



Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

Tight space may cause future class restructuring at BP Schools

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Cramped quarters at Blooming Prairie Elementary School have forced officials to offer art classes this year in a sectioned off area right next to where kids eat their lunches in the cafeteria.

It's just one way the elementary school is dealing with space issues. And for school officials it's a good problem that could eventually lead to a restructuring of classes within the district.

"Our elementary school is busting," said

Rodney Krell, chairman of the school board. "Enrollment is rising."

Enrollment at the elementary school shows 460 students in grades K-6 and 90 in pre-K classes offered for 3 and 4 year olds, according to Chris Staloch, school principal. The strong numbers have forced officials to offer three sections in every class this year with an average of 20 students in each classroom, he said.

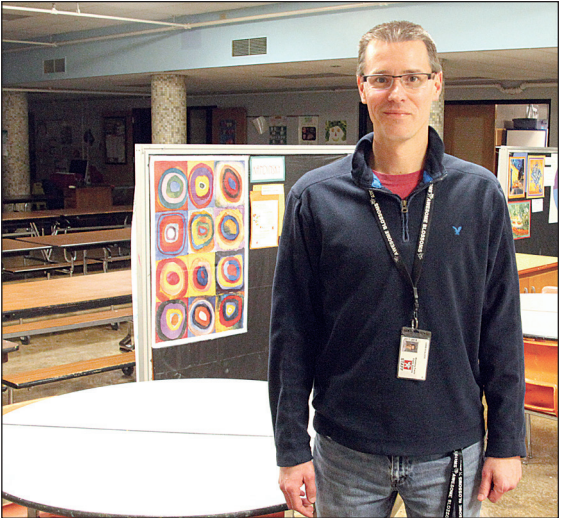
Staloch said when he took over as principal in 2010 there were 380 students in K-6. "It may not seem like a whole lot in bigger schools, but 40 (additional) kids is a pretty big deal for us," he said, noting the pre-K enrollment in 2010 was at 30 students.

In comparison, some of the upcoming graduating classes at the high school have as low as 40 students. "We're looking very consistent with 60 students in every class," Staloch said. He added the number 60 is a

SEE SPACE, A3

Principal Chris Staloch shows the makeshift art room that has been created next to the cafeteria area at Blooming Prairie Elementary School. Solid enrollment and cramped space are forcing school officials to closely monitor the situation and may possibly lead to a restructuring of classes throughout the district.

STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

The Geneva Lumber Company will remain open after dealing with some unforeseen circumstances, the death of a business partner. Tait Ingvaldson (pictured) announced recently that he will keep the doors open following the death of partner Jon Carlson.

'It would have been tough to walk away'

Despite adversity of partner's death, Geneva Lumber will continue on

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

"It would have been tough to walk away," said Tait Ingvaldson, partner with Jon Carlson in owning the Geneva Lumber Company.

The future of the small-town lumber store was hanging in the balance for weeks after Carlson died on Dec. 23, 2017 following a massive heart attack at the store on Dec. 18.

Lots of soul searching began for Ingvaldson as many people asked if he would be shutting the doors on the popular lumber company located in Geneva, just three-quarters of a mile east of Interstate 35.

Basic services at the Geneva lumber store include drafting,

home design, lumber, windows, etc.

Ingvaldson said he heard strong encouragement from his family and friends and from Carlson's wife Angie to continue the business.

Carlson was the company draftsman in addition to helping Ingvaldson manage the business. He drew all the house plans utilizing Geneva Lumber materials.

Ingvaldson explained that it was critical to find a draftsman and thus keep the business going.

After searching, Ingvaldson found Josh Krueger working at Bertch Cabinets in Waterloo, Iowa. Krueger had previously worked for Richards Wood Products, which became Geneva Lumber after Ingvaldson and Carlson bought it.

SEE LUMBER, A3

Bash supports local youth club in BP

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The annual fundraiser benefit sponsored by the Blooming Prairie Youth Club offered proof once again that the community steps up on a great scale to support worthwhile causes.

A near capacity crowd of enthusiastic attendees and enthusiastic bidders for the auctions assured the club directors and several volunteers a most profitable

evening of fun and charitable work.

Although the totals for the evening are still an estimate, the club should realize approximately \$21,000 to go towards providing programming at the club for the next months. It also assures the community that the club, one of the only youth clubs in this section of the state, will continue to provide a safe place for kids after

SEE BASH, A3



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

This Dr. Seuss quilt donated by the John and Lisa Bruns family was auctioned off at the annual Blooming Prairie Youth Club Benefit Bash Saturday night at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club. Robyn Kruckeberg won the quilt with a bid of \$1,500.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Jon Fabian, DDS, and Katie Schreck, LDA, prepare for a free dental examination on 8-year-old Joseph Cruz. Cruz' siblings, Roldan, 7, and Ana Sofia, 2, also took advantage of the free dental services Saturday at Main Street Dental in Owatonna. It was all part of the American Dental Association's Give Kids a Smile program.

Give Kids a Smile
Main Street Dental offers free dental care for children

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday Main Street Dental in Owatonna opened its doors and invited area families and children to a volunteer event focused on free dental care for kids.

The Give Kids a Smile program, which is sponsored by the American Dental Association, began offering free dental services in 2003.

Jon Fabian, DDS, recalls Main Street Dental participating in the event for all of the 10 years he's been working in the Owatonna office. Main Street usually rotates sites between their five locations across southern Minnesota each year. In addition to Owatonna, the dentistry has offices in Blooming Prairie, New Richland, Mankato and Rochester.

SEE SMILE, A3

Fair to pick manager this week

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

The board governing Minnesota's largest county fair hopes to name a new manager later this week.

Steele County Fair president Dan Deml said the fair's personnel committee interviewed six candidates last week for the top position. Deml said a top candidate has been identified and will be presented to the rest of the board at Thursday night's regularly scheduled board meeting.

"The interview committee will bring a candidate forward that we feel would be best for the job," Deml said. "We have some good candidates."

All six of the candidates were from Minnesota with four of them being from

Steele County. Deml said they offered a "good cross section" of experience.

The fair had hoped to interview a seventh candidate from outside Minnesota, according to Deml. But the candidate declined to be interviewed after learning his salary requirements could not be met, he said.

The board hopes to have the new manager on board by March 1.

The manager will replace Jim Gleason, who stepped down Jan. 1 because of medical reasons. Gleason is currently battling a brain tumor.

Seventeen candidates emerged once the job was posted. The fair narrowed the list to six.

Steele County is one of few fairs in the state to have a full-time manager.

The board meets at Mother's Rest on the fairgrounds Thursday at 6:30 p.m.



INSIDE

Classifieds..... D5
Community Calendar.. C5
Hometown Living.....C1
HL: County..... C2

Hometown SportsB1
Obituaries..... A4
Opinion..... A2
Park and Rec..... D3

Public Notices..... D2
Public Safety C4
Tax Guide A6
Worship & Faith.....A5

AREA DEATHS

Allen Dennis Johnson, 93
Samuel Myron Peterson, 72

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OUR VIEW

Cameras should become permanent in the courtroom

Minnesota's high court will soon face a major decision regarding cameras in the courtrooms across the state. For more than two years, a pilot project has allowed news organizations to capture video and photographs inside some sentencing proceedings—mostly murder trials and other high profile cases around the state. The Supreme Court is currently soliciting feedback from the public about cameras in the state's courtrooms. Any person or organization can provide their views until March 26 regarding the issue. The court will take the public comments into account as it plans to debate the issue on April 25.

An advisory committee made up of judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys has already recommended that the pilot project be made permanent. In making its recommendation, the committee found more than half of those surveyed about the presence of cameras were “not at all” intrusive, distracting or disruptive in the proceeding. Cameras have been utilized in 53 cases since November 2015.

One of those cases involved the recent Steele County murder sentencing of Cyrus Trevino. Judge Joseph Bueltel allowed cameras in the courtroom. In his ruling prior to the sentencing, the judge said it is not his role to police he media under the First Amendment. He said he sees value in covering the case because it shows consequences for crimes and that the public knows when the case has ended.

Victim statements are often extremely powerful in the sentencing of defendants. Cameras and recording devices allow the public to see what heartache victims struggle with in the face of criminal actions.

Contrary to some arguments, microphones and cameras in the courtroom do not destroy the legal process.

We believe that the Supreme Court should implement the camera policy for good. The more transparent and accessible the courts are to the media as well as others, the greater the trust will be established in our judicial system. In the end, the public benefits from being able to see our courts operate.

With the courts closely monitoring the situation, as they should, it also holds media coverage to be responsible.

We hope the Supreme Court Justices later this spring will make cameras in the courtroom a permanent fixture of our legal process.



Buried in an avalanche of embezzlement

Over the past 16 months I have been buried in an avalanche of embezzlement that has nearly choked off my existence—at least with the newspaper, that is.

This newspaper has shared stories in the past about former business manager Kimberly Hammer, who embezzled more than \$15,000 over an eight-month period in 2016. That figure includes the actual embezzlement of double paychecks and petty cash by Hammer, in addition to some of the costs associated with the mop up afterwards.

I've never claimed to be a bookkeeper as my talents lie in other areas of the newspaper business. But ever since the embezzlement, I've had a crash course in managing the books and accounting. It isn't something I wanted to do, but rather it has been a matter of survival for my company.

Thankfully I've had some great accountants down the street at Johnson, Doerhoefer and Miner to lean on as well as my mother and a few others. They have all allowed me to get to a much happier spot than I was in October 2016.

One of the hidden casualties that doesn't get factored into any totals for the court or others is the loss of revenue. During this embezzlement fiasco, some advertising accounts, which is our greatest source of revenue to keep the doors open and the paper in your hands every week, pulled out completely or scaled way back in what they've done in the past.

This has been a disheartening reality for me throughout this embezzling crisis. While I certainly sympathize with advertisers who may have had some billing issues with their accounts, it simply doesn't help the situation in any way, shape or form to get annoyed and angry at us for what happened. I'd like to remind those advertisers who felt the

need to revictimize us again that the embezzlement was a single cowardly act of one person and nobody else.

For eight years, I have taken tremendous pride in providing this community as well as the entire four county area with a strong community newspaper. However, I can't do it without the financial support of businesses and organizations who run their advertisements in our publications. A newspaper cannot and will not survive without the proper advertising support.



