who have participated in the program.

Staples thinks that women in Pope County should be aware of the program because, "Living in a rural area often means there are less resource options available and, depending upon the person's personal situation, becoming a new parent can be a very exciting time but it can also be very stressful and/or cause a lot of uncertainty."

SHNFP hopes to expand and obtain more clients within Pope County. To do this, their outreach worker Karol Kiefer contacts various businesses and organizations that have contact with first-time

See **New program** Page 2A

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