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

It has always amazed me how the Blooming Prairie and Owatonna communities as well as many others around it support each other through difficult times. I just hope this can be reciprocated at least somewhat to us during our dire needs.

As the sticky situation has caused me some health problems, the embezzlement is something I would not wish on anybody. It's like getting a knockout punch from no where.

It's time for me to go in hot pursuit of continuing to pull out from being buried in an avalanche of embezzlement.

GUEST COLUMN

Census of Agriculture: Your opportunity to shape the future



BY KAROLYN ZURN

My husband and I live on a midsized farm in northwestern Minnesota, where we grow corn, soybeans, sugar beets, wheat, and alfalfa. Several of our grown children are farmers too, raising families and teaching them how to be competent, resourceful future farmers. We all rely on good policy that effectively keeps

farms operational – especially young farmers who need startup capital and supportive risk-management tools. So every five years, my family does something very important for our farms and communities – we complete the Census of Agriculture. We do this because we want the census to show the value of the work we do and we want to be reflected in the data that can and probably will have an impact on the future of our operations.

Census data play a big role in a lot of areas but one that affects us all is the Farm Bill. The Farm Bill encompasses farm commodity support, crop insurance coverage and disaster aid, nutrition assistance, trade, research, rural development, and more. The most recent bill, the Agricultural Act of 2014, expires this year. Policymakers will use Census of Agriculture data as a tool to help them address current and potential agriculture and food issues in the new bill. This is why it's imperative that every U.S. farmer and rancher be represented. Our collective responses to the census mean accuracy and strength – it means better data.

What did the last Census of Agriculture tell us? Here are some highlights: We know that 3.2 million farmers operated 2.1 million farms covering 915 million acres, generating food, fuel, and fiber for the rest of America and people around the world. This means that 40 percent of all U.S. land was farmland being worked by less than one percent of the total

U.S. population in 2012. Of the 2.1 million farms, 97 percent were family-owned. Eighty-eight percent of all farms were small family farms.

The last census also revealed an increase in women, Hispanic, Asian, and African American farmers, and that beginning farmers operated one quarter of all farms. What will the 2017 Census of Agriculture tell us? This year's census aims to capture an even more detailed account of American agriculture with new questions about military veteran status, marketing practices, and the roles and contributions of individuals working the farm, including women and our next generation.

Though the first census response deadline has come and gone, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will follow-up with producers and collect data through spring to ensure as complete a representation of U.S. agriculture as possible.

If you have not already responded, I urge you to do so. Our voices are only heard if we have the numbers behind them. I am a farmer, and I will continue to be counted because my family and our farms count.

For more information on the census and past census data, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov.

Karolyn Zurn is first vice president of American Agri-Women, a national association with more than 40,000 members nationwide.

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BASH: Supports BP youth



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD
Maddy Madsen of the Blooming Prairie Youth Club presents the Super Supporter Award to Kay Toquam during an award ceremony at the BP Youth Club Benefit Bash on Saturday, Feb. 3 at the BP Servicemen's Club.

FROM PAGE A1

school and during the summer for the foreseeable future. Counting the silent and live auctions, nine different types of fundraising events took place during the evening.

Before the live auctions began, several honors were distributed. Per Kvalsten, a club parent, presented LeMar Nelson a special award for his many years of service and commitment to the club. Nelson has worked for the Steele County Times as a writer for the past 26 years. As Kvalsten remarked, “LeMar is seen at all community events, and we thank you for all you have done for the youth of Blooming Prairie. LeMar is a person who seriously cares about the community and the people in it.”

Nelson’s three daughters were all in attendance to see their father receive the special award, which read: “To LeMar Nelson in appreciation of his commitment and dedication to Blooming Prairie throughout the years.”

The youth club gave three other awards to board members. Youth club student Maddy Madsen presented Kaye Toquam the Super Supporter award, club member Jayden Kvalsten honored Kyle Kruckeberg of KiK Graphics with the Generous Giver award, and Ashley Rye awarded Angie Carlson the Amazing Advocate

honor. Carlson is currently the Board of Directors chairperson.

Besides the events to raise funds, the crowd had a great time socializing and taking advantage of kitchen specials provided by the Servicemen’s Club kitchen staff. All the kids were transported to the youth club for their own party once the live auction began. Raffle winners included Davin Johnson \$100, Sam Romeo \$200, and Jolene Zilm a half processed hog donated by Nelson.

Nicole Sparger won the heads or tails contest and donated \$50 back to the club, and Tamra Bissell won the mystery prize contained in a treasure chest. A wine contest also provided bottles of wine to several lucky entrants. Ritchie Brothers Auctioneers managed the live auction, with John Carlson the main auctioneer.

Youth Club Director Kelli Naatz commented, “I thought the event went very well for its first time as the Blooming Prairie Youth Club, and I was pleased with the turnout and the results. It should really help the club in funding the programs we operate at club.”

There didn’t seem to be any long faces as the benefit closed shop at the end of the evening.

Staff writer Howard Lestrud also contributed to this story.

SPACE: Restructuring BP schools

FROM PAGE A1

“good place” to be for the school.

Krell said the surge in enrollment poses a double-edged sword for the district. On one hand, the increase in more students helps financially stabilize the district, but it also creates a problem in finding adequate space for everyone.

As the district monitors the situation closely, a realignment of classes may be needed in the future to alleviate the space problem. Krell said one idea that the district will likely consider is a middle school concept, which would move one grade level or possibly another out of the elementary and into the high school building. The high school currently houses grades 7-12.

Krell couldn’t offer an exact time line of when a change may be made, but he’s certain it would be “within the next 10 years.”

The elementary school was

built in the 1960s and remodeled in 1994, Staloch said. “We’re getting close to what it’s built to hold,” he said. “We’re slowly using

“Every small school in America would like to have this problem.”

Chris Staloch
BP Elementary Principal

up all the space for students and classrooms.”

Staloch said the challenge for his building is to utilize the space as effectively as possible. Art classes, for example, used to be held in a classroom, but now take up a portion of the cafeteria. “We don’t have a lot of space that has down time,” he noted.

“It’s a good problem to have,” Staloch said. “Every small school in America would like to have this problem.”

The district has benefited from

SMILE: Free dental care for children

FROM PAGE A1

This year the event was held in Owatonna, and Fabian reported a good showing of patients, something he was pleased with. “It’s rewarding, and it’s essential to children’s health,” Fabian says of the event.

The Main Street Dental offices are not typically open on Saturdays, but Fabian and the staff opened their doors and their schedules to come in specially for the event. “It’s a little more relaxed,” he explained. “It’s kids and their families, and we try to make it fun and see if we can get them to smile.”

Dr. Jon Fabian
Main Street Dental

with quality dental care free of cost.

Although most patients are new, and the time allotted may not be sufficient for a comprehensive check-up, Fabian says that the time he spends with each patient is still vital in reinforcing good dental hygiene habits. He says that “preventive care is the most important part of it.”

Fabian describes the event as one of his favorite days of the year, and explains that part of the reason he chose a career in a healthcare field is because he enjoys helping people.

Lisa Meyer, office administrator for Main Street Dental, says her staff does a great job with the event. “Jon is very helpful, as are our staff,” she said. “They give their time and energy for a good cause,” she added.

“It’s amazing, and the effect on the patients is unmeasurable,” Meyer said. She explained that next year they will be hosting the event at their Rochester and Mankato offices. “We ask a lot of our staff, and appreciate the time they give,” she said.

Meyer is also thankful for local businesses which helped to support the event. Dental suppliers donated, as did Vandal’s Family Market of Blooming Prairie, Hy-Vee, Casey’s and Jimmy Johns.

She says that they cater the event towards the kids, with prizes and food, and a comfortable atmosphere. “We get all different reactions from the kids, some are excited or eager, and some are scared,” Meyer said.

According to Meyer, Main Street Dental’s doctors all feel very strongly about the event. “We want to make sure that dental hygiene is a priority; really, it’s anything we can do to give back,” Fabian said.

The American Dental Association works in close partnership with dental clinics across the country to provide children with the opportunity for free dental care. The event is open to all children below the age of 18. Those interested in donating or learning more about the event should visit the American Dental Association’s website, <https://www.ada.org/en>.

LUMBER: To continue despite death

FROM PAGE A1

Krueger gave his two weeks notice to his employer and joined Geneva Lumber on Jan. 22.

“It was not a difficult decision to make when Josh said ‘yes,’” said Ingvaldson. “It was a huge relief,” he added.

Sitting behind his large desk, Ingvaldson carries a physical frame of a National Football League player. He explained that an announcement about the future of the lumber company had to be made.

He chose Facebook as the communications vehicle and emphasized that he is “not big on posting stuff” on the web.

Let’s take a look at excerpts from his post:

“... Many of you know I lost a good friend and business

“People are always there when you need them.”

Tait Ingvaldson
Geneva Lumber Owner

partner back in December. This last month has been the hardest thing I have ever had to deal with in my life!

“I want to thank all of my friends, family and customers who have been willing to help in any way they could.

“I have never had so much support! ... after a lot of thinking, I have decided to keep Geneva Lumber going. I have had a lot of people ask if we will be closing the doors. Jon and I have worked so hard for this and I think he would be pissed at me if I walked away now. ...”

Ingvaldson said Angie had told him that she had also received outstanding support from many of the area communities.

“People are always there when you need them,” Ingvaldson related.

A Memorial Benefit for the Jon Carlson family is planned for Saturday, Feb. 10 at the Cue Company in Blooming Prairie. This benefit will help Angie Carlson pay for funeral and medical costs,

as Jon was between health insurances, and did not have life insurance.

The benefit includes a free will donation taco supper and a silent auction.

Ingvaldson and Carlson worked tougher at Richards Wood Products before purchasing it from David (Dub) Richards and Brett Richards. Ingvaldson started working for RWP in 1997. Carlson joined RWP about 10 years later.

David Richards has recently faced adversity, too,

being seriously injured with his wife in a fire at their home on Albert Lea Lake in Albert Lea.

Ingvaldson and Carlson bought the business in December 2013. “We were told that we needed to either get a new job or buy the business,” Ingvaldson said.

Saying he and Carlson were “pretty compatible,” Ingvaldson said Carlson handled responsibilities Ingvaldson didn’t want to do, and Ingvaldson did things that Carlson wasn’t necessarily

fond of doing.

Carlson did all the drawing of house plans among other duties, and Tait ran the lumber yard, taking care of small jobs and helping with deliveries.

Geneva Lumber covers a wide radius including Geneva, Ellendale, New Richland, Albert Lea, Austin, Blooming Prairie, Hayfield, Oslo, Brownsdale, Mapleton, Mantorville and Owatonna.

Ingvaldson said he will never forget that day in December when Carlson

collapsed at the lumber store.

Lumber company employee Alex Beenken is a First Responder and began performing CPR immediately. Other First Responders soon joined him in efforts to save Carlson’s life. Carlson was then flown by helicopter to Mankato medical facilities.

Carlson was kept on life support for five days allowing for the process of organ donation.

“I don’t know if I really have dealt” with the impact of losing a friend and business

partner, Ingvaldson said. “A lot of stuff goes through your head at a time like this,” he shared.

Ingvaldson, his wife Jennifer and their two children, Dylan, 12 and Brynna, 8, reside in Geneva.

The pace has been busy at Geneva Lumber the past several weeks. Ingvaldson has been working to find a new normal. The store has four employees.

Prairie Manor Care Center Annual Meeting

Feb 15 @ 5:30p.m. in the Chapel
220 3rd St. NW Blooming Prairie

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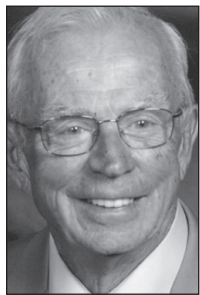
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OBITUARIES

Allen Dennis Johnson, 93,



Allen Dennis Johnson, 93, of Blooming Prairie, passed away Monday, Jan. 29, 2018 at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie.

Allen Dennis Johnson was born on Jan. 2, 1925 in rural Blooming Prairie on the family Century Farm to Elmer and Edna (Dennis) Johnson. He attended District 47 country school and Blooming Prairie High School. At a young age Allen's father died and he began working on the farm.

On June 1, 1947, he married Dorothy Davis at Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church. Their marriage was blessed with three sons. He was named the Steele County Outstanding Farmer and placed third in the state competition.

In 1960 he purchased the Bixby Feed Mill that he operated until retiring in 1988. He was an entrepreneur starting many local businesses including; Tri-Ford, Prairie Farm Service, Prairie Pullet, Green Valley Egg, and others. In 1990 the couple began wintering in Arizona until 2011.

He served on the Steele County Fair Board for 37 years. He was a member of The Owatonna Elks, Osman Shrine, and Prairie Lodge. Allen enjoyed traveling, square dancing, and yardwork. He filled his free time fishing, playing cards, lawn mowing, and golfing.

Survivors include his wife of 70 years, Dorothy Johnson of Blooming Prairie, three sons, David (Jan) Johnson of Houston, Texas, Greg (Betti) Johnson of Blooming Prairie, and Doug (Tamzen) Johnson of Blooming Prairie; seven grandchildren, Heather, Geoffrey (Emily), Jason (Jenny Wondra), Lori (Nate) Arndt, Grant, Alex, and Erin (Matthew) Larsgaard; three great-grandchildren, Talon, Ethan, Sophia, and one due in the spring of 2018; sister, Geraldine Oswald of Blooming Prairie; sister-in-law, Virginia Davis of Clarks Grove; many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Allen is preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Edna Johnson; siblings, Georgiann Toquam, Elmer "Don" Johnson, and Mary Alice Golden; six brother-in-laws, and three sister-in-laws.

A Memorial Service was held on Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018 at the First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie with Pastor Heidi Heimgartner officiating. Interment was at Union Cemetery, Bixby.

Memorials can be directed to Shriners Hospital, First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, or Prairie Manor Care Center of Blooming Prairie. Services prearranged and performed by Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.worlein.com.

BIRTH

Adalyn Alice PirkI of Littleton, Colo.

Charlie PirkI and Dr. Jessica Veeh of Littleton, Colo. are pleased to announce the birth of a daughter, Adalyn Alice PirkI. Adalyn was born on Jan. 29, 2018 in Littleton, Colo. She weighed 6 pounds and 6 ounces.

The paternal grandparents are Doug and Marilyn PirkI of Owatonna while the maternal grandparents are Tom and Susan Veeh of Merriam, Kansas.

Happy 50th Anniversary!



Congratulations

Pat and Linda Goodnature on celebrating your 50th Wedding Anniversary on Feb. 10.

Best wishes, Mom & Dad!

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12 Pack .5 Liter **\$4.99**

Pure Leaf

18.5oz 6 Pack **\$4.99**

Dew Ice

20oz **\$1.49**

Check out OUR DOLLAR Selection!

237 Hwy Ave. S. Locally Owned & Operated 507-583-6671

LIBRARY BOOK NOOK

It's 'I Love to Read' time at the library



NANCY
VAILLANCOURT

I Love to Read! That is the motto for the month of February. The local schools will be having special reading events for their enthusiastic readers. Here at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library we have a busy month scheduled for all ages.

If the kids are getting cabin fever, send them to the library on Wednesday afternoons from 3-5 p.m. for our Bust Boredom game days for third to fifth graders. We have chess tournaments going on, as well as other assorted games to choose from. The more the merrier!

Two movies will be shown for adults on Thursday afternoons at 1 p.m. On Feb. 15, an R-rated movie about a man injured during the Boston Marathon bombing will be shown. The following week, Feb. 22, join us for a little known story of a queen and an Indian and their unlikely friendship.

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m., author Shawn Otto will be discussing his book The War on Science. Several community members have read the book. Even if you have not read the book, join us for a new perspective on science and society. Refreshments will be served by the Friends of the Library.

Bring the children to our Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss Family Fun Night on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 6:30 p.m. You will hear some of your favorite Dr. Seuss stories and make some Seussical crafts. It will be a fun night to celebrate reading with family, friends, and ECFE teachers.

See you at the library!

HARVEST OF THE MONTH
Mango, Okra, Cayenne

Blooming Prairie
Elementary
School Menu

All meals subject to change without notice

Prices
Breakfast: Regular \$2.40, Reduced/Free \$0.00, Adult \$3.65, Milk (extra or with sack lunch) \$0.50

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Choice of Cereal, Graham Crackers, Vegetable Selection, Fresh Fruit

Lunch: Pulled Pork Sliders, Italian Meatball Sub, Tator Tots

Thursday, Feb. 8

Breakfast: French Toast Loaf, Choice of Cereal, Vegetable Selection, Fresh Fruit

Lunch: Carnita Nachos, Hot Ham & Cheese Panini

Friday, Feb. 9

Breakfast: Blueberry Muffin, Choice of Cereal, Vegetable Selection, Fresh Fruit

Lunch: Chicken Parmesan Sandwich, Chicken Caesar Salad

Monday, Feb. 12

Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Choice of Cereal, Vegetable Selection, Fresh Fruit

Lunch: Popcorn Chicken Bowl, Salisbury Steak

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Choice of Cereal, Vegetable Selection, Fresh Fruit

Lunch: Pasta with Meat Sauce, Ham, Egg & Cheese on an English Muffin

Breakfast: Milk choice of 1% White or Skim is included with breakfast. **Lunch:** Milk choice of 1% White, Skim or Chocolate. Skim is included with lunch. Entree Salads are served with Dinner Roll.

For questions or comments, contact Melissa Taylor at 507-583-4426 ext 464 or email mtaylor@blossoms.k12.mn.us

HARVEST OF THE MONTH
Mango, Okra, Cayenne

Blooming Prairie
High School
Lunch Menu

All meals subject to change without notice

CC = Classic Cafe
DC = Diner Cafe
GG = Chef Salad
CS = Creation Station
PP = Pizza Parlor

Wednesday, Feb. 7
CC: Cheese Bread, Marinara Sauce DC: Crispy Chicken Tenders, Golden French Fries GG: Chef Salad

Thursday, Feb. 8
CC: Popcorn Chicken Bowl, Roasted Corn, M&M Cookie PP: Sausage & Pepperoni Pizza CS: Build Your Own Baked Potato

Friday, Feb. 9
CC: Burrito Bar DC: Corn Dog CS: Build Your Own Sub

Monday, Feb. 12
CC: Chicken Gyro DC: Cheeseburger on Bun GG: 7 Layer Salad CS: Italian Pasta Bake

Tuesday, Feb. 13
CC: Jambalaya, Roasted Okra DC: Chicken Patty on Whole Grain Bun PP: Pepperoni Pizza CS: Taco Bar

Milk choice of 1% White, Skim or Chocolate, Skim is included with lunch. Entree Salads are Served with Dinner Roll

For questions or comments, contact Melissa Taylor at 507-583-4426 ext 464 or email mtaylor@blossoms.k12.mn.us

BIRTHDAYS
Feb. 6
Rick Miller
Connie Trihus
Tony Glynn
Jacquelyn Schieck
Jena Lee
Feb. 7
Derek Miner
Lucas Swenson
Gloria Trom
Julie Horn
Pete Kittelson
Feb. 8
Jaxon LaMotte
Brent Weinberger

Janelle Morem
Rick Krejci
Feb. 9
Dawn Harshbarger
Holli Naatz
Gina Hendrickson
Luke Winzenburg
Stacy Johnson
Feb. 10
Corey Butera
Anthony C. Nelson
Feb. 11
John Konecne
Weston Flebiger
Steve Drexler
Kim Trotman
Kristen Krell

Feb. 12
Adam Esplan
Emily Trihus
Justin Esplan
Alan Schaefer
Gary Polinder
ANNIVERSARIES
Feb. 6
Ryan & Jenny Heimerman
Feb. 9
Mark & Karen Thoen
Feb. 11
Madison & Avery Andrews

Best kept secret!

Deli Sandwiches Daily Specials

ALL COME WITH A COOKIE & CHIPS

Tuesday - Ham

Thursday - Your Choice

Wednesday - Turkey

Friday - Beef

The Bakery

Main Street • Blooming Prairie • 583-4433

SEMCAC Senior Menu

All meals subject to change

Wednesday, Feb. 7

New England Boiled Dinner, Alt: Sliced Turkey Roast, Waldorf Gelatin Salad, Homemade Dinner Roll, Mixed Fruit Cup

Thursday, Feb. 8

Chicken Alfredo, Lasagna, Peas & Carrots, Fresh Green Salad, Cranberry Chews

Friday, Feb. 9

Tilapia/Piccata Sauce, Alt: Pork Steak, Fresh Dilled Potatoes, Seasoned Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Strawberry Shortcake

Monday, Feb. 12

BBQ Meatballs, Baked Potato/Sr Cream, Green Bean Casserole, Orange Wedge, Cook's Choice Pudding

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Beef Stroganoff, Parslied Noodles, Stewed Tomatoes, 3-Bean Salad, Bread Pudding

GRIEF RELIEF

If a friend is dying, what can you do? Don't avoid your friend by staying away or changing the subject when they talk of illness or death. Follow the normal conversations that are part of your relationship. If your friend wishes to talk further allow them to; letting them know that you care and will help in anyway you can. Honest conversations are usually most welcome and your presence may be all that is needed.

Direction with dignity from Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna.

Cory Michaelson

Michaelson

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Direction With Dignity

www.michaelsonfuneral.com

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Times



**PASTOR
PATRICK STITT**
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ASSEMBLY OF GOD
ELLENDALE

Jesus Christ is the only truth

As a Christian, I believe in an unchangeable, immutable, indestructible, absolutes, truth. When I speak of Jesus Christ I am not speaking of a religious Concepts designed to make me feel good about myself; I am

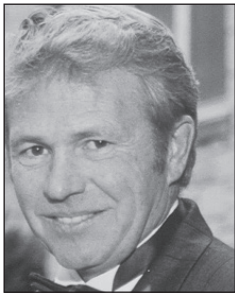
speaking of an actual historical character who lived, died and was resurrected. This may seem like a strange position.

We have all been taught to believe that religion is not in the sphere of factual historical studies. Some would even have us believe that the term “faith” means believing in something without having any factual information to justify it. We rather teach that religion consists of pleasant stories designed to make us feel good and be

good people. The problem with presenting Christianity as a positive life choice (i.e. something that will make you happy) is that you are offering it among many life choices, all of which have the fundamental goal of making you happy. Thus when you tell an individual that they should believe in Jesus because He will make them happy you are in fact telling them that it is logical and right to do whatever makes you happy. Alas, this individual could rightly reject Jesus because there genuinely are other options that could make them happier.

But if you tell them to believe in Jesus because He is true then there are no other options other than lies. There are many life choices that can make you happy, but only one truth. Jesus never claimed to be the key to happiness, because He is too majestic to be placed on a shelf and compared to other life choices. But He did claim to be the truth, knowing that any alternative to the truth is a lie. Christ is one of many keys to happiness, but He is the only truth.

OBITUARIES



Samuel Myron Peterson, 72, Ellendale

Samuel Myron Peterson, 72, of Ellendale, died Monday, Jan. 29, 2018 at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester.

He was born Dec. 7, 1945 in Berlin Township, the son of Selmer and Myrtle (Smith) Peterson. Sam graduated from Ellendale High School in 1963. Following school, he served four years in the U.S. Navy.

On Feb. 1, 1969, Samuel married Sharon Wiese at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. The couple has lived and farmed in the Ellendale area since their marriage. While farming, Sam also owned and operated the Straight River Inn. He also worked as an auctioneer with Tracy Holland and enjoyed hosting a spring and fall auction on his farm just outside of Hope.

Sam was a member of First Lutheran Church in Ellendale, the American Legion in New Richland and the Minnesota State Auctioneer's Association. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping and family gatherings. Sam's love of music started at an early age. He shared his musical talents with family and friends as well as performing with the Windzor 5 band. He loved being a part of his grandchildren's lives and attending their activities.

He is survived by his wife Sharon Peterson of Ellendale; daughters, Stephanie Peterson of Geneva, Shannon (and Troy) Pederson of Owatonna; grandchildren, Andre Hill, Avery Hill, Collin Pederson, Casey Pederson; sister, Shirley (and Tyler) Hansen of Rush City; brother, Mike (and Carol) Peterson of Citrus Heights, Calif.; sister-in-law, Cheryl Peterson of Ellendale and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Don Peterson; sister, Mary Jane (and Milton) Jensen.

Funeral services were held Friday, Feb. 2, 2018 at 11 a.m. at First Lutheran Church, Ellendale with the Rev. Richard Sliper officiating. Interment was in the Geneva Cemetery in Geneva.

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
507-676-5696
Worship: 9:00 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN – ELCA

106 Third St. SE., Geneva
Pastor Kristen Venne
507-256-4288
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST LUTHERAN – AFLC

503 Radel Ct., Ellendale
Pastor Richard Sliper
507-684-2451
Saturday: 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship;
10:15 a.m. Sunday School/
Confirmation
Tues.: 7 p.m. Call to Prayer,
open to all churches
Wed.: 9:30 a.m. BibleStudy;
3:30 – 5 p.m. Jesus and Me; 6
p.m.
Call to Prayer; 6:30 p.m.
Youth Group
Christmas Eve Service: 5 p.m.
Dec. 24

FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA

434 First St. SW.,
Blooming Prairie
Rev. Heidi Heimgartner,
507-583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sundays
Education Hour: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST LUTHERAN – LCMC

8953 SW 37th Ave., Hope
Pastor Sandy Miller
507-451-3854
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15
a.m. Sun.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN – LCMS

2500 7th Ave. NE., Owatonna
Rev. Mark Rosenau,
Senior Pastor
Rev. Greg Schlicker,
Associate Pastor
507-451-4125
www.goodshepherd
owatonna.com
Worship: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m.
& 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

MOLAND LUTHERAN – ELCA

7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon
Pastor Nancy Edwardson
507-789-6661
Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA

9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale
Pastor Mike Walerius
507-465-8366
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sun.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN – LCMS

1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Kirk Griebel
507-451-2720
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Education Hour:
10:15 a.m. Sun.

RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN – ELCA

30456 Mower-Freeborn
Road, Austin
Pastor Lindsay Stolen
507-583-2038 or 507-437-3000
www.roglutheran.org
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School
(Sept. – May): 10:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS

4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont
Pastor Alan Broadwell
507-528-2404
Worship: 6 p.m. Saturday;
10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS

28959 630th Ave., Sergeant
Pastor Collin Duling
507-251-5568
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA

30450 570th Ave., Waltham
Pastor Dwight DoBell
507-567-2474
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – LCMS

202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
507-567-2272
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA

2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden
Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar
507-451-2165
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

TRINITY LUTHERAN

5881 SE 118th St.,
Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
507-676-5696
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
(First Sunday of the month)

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA

609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Rev. Todd Buegler, Senior
Pastor
Rev. Dean Smith,
Associate Pastor
Rev. Amanda Weinkauff,
Associate Pastor
507-451-4520
www.tlcowatonna.org
Worship: Saturday: 5 p.m.;
Sun.: 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. &
10:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 6 p.m.
Sunday School:

8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA

104 First St. SE., Hayfield
Pastor Paul Hauschild
507-477-2248
www.trinityhayfield.org
Worship: 8 a.m.
& 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS

108 Third Ave. SW., Medford
Pastor Mark Biebighauser
507-451-0447
Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 Sun.
Education Hour:
9:15-10:15 a.m. Sun.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS

57043 300th St., Waltham
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
507-567-2272
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

ZION LUTHERAN – ELCA

7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar
507-451-2165
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.

CATHOLIC

CHRIST THE KING

203 Second Ave. NW., Medford
507-451-6353
Father Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.
Monday Mass: 9 a.m.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS

307 SW First St., New Richland
Father Raul Silva
Fr. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
507-465-8217
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL

9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
Father John Sauer
Fr. Jose Morales, Weekend
Presider
507-451-1588
www.litomysl.webs.com
Reconciliation: 8:45 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sundays
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Children's Church for
Preschool – 1st Grade
began Sept. 24
Faith Formation for
Kindergarten
– Confirmation: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays
Adult Study: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC

150 NE Second St., Hayfield
Father Thomas Niehaus
507-477-2256
Mass: 8 a.m. Sun.
& 8:30 a.m. Thursday
Reconciliation: 7:30 a.m. Sun.

SACRED HEART PARISH

810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna

Father John Sauer
Fr. Jose Morales, Parochial
Vicar
507-451-1588
www.sacredheartowatonna.org
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday;
8:30 a.m. & 10 a.m. Sun.
Spanish Mass: 11:45 a.m. Sun.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Sat.
Adoration:
8 a.m. – 10 p.m. Thurs.

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC

114 E. Main St., Blooming
Prairie
Father Thomas Niehaus
507-583-2784
www.stcolumbanuschurch.com
Mass: 10 a.m. Sun.
& 8:30 a.m. Friday
Reconciliation: 9 a.m.
First Friday & Saturday

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH

512 S. Elm Ave., Owatonna
Father Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
507-451-4845
Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m.
Reconciliation:
3-3:30 p.m. Sat.
Daily Mass:
8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri.
(Communion Service
8 a.m. Thursday)
Adoration Chapel available
Mon. – Fri. 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Key fob required after
hours or weekends

CHRISTIAN

CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT

540 SE 18th St., Owatonna
Dr. V. Brent Carlson, Pastor
507-451-1032
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday Connections: 10:15 a.m.

PENTECOSTAL

FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL

230 Locust Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Eliazar Talamantes
507-363-2240
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.;
6:30 p.m. Wednesday

METHODIST

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST

43089 180th St., Medford
(Seven miles west of
Medford on CR 23)
Pastors JJ & Stefanie Morgan
507-835-8726
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST

200 Sixth St. NW., Ellendale
Pastor Randy Cirksema
507-684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST

815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate
Pastor
Joyce Parker, Associate Pastor
507-451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Contemporary Worship:
10:45 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School/Adult Classes:
10 a.m.
Wednesday night
service at 6:30 p.m.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY

130 W. Bridge St., Owatonna
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Biblestudy: 9 a.m. Sun.
Reformers Unanimous
Meetings:
7 p.m. Friday

CEDAR CREEK

30 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Aaron de Neui
507-477-2255
www.cedarcreekchurch.org
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

DESTINY CHRISTIAN

Owatonna Campus
422 North St., Owatonna
Pastors Tyler & Jessica Braucht
507-254-8514
www.destinyc.org
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

ELEVATION NORTH

2002 Austin Road, Owatonna
Pastor Doug Jones
507-363-3099
www.elevationnorth.blogspot.
com
Worship (English): 10 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Worship (Spanish): 2 p.m. Sun.
Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday
Spanish Evangelism & Prayer:
7 p.m. Friday

NEW BEGINNINGS

332 14th St. NE., Owatonna
Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson
507-721-1366
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Gateway Connection:
6 p.m. Sun.

SIMPLE CHURCH

4515 NW 22nd Ave., Owatonna
(Country Goods building across
the freeway from Cabela's)
Pastor Todd Lundgren
507-451-5661
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wednesday

MENNONITE

PRAIRIE MENNONITE

13638 750th St., Blooming
Prairie
Bishop Dennis Martin
507-583-7532

Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting:
7:30 p.m. Wed.

MORMON

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

404 31st St. NW, Austin
Bishop Rick Bremner
507-433-9042
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.

PRESBYTERIAN

ASSOCIATED CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (USA) and
United Church of Christ
800 Havana Road, Owatonna
507-451-1546
www.associatedchurch.org
office@associatedchurch.org
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
(Fellowship, Church School,
and Adult Discussions follow)
Wednesday Activities: Sept –
May (see website for schedule)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

109 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Kirk Johnston
507-477-2631
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

2373 Seventh Ave. NE,
Owatonna
Pastor Bob Brauer
507-340-7143
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sat.
Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sat.

UCC

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

211 S. Main St., Medford
Pastor Louise Bender
507-451-4596
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

702 Third St. S., Ellendale
Pastor Patrick Stitt
507-684-3421
www.vibrantlifeag.com
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Kids Church: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

BAPTIST

FIRST BAPTIST

104 First Ave. NE,
Blooming Prairie
Pastor Matt Fennell
507-583-2673
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
& 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Bible Study: 11:30 a.m. Sun.

WANT TO SUBMIT SOMETHING TO THE WORSHIP SCHEDULE?

Contact us by
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phone, or mail:

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frontiernet.net

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www.ToyotaEquipment.com

State Farm Plemel Insurance Agency Owatonna – Blooming Prairie

State Farm – Plemel Insurance Agency in Owatonna is pleased to announce a satellite office in Blooming Prairie, MN.

Plemel Insurance Agency has been serving clients out of its Owatonna Location since 1999. With the retirement of State Farm Agent Dale Borchert it was a perfect opportunity to give clients the ability to be assisted with Insurance and Financial Services in two locations.

The State Farm – Blooming Prairie office will remain at its current location:
417 Highway Ave S, Blooming Prairie.
The office will be staffed fulltime January 1st, 2018.



State Farm Plemel Insurance Agency
920 Hoffman Drive
Owatonna
Phone: 507-451-4619
417 Highway Ave S.
Blooming Prairie
Phone: 507-583-7747

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RIVERLAND Community College

To learn more, call Jonathan at 507-433-0608

How to get the fastest and safest tax refunds

Choosing e-file and direct deposit for refunds remains the fastest and safest way to file an accurate income tax return and receive a refund. The IRS expects more than four out of five tax returns will be prepared electronically using tax software.

The IRS still anticipates issuing more than nine out of 10 refunds in less than 21 days, but there are some important factors to keep in mind for taxpayers.

By law, the IRS cannot issue refunds on tax returns claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit or the Additional Child Tax Credit before mid-February. This applies to the entire refund — even the portion not associated with the EITC and ACTC.

The IRS expects the earliest EITC/ACTC related refunds to be available in taxpayer bank accounts or on debit cards starting on Feb. 27, if those taxpayers chose direct deposit and there are no other issues with the tax return. This additional period is due to several factors, including banking and financial systems needing time to process deposits.

After refunds leave the IRS, it takes additional time for them to be processed and for financial institutions to accept and deposit the refunds to bank accounts and products. The IRS reminds taxpayers many financial institutions do not process payments on weekends or holidays, which can affect when refunds reach taxpayers. For EITC and ACTC filers, the three-day holiday weekend involving Presidents' Day may affect their refund timing.

The Where's My Refund? tool on IRS.gov and the IRS2Go phone app will be updated with projected deposit dates for early EITC and ACTC refund filers in late February. Taxpayers will not see a refund date on Where's My Refund? or through their software packages until then. The IRS, tax preparers and tax software will not have additional information on refund dates, so Where's My Refund? remains the best way to check the status of a refund.

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BASKETBALL



Medford teammates hoist Emma Kniefel on the shoulder after the Tigers' 61-32 victory over USC on Friday in which Kniefel scored her 1,000th career point for Medford.

STAFF PHOTOS BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Medford's Kniefel reaches 1,000 career points

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Heading into Friday night's Gopher Conference matchup between the Medford Tigers (12-6) and United South Central Rebels (2-15), standout Emma Kniefel sat just 22 points away from the 1,000-point mark for her career as a Medford Tiger.

However, coaches had kept Kniefel's approach of the milestone a secret from the sophomore guard.

"I had no idea that this was coming tonight," Kniefel said. "So, when I hit that bucket and everyone started cheering, I was just like 'Oh my gosh, what is going on?' I'm just thankful for my parents, coaches and teammates. They are the ones that got me here. I wouldn't have been able to do it without them."

Medford teammates and fans exploded and the game was stopped momentarily in second half to recognize Kniefel after she reached the plateau.

The Tigers went on to blowout the Rebels 68-32 and Kniefel finished with game-high 23 points. She now sits at 1,001 career points.

Medford coach Mark Kubat said Kniefel, who has started for Medford varsity team since her eighth-grade year, is a typically gym rat.

"She's in here an half hour before practice," he said. "She's here on Sunday for open gym. She just works and works."

"It just shows that hard work pays off," Kubat continued. "It's also a tribute to all the kids who are getting her the ball. She wouldn't be there without everybody else."

Senior captain tried to fight back tears after Kniefel joined her bench after she reached the achievement.

"I have been with [Kniefel] with every point she has scored this year," Niner said. "It's my last year and it just hits homes because I've witness [Kniefel's] progression and



Above, Kniefel goes up for a layup over a USC defender on Friday. At right, Medford senior captain Kristina Niner drives to basketball against USC on Friday.

development.

"I've watched everyone of her game since she was in eighth grade," Niner continued. "It's crazy...I just love being able to support her through everything and cheer her on as she accomplishes all these awesome things."

Kniefel said the love and support means

SEE MEDFORD, B4

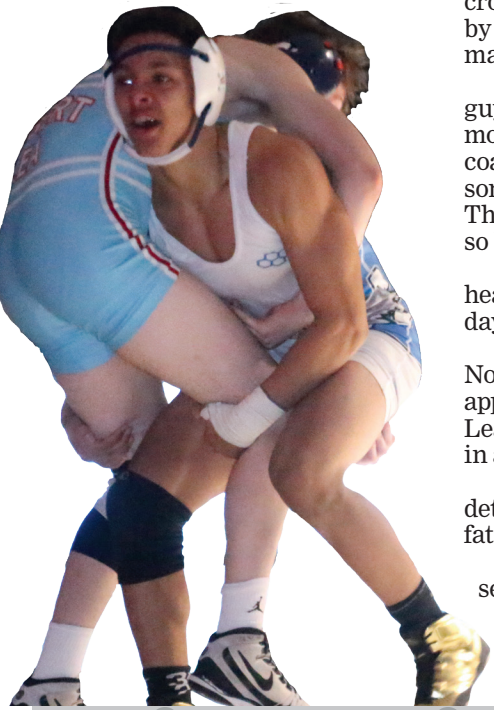
WRESTLING

Owatonna rallies to overcome Albert Lea

Huskies top dogs of Big 9

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Not every highly anticipated match lives up to the hype, but



Saturday's dual meet between the No. 8 Owatonna Huskies (18-6, 9-0) and No. 6 Albert Lea Tigers (21-3, 8-1) did not disappoint.

The Huskies made an epic comeback in front of an enthusiastic capacity home crowd to defeat the Tigers, 30-27, by winning the meet's final four matches after trailing 27-12.

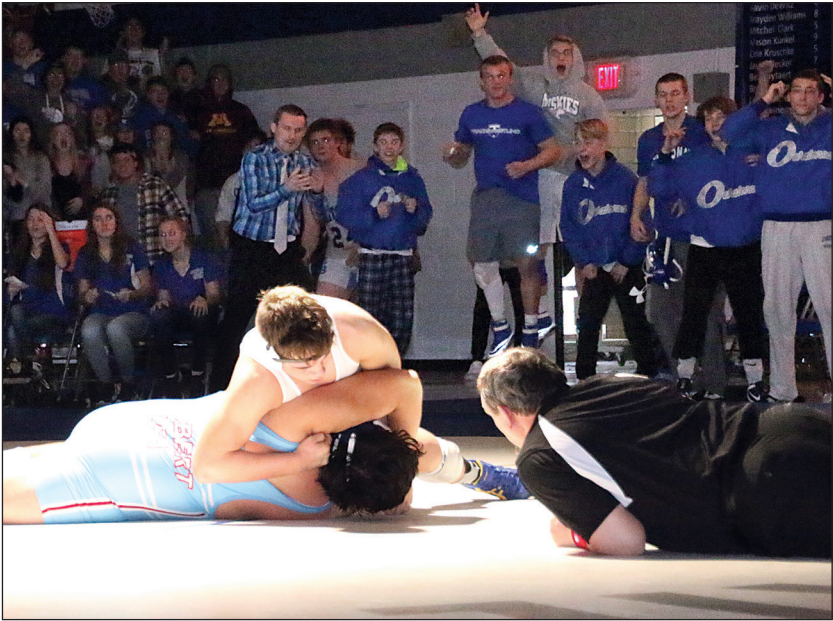
"I'm just really happy these guys can have and enjoy this moment," Owatonna wrestling coach Adam Weitalla said. "This is something they will never forget. They have worked so hard and I'm so happy for them."

The Huskies trailed 27-24 heading into the final match of the day.

Owatonna sophomore Isaiah Noeldner pushed the pace and applied constant pressure to Albert Lea heavyweight Christian Garcia in a back-and-forth first period.

However, Noeldner relentless determination was too much and fatigue became an issue.

Noeldner pinned Garcia with 11 seconds remaining in the second period and Owatonna fans erupted into frenzy.



STAFF PHOTOS BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Isaiah Noeldner hooks in a half nelson and beginning to turn his opponent over for the meet clinching pin versus Albert Lea on Saturday in the Owatonna Gymnasium.

"It's an amazing feeling," Noeldner said. "I put everything I had into that match. I could feel him start to wear down a little bit, but it's a lot harder to tell when you are being worn down too."

"I can't take too much credit," he continued. "It was a complete team effort."

Had Noelder won by decision the Huskies and Tigers would have tied 27-27, but Owatonna would have won the meet on a tiebreaker based on who won more matches. The Huskies won seven and Albert Lea

won six.

"He wanted it more and he proved that," Weitalla said. "He came out here and took his time and worked his guy."

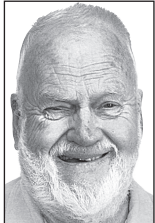
Owatonna freshman Blake West defeated Albert Lea's Cole Glazier 4-2 to start the meet at the 106-pound weight class and put the Huskies up 3-0.

"[West] has been a hammer all season," Weitalla said. "He wrestles in great position and he's

SEE OWATONNA, B2

SPORTS ROLL ON

It was another busy week for the Awesome Blossom teams with decidedly mixed results. The wrestling team lost a close match to an outstanding Maple River squad, but then captured a conference tussle at Janesville later in the week. The team finished a very tough week of competition by losing a close match at Tri-City United.



Outside
the Lines

LEMAR NELSON

Mitchell Oswald, Morgan Moreno, Colton Krell and Ethan Arett continue to put up sparkling dual wins, Seth Peterson has recently been on the rise as well. The team is compiling a solid dual match record in its meets, despite the two losses this past week.

The girls' basketball team completed the week with a 2-1 record. They had a good conference victory at Bethlehem Academy Friday and they split a pair of non-conference contests. The girls scored 50 points in the first half to rout Leroy- Ostrander, but the Grand Meadow Larks made a good comeback to defeat the locals at home early in the week.

The BP boys managed a split for the week by defeating conference rival Bethlehem Academy Friday. The team lost to a physical Saint Clair team earlier in the week. The win over Bethlehem avenged an earlier season loss to the Cardinals and improved their conference record to 5-3.

BENEFIT A BLAST

If anyone doubted the community's commitment to supporting worthy causes, the turnout for the annual

SEE OTL, B4

BASKETBALL

Blossom boys pick up momentous victory

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Blooming Prairie Awesome Blossoms boys' basketball gutted out a pivotal 58-51 conference win over Bethlehem Academy at home on Friday.

The Blossoms trailed by four points at the half but outscored the Cardinals 38-27 in the second half of action.

"We got off to a quick 8-0 start," BP coach Nate Piller said. "But [Bethlehem] came back to take a slim lead by the break with some good defense and hot shooting. We have had a tendency to wilt some in the second half of games, but this time great second half defense and some good shooting pulled the boys through."

Kaden Thomas led the Blossoms with 15 points, 11 of which he scored in the second half. Karson Vigeland had 13, Gabe Hagen counted 12, and Cameron Kubista added 10 points. Jack Clark led all scorers in the game with 17 for the Cardinals and Dawson Trump added 11.

The Blossoms improved to 10-8 for the season and are now 5-3 in the Gopher Conference.

BP BOYS FALL SHORT

After trailing Saint Clair 23-19 at the half, the BP boys ran into a buzzsaw early in the second half and found themselves down 40-21 in the space of five minutes after the break.

The Cyclones used a physical presence to knock the Blossoms off, 57-49, on their game in the home contest Thursday, Feb.1

"We went from being down four at the half to being down by 19 in a heartbeat," Piller said. "We had some good shots in the winners' spurt, but we had no luck shooting and the Cyclones are difficult to rebound against. We got beat on the boards tonight and had some shots blocked as well."

Saint Clair had four players reach double figures in scoring. Mitchell Weber and Alex Eilertson both counted 12 points. Brandon Schultz and Dylan Schons each had 10. Gabe Hagen and Kaden Thomas had 15 and 13 points, respectively, for the Blossoms. No other player had more than 7 points for BP.

The Blossoms crept within five points at one point in the second half, but falling behind so much earlier took its toll. The boys played with good energy, and the confidence is almost there. They just have to tap into that confidence just a little earlier.

OWATONNA: *Top dogs of Big 9*

FROM PAGE B1

just great at scrambling and that was on display.” Owatonna lost the next five matches to fall behind 16-3. Sophomore Jerez Autridge provided the Huskies with a much needed spark in the middle of lineup at 145 during his bout against Tyler Harms of Albert Lea. Harms controlled the match early and led 4-0 after two periods, but Autridge battled back to tie the score 5-5 at the end of the third period. Autridge won by sudden victory in the overtime period when he slammed Harms to the mat. “You can’t really recreate a feeling like this,” Autridge said. “It’s just so exciting with all of the energy and everyone coming out to support us. There’s is nothing like this feeling.” Autridge said he used the sadness and disappointment he felt after losing his match to Albert Lea this past year as motivation. “I’ve just been thinking about how I wanted that one back all year,” he said. “I wanted to come out here tonight and show Albert Lea what I was made of and prove that I was better than my competition.” The Huskies trailed 16-6 after Autridge’s victory. “The key was [Autridge] didn’t give up,” he said. “He kept the pace high and he started wearing on the guy. [Autridge] is in great shape and he used that to his advantage. “In that third period he just started picking it up and looking to score, and his shots were there,” Voitalla continued. “He just fed off of the energy of our crowd and that was a turning point.” Albert Lea extended it’s lead to 22-6 after Brody Nielsen pinned Owatonna senior Cameron Roberts at 152. However, Senior Peyton Robb provided a quick response for the Huskies when he pinned Garrett Grandstrand in 44 seconds at 160 to make the score 22-12. Albert Lea’s Zach Glazier defeated Owatonna senior Parker Westphal by technical fall, 18-3. Voitalla said Westphal did an exceptional job against a phenomenon wrestler, who’s ranked No. 2 in state at 170, and saved the Huskies from giving up a bonus point by not giving up the pin. “I have to give a shoutout to Parker Westphal,” Voitalla said. “It’s not easy to go out there and wrestle for the team and he wrestled for the team.” Voitalla said sophomore Riley Becker and Landon Johnson also did an excellent job competing and taking their respective matches the distance. “That was huge effort,” he said. “Battling six minutes and not giving up any bonus points.” Owatonna senior Cade King won by forfeit at 182, junior Nick Staska won by decision at 190 and senior Parker Holton won by decision at 220. The Huskies are one step closer to winning the Big 9 title after the victory, but still have to face a tough Faribault (16-3, 8-1) team at home on Thursday. “It feels pretty great,” Voitalla said. “There is nothing better than doing it in our home gym. It was a great win. We still have another tough dual coming up and then sections. We have to carry this momentum with us.”



STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

NO. 6 OWATONNA 30, NO. 8 ALBERT LEA 27

Saturday, Feb. 3
106: Blake West (OWAT) over Cole Glazier (ALA) (Dec 4-2) 113: Cameron Davis (ALA) over Joey Wencel (OWAT) (MD 13-4) 120: Nic Cantu (ALA) over Kaden Nelson (OWAT) (Dec 11-4) 126: Jake Johnsrud (ALA) over Landon Johnson (OWAT) (Dec 4-1) 132: Gavin Ignaszewski (ALA) over Riley Becker (OWAT) (Dec 7-2) 138: Logan Donovan (ALA) over Trevor Schroeder (OWAT) (Dec 1-0) 145: Jerez Autridge (OWAT) over Tyler Harms (ALA) (SV-1 7-5) 152: Brody Nielsen (ALA) over Cameron Roberts (OWAT) (Fall 0:57) 160: Peyton Robb (OWAT) over Garrett Grandstrand (ALA) (Fall 0:44) 170: Zach Glazier (ALA) over Parker Westphal (OWAT) (TF 18-3 4:00) 182: Cade King (OWAT) over (ALA) (For.) 195: Nick Staska (OWAT) over Spencer Indrelie (ALA) (Dec 8-1) 220: Parker Holton (OWAT) over Jamie Valdez (ALA) (Dec 5-2) 285: Isaiah Noeldner (OWAT) over Christian Garcia (ALA) (Fall 3:49)

OWATONNA 45, FARMINGTON 20

Friday Feb. 2
106: Blake West (OWAT) over Gavin Anderson (FARM) (Fall 3:09) 113: Martin Stewart (FARM) over Luke Effertz (OWAT) (Dec 11-6) 120: Kaden Nelson (OWAT) over Dylan Gateley (FARM) (Fall 1:19) 126: Trayton Anderson (FARM) over Landon Johnson (OWAT) (MD 12-2) 132: Luke Peterson (FARM) over Riley Becker (OWAT) (Dec 7-3) 138: Austin Hamel (FARM) over Matt Seykora (OWAT) (MD 9-0) 145: Nate Engel (FARM) over Jerez Autridge (OWAT) (Dec 7-4) 152: Zac Janz (FARM) over Cameron Roberts (OWAT) (Dec 5-1) 160: Peyton Robb (OWAT) over (FARM) (For.) 170: Parker Westphal (OWAT) over Seth Goodreau (FARM) (Fall 1:02) 182: Cade King (OWAT) over Trevor Olson (FARM) (Fall 1:04) 195: Nick Staska (OWAT) over MacAron Kukowski (FARM) (Dec 6-3) 220: Parker Holton (OWAT) over Matt Reed (FARM) (Fall 1:11) 285: Jacob Ronnagen (OWAT) over (FARM) (For.)

WRESTLING

Westfield looking for consistency at top of lineup

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Westfield wrestled a second tough meet of the week and dropped a 42-35 decision to Tri-City United at Montgomery on Friday, Feb.2. It marked the second dual match loss, sandwiched around a big conference victory on Thursday over JWP/WEM. Ethan Arett earned a 6-1 decision over Caleb Whippis to give the Razorbacks a 6-0 lead at 106-pound weight class, but the Titans won all but one of the next eight bouts to take a 42-3 margin. Seth Peterson won a major 16-0 verdict over Jack Hiller at 152. The hosts eked out the win, as Westfield won the final six bouts. Colton Krell pinned Zach Mikel in 1:56 at 160, Dylan Ehmke took Dylan Borchardt to the mat in 4:04 at 170 and Tristan Riechert won by a forfeit. Morgan Moreno pinned Tyler Schroer in just 12 seconds at 195, Dylan Nirk won a 5-0 verdict over Sam Miller at 220 and Mitch Oswald put down Zach Balma in 19 seconds at heavyweight to finish the match.

WESTFIELD TAKES DOWN JWP/WEM

After losing a close match at Maple River earlier in the week, the Westfield Razorbacks rebounded to capture a conference match on Thursday, Feb. 1 at Janesville. The locals won 42-34 over the Bulldogs, with Nirk and Oswald overtaking a 34-30 home team advantage with two falls to close out the match.

The Razorbacks took a 12-0 lead to open the match with falls for Keegan Bronson over Dylan Samloska in the third period at 106 and Arett pinning Curtis Crosby in just 47 seconds at 113. The Bulldogs won the next three bouts with a pin, a major decision and a 3-point verdict for Ethan Bider over Cole Christianson. Joe Pirkel put Westfield back in top with a pin at 138, and again with Peterson at 160. A forfeit and a fall gave the Bulldogs another lead, but Nirk and Oswald closed out the match with first and second period pins.

BP FALLS JUST SHORT

The Razorbacks won the final four bouts at Maple River Tuesday, Jan.30, but the Eagles had mounted an insurmountable 34-9 lead, and hung on for a 34-30 victory over the locals. Maple River, one of the section favorites, took five of the first six bouts to forge a 25-3 margin. Trailing 34-9, Rieken pinned Quinn Simpson in just 35 seconds at 182. Moreno put Logan Ziegler on his back in 2:34 at 195 and Nirk outpointed Bill Karels at 220. Oswald ended the match by pinning Connor Thom in 2:47 at heavyweight Arett counted the only 3 points in that run with an 8-4 verdict over Boden Simon at 106 pounds. The next Razorback points came from Payton Simon, who earned a 10-7 decision over Cooper Ochsendorf at 145. Krell outpointed Nathan Moore 8-5 at 160. That was it until the finishing burst by the final four.

BASKETBALL

Panthers win trio of rivalry games

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale Geneva boys' basketball team defeated it's biggest rivals, Waterville-Eyslian-Morristown, 49-43 on Monday. WEM led 16-14 at halftime. “The first half was a defensive battle,” NRHEG coach Pat Churchill said. “I didn't think we moved the ball well offensively, we were not crisp running off screens, we were holding the ball to much instead of reversing the ball and we struggled to get good shots in the first half. Fortunately we played pretty good defense to keep us in the game.” WEM (6-10) didn’t make a two-point field goal in the first half. The Buccaneers score on three 3-pointers and hit 7-of-8 free throws. The second half was tight until NRHEG moved out to a eight-point advantage with about seven minutes remaining. “Offensively, we were much better in the second half,” Churchill said. “We moved better and got much better opportunities to score. WEM kept battling but NRHEG made just enough free throws to stay out in front. This was a nice win for us because our leading scoring and leader Benji Lundberg, who committed to play college basketball at Gustavus Adolphus this past week, went home sick with the flu and other kids stepped up and carried the load a little more tonight.” Jerret Utpadel led the Panthers with 14 points and Peyton Castle and Brady Agrimson added 10. Ryan Hannegrefs finished with nine, Nathaniel Techau with four and Jacob Shuller with two. NRHEG improves to 17-1 on the season and 8-0 in the Gopher Conference. NRHEG next plays Blooming Prairie at home on Friday night at 7:15 p.m.

NRHEG HANGS ON AGAINST FAIRMONT

In a packed house with a great atmosphere on Saturday as NRHEG was able to hang on and beat Fairmont Saturday night. Fairmont got off to a hot start jumping on NRHEG 12-4 to start the game. “We made a run to close the gap and they went on another run,” Churchill said. “There were a lot of runs by both teams with neither team getting up by more then eight. Benji Lundberg hit a near full court shot off the glass to put NRHEG up, 35-32, at halftime. “I thought Fairmont shot very well that first half going 7-of-16 from 3-point land,” Churchill said. “The second half saw the Panthers and

Fairmont play pretty even for the first nine minutes of the half.” Then the Panthers went on a little run spurred by Lundberg and Agrimson. “I thought Agrimson played very well offensively in the second half and carried us for a little stretch,” Churchill said. “We got up 10 with four minutes to go but Fairmont made a push and actually cut it to two before Schuller made some clutch free throws to seal the game. “This was a very good basketball game between two pretty good teams,” he continued. “I am proud of how our team played tonight. This was a very good test for us.” Lundberg led the Panthers with 20, Agrimson added 17, Utpadal and Hannegrefs had seven, Shuller finished with five, Devin Buendorf and Castle scored three and Perry Peterson had two.

PANTHERS STEAL ONE

NRHEG found a way to come back and steal a victory against LeSueur-Henderson on Tuesday, Jan. 30. “We never lead in this game until 1:30 left in the game and in fact we were down double digits for most of the game,” Churchill said. “They came out and played really well early and we struggled to get the looks that we needed against their 2-3 zone.” Burke Nesbit played very well early and got Le Sueur up early 10-2. “The entire first half we really struggled to score and went into the half down 26-12,” Churchill said. “I told the boys that half was over and we just needed to buckle down and chip away at the lead.” NRHEG cut the led to 26-20 after halftime but LeSueur extended its lead back out to 10. “We were down seven with five minutes to go and hit a 3-pointer and stole the inbound and scored to cut it to two,” Churchill said. “After a few free throws from both sides Le Sueur led 45-44.” However, Jacob Schuller jumped a pass at half court and laid it in to give the Panthers a point lead with 1:30 to go in the game. After a couple of Le Sueur turnovers and two free throws the Panthers upped their lead to three with 36 seconds left. Brady Agrimson stole the post entry pass and was fouled and made both free throws to seal the deal for the Panthers. “I was proud how we battled back and won,” Churchill said. “It was not the prettiest game but it showed a lot of character for these boys. Hats off to LeSueur tonight, they played very well.”

★ STARS OF STEELE ★

BOYS



Isaiah

Owatonna wrestler Isaiah Noeldner picked up a huge victory in the final match of the meet in the No. 8 ranked Huskies 30-27 victory over No. 6 Albert Lea. Noeldner pinned his opponent with 11 seconds remaining in the second period to clinch the victory for Owatonna.

GIRLS



Olivia

Blooming Prairie NRHEG girls basketball player Olivia Christopherson scored 14 points and hauled in five rebounds in Panthers' 66-51 loss to Fairmount on Saturday. She also scored 12 points in NRHEG's 67-48 victory over Lake Crystal Wellcome Home on Thursday.

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BASKETBALL



STAFF PHOTOS BY DENNIS MARSHALL



Blooming girls win back-to-back

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Awesome Blossom girls scored over 45 points in the first half for the second game in a row and coasted to a 67-36 conference win over Bethlehem Academy at Faribault on Friday, Feb. 2. The victory upped the season record 13-5 overall and 7-2 in the Gopher Conference.

The Blossoms led 46-20 at the break, behind some good pressure defense and eight first half 3-pointers. Julia Worke and Bobbie Bruns each swished three from behind the arc. The team shot 34 percent for the game making 26-of-76 attempts, while the Cardinals were held to just 26 percent.

“We jumped to a big lead on the strength of good pressure defense and the eight first half three -pointers,” BP coach John Bruns said. “We moved the ball well and played both offense and defense with confidence. This was a good win for us with some tough games on tap next week.”

Sam Wurst recorded another double-double with 16 points and 10 rebounds. Julia Worke had 10, Bobbie Bruns scored nine and Megan Oswald contributed eight. Ayren Ingvalson added six points and three steals. Wurst and McKenna Hein contributed six and five steals, respectively. Oswald added 10 rebounds to her eight points.

BP’s JV team defeated Bethlehem 45-33 after trailing by two at the half. The home team scored just 11 second half points, as the Blossoms moved the ball well and made

some big shots after the break. The team record improved to 9-7 for the year.

BP GIRLS PLUCK CARDINALS

Following a tough loss to Grand Meadow earlier in the week, the Awesome Blossom girls got back on a winning track with a solid 75- 34 victory over LeRoy-Ostrander. BP held the Cardinals to just 15 points in the first half while rolling up 50 of their own. The 75 points for the game marked a season high for the locals.

“This was a good win for us after the tough loss to Grand Meadow,” Bruns said. “We jumped to a big lead behind very good ball handling and outstanding shooting. Wurst had 14 points in the first 12 minutes of the game and Hein hit four straight mid-range jumpers. Everyone had an opportunity to play and 12 players entered the scoring column.

BP shot its best of the season as they made 51 percent on 30-of-58 attempts. Wurst and Hein each had 15 points to lead the scoring and Oswald added 10. Haley Hungerholt led all scorers in the game with 19. Both Bruns and Worke counted a pair of 3-pointers and eight points. Reserve Maya Lembke contributed six points, two assists and two steals.

LARKS PREVAIL AT BP

A 10-0 run to start the game proved not enough, as Grand Meadow slowly took the action over and earned a 60-43 victory over the home-standing Awesome Blossom girls. BP trailed by just one point at the break, but

the Larks inundated the Blossoms 37-21 over the last half. The locals have lost three of their last five contests.

“We had a strong first half,” Bruns said. “But we were not able to keep pace. Grand Meadow made a decisive run in the first three minutes of the second half to increase a 23-22 edge to 36-22. We got within eight points with about five minutes to go, but we had fallen too far behind to dig out of the hole.”

Jordyn Glynn scored 27 points for the visitors to lead all scorers and completed a double-double with 10 rebounds. Hein counted 13 points for the Blossoms, but nobody else could count more than eight for BP. Oswald had eight points and 10 rebounds, Wurst was way under her average with seven points and seven rebounds and Ingvalson also had seven. The team shot just 34 percent on 17-of-49 attempts and had a whopping 26 turnovers in the contest.

The JV team played a great first half on the way to a 39-27 win over Grand Meadow in the prelim. BP allowed the Larks just nine first-half points in taking a 24-9 lead at the break. Bobbie Bruns scored all of her game-leading 13 in the first half, including three 3-pointers.

The locals had a tough time shooting in the second half, but they handled Grand Meadow pressure with confidence to preserve the victory. Besides Bruns, Allison Krohnberg and Jillian Wigham both had good offensive games with nine points each.

SCOREBOOK

BIG 9 CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Boys' Basketball	Conf.	Overall
Austin	13-1	17-1
Rochester John Marshall	13-2	17-2
Mankato East	12-2	16-2
Owatonna	12-2	13-4
Northfield	10-4	13-5
Mankato West	7-9	10-10
Rochester Mayo	6-8	8-10
Rochester Century	5-9	5-13
Red Wing	3-10	4-13
Winona	2-11	5-12
Faribault	2-13	4-13

Albert Lea
Tuesday, Jan. 30
Owatonna 82, Northfield 55
Friday, Feb. 2
Owatonna 82, Winona 46
Monday, Feb. 5
Rochester Century at Owatonna, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 8
Owatonna at Saint Michael-Albertville, 7:15 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 13
Rochester Mayo at Owatonna, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 16
Owatonna at Red Wing, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 17
Owatonna at Rochester John Marshall, 7:30 p.m.

Girls' Basketball	Conf.	Overall
Northfield	15-1	16-3
Owatonna	13-3	14-6
Red Wing	12-3	15-3
Mankato West	11-5	14-6
Faribault	9-7	10-9
Rochester John Marshall	9-7	10-10
Austin	8-7	9-9
Rochester Mayo	8-8	10-10
Mankato East	4-12	4-14
Rochester Century	3-13	5-15
Albert Lea	1-14	2-17
Winona	1-14	1-18

Tuesday, Jan. 30
Owatonna 54, Northfield 41
Friday, Feb. 2
Owatonna 84, Winona 48
Monday, Feb. 5
Owatonna at Rochester Century, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 9
Rochester John Marshall at Owatonna, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 13
Owatonna at Rochester Mayo, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 16
Red Wing at Owatonna, 7:30 p.m.

Boys' Hockey	Conf.	Overall	Pts.
Northfield	11-3-0	15-5-1	30
Rochester Mayo	10-0-1	17-3-1	30
Mankato East	7-1-1	11-8-2	26
Owatonna	7-3-2	10-9-2	25
Albert Lea	9-4-2	13-5-2	21
Rochester Mayo	5-6-1	10-11-1	19
Red Wing	4-5-2	4-14-2	13
Rochester John Marshall	3-6-2	5-12-3	13
Faribault	4-8-2	8-11-2	12
Mankato West	4-8-0	8-14-0	10
Austin	2-10-1	5-15-1	5
Winona	0-11-0	2-17-0	0

Tuesday, Jan. 30
Northfield 6, Owatonna 2
Thursday, Feb. 1
Owatonna 3, Rochester John Marshall 2
Saturday, Feb. 3
South Saint Paul 5, Owatonna 2
Monday, Feb. 5
Owatonna at Rochester Mayo, 7:15 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 8
Owatonna at Mahtomedi, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 10
Owatonna at Rochester Century, 7:15 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 13
Mankato West at Owatonna, 7:15 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 17
Owatonna at Winona/Cotter, 3 p.m.
END OF REGULAR SEASON

Girls' Hockey	Conf.	Overall	Pts.
Red Wing	12-1-0	21-4-0	38
Northfield	10-2-0	15-8-2	34
Rochester Mayo	14-4-0	20-5-0	30
Owatonna	11-5-0	15-8-0	26
Faribault	11-6-0	15-10-0	26
Mankato East	9-7-0	12-13-0	18
Mankato West	7-8-0	13-11-1	16
Austin	6-12-0	8-15-0	12
Rochester John Marshall	4-13-0	7-18-0	10
Albert Lea	2-13-0	6-18-0	4
Rochester Century	1-16-0	3-21-0	2

Tuesday, Jan. 30
Rochester Mayo 3, Owatonna 2
Thursday, Feb. 1
Owatonna 6, Rochester John Marshall 0
Saturday, Feb. 3
Wayzata 6, Owatonna 0
END OF REGULAR SEASON
Section 1AA
First Round
Wednesday, Feb. 7
Owatonna at Rochester Mayo, 7 p.m.

Wrestling	Conf.	Overall
Owatonna	9-0	18-6
Albert Lea	8-1	21-3
Faribault	8-1	16-3
Northfield	7-2	9-3
Mankato West	5-4	10-7
Rochester Mayo	5-5	8-11
Mankato East	4-5	14-7
Austin	2-7	3-7
Winona	2-8	2-15
Rochester Century	1-9	3-15
Rochester John Marshall	0-9	0-9

Thursday, Jan. 25
Owatonna 51, Mankato East 12
Owatonna 72, Austin 4
Saturday, Jan. 27
Owatonna finished third at Bloomington Tournament
Thursday, Feb. 1
Owatonna 45, Rochester Mayo 25
Friday, Feb. 2
Owatonna 45, Farmington 20
Saturday, Feb. 3
Owatonna 30, Albert Lea 27
Thursday, Feb. 8
Faribault at Owatonna, 7 p.m.

LADIES BOWLING LEAGUE

RESULTS WEEK SEVENTEEN JAN. 31, 2018

Team Standings	Won	Lost
1. Kosters' Kar Corner	11.5	4.5
2. Epic Contracting	10	6
3. F & M Bank	9	7
4. J & H/Dairy Queen	6	10
5. B to Z Hardware	4.5	7.5
5. Bunkies' Lanes & Grill	6	10
5. B to Z Hardware	5.5	10.5
High Team Game –Scratch		
F & M Bank	626	
High Team Game- Handicap		
Kosters' Kar Corner	600	
High Team Series- Scratch		
F & M Bank	1585	
High team Series- Handicap		
Kosters' Kar Corner	1714	
High Game Individual		
1. Jo Ann Nielson	180	
2. Judy Esplan	167	
High Series Individual		
1. Jo Ann Nielson	453	
2. Judy Esplan	419	
2. Jeri Alwes	419	

PANTHERS SPLIT MATCHUPS

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Fairmont used a physical presence and did a good job of breaking down the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva girls' basketball team's offense.

The Cardinals upended the Panthers in Saturday, Feb. 3 at Fairmont. NRHEG saw its record drop to 12-6 for the season.

NRHEG struggled in the second half offensively and had a difficult time making shots. Betsy Schoenrock scored 19 points, pulled down 10 rebounds and had eight blocks for the Panthers. Olivia Christopherson counted 14 points and five rebounds and Sophie Stork contributed seven points and five rebounds.

NRHEG DOUBLES LCWM
NRHEG girls doubled up Lake Crystal Wellcome Home at the half 32-16 and coasted to a 67-48 victory over the Knights at Lake Crystal on Thursday, Feb. 1. Schoenrocky had another monster game with 32 points and 21 rebounds for yet another double-double.

“The team played hard,” NRHEG coach Onika Peterson said. “The girls moved the ball well on offense. The rebounding also favored us and that allowed us to run the floor to get second and third shot opportunities. We have a tough couple of weeks ahead and we need to keep working hard.”

Besides Schoenrock’s big game, Christopherson counted 12 points. Kelly Harden filled up the stats sheet. She had 11 points, nine rebounds, six assists and three steals. Stork contributed six points and four rebounds and dished out two assists with a steal and two blocked shots. The team is still 6-2 in conference play.

SCOREBOOK

GOPHER CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Boys' Basketball	Conf.	Overall
New Richland-H-E-G	8-0	15-1
United South Central	6-10	6-10
Bethlehem Academy	5-3	11-9
Blooming Prairie	5-3	10-7
Maple River	3-3	8-6
Waterville-Eyslan-Morristown	3-4	6-10
Medford	0-8	2-14

Tuesday, Jan. 30
NRHEG 52, Le Sueur-Henderson 47
Medford at Triton, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 1
Saint Clair at Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 2
Medford at United South Central, 7:15 p.m.
Bethlehem Academy at Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 3
NRHEG 66, Fairmont 62

Monday, Feb. 5
Blooming Prairie at Maple River, 7:15 p.m.
WEM at NRHEG, 7:15 p.m.
Saint Clair at Medford, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 8
Medford at JWP, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 9
Blooming Prairie at NRHEG, 7:15 p.m.
Bethlehem Academy at Medford, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 13
Maple River at NRHEG, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 16
NRHEG at United South Central, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 17
NRHEG at Redwood Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Girls' Basketball	Conf.	Overall
Maple River	9-1	12-3
NRHEG	7-2	12-4
Blooming Prairie	6-2	11-4
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	5-5	9-12
Medford	4-5	13-6
Bethlehem Academy	1-7	1-17
United South Central	1-14	1-14

Monday Jan. 29
Medford 50, Blue Earth 48

Tuesday, Jan. 30
Grand Meadow 60, Blooming Prairie 43
Medford 65, Cleveland 48

Thursday, Feb. 1
Blooming Prairie 75, LeRoy-Ostrander 34
NRHEG 67, Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial 48

Friday, Feb. 2
Blooming Prairie 67, Bethlehem Academy 38
Medford 68, United South Central 32

Saturday, Feb. 3
Fairmont 66, NRHEG 52

Monday, Feb. 5
Medford at Fairmont, 7:30 p.m.
NRHEG at WEM, 7:15 p.m.
Maple River at Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 8
Medford at Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 9
Medford at Bethlehem Academy, 7:15 p.m.
NRHEG at Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m

Saturday, Feb. 10
NRHEG at Maple River, 7:15 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 12
Jordan at Medford, 7:15 p.m.
Blooming Prairie at Hayfield, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 13
NRHEG at Waseca, 7:15 p.m.

Blooming Prairie at Randolph, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 15
Kingsland at Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 16
WEM at Medford, 7:15 p.m.

United South Central at NRHEG, 7:15 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 19
Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton at Medford, 7:15 p.m.
NRHEG at Blue Earth, 7:15 p.m.

END OF REGULAR SEASON

Wrestling	Conf.	Overall
Maple River	9-2	9-2
Medford	2-1	6-2
United South Central	2-1	7-5
W-E-M/J-W-P	1-2	4-4
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	0-0	2-7
Westfield	0-1	1-3
NRHEG	0-3	0-5

Thursday, Jan. 25
NRHEG 21, Madelia/Truman/Martin Luther Jayhawks 0
Blooming Prairie 42, Medford 35
Blooming Prairie 57, Byron 17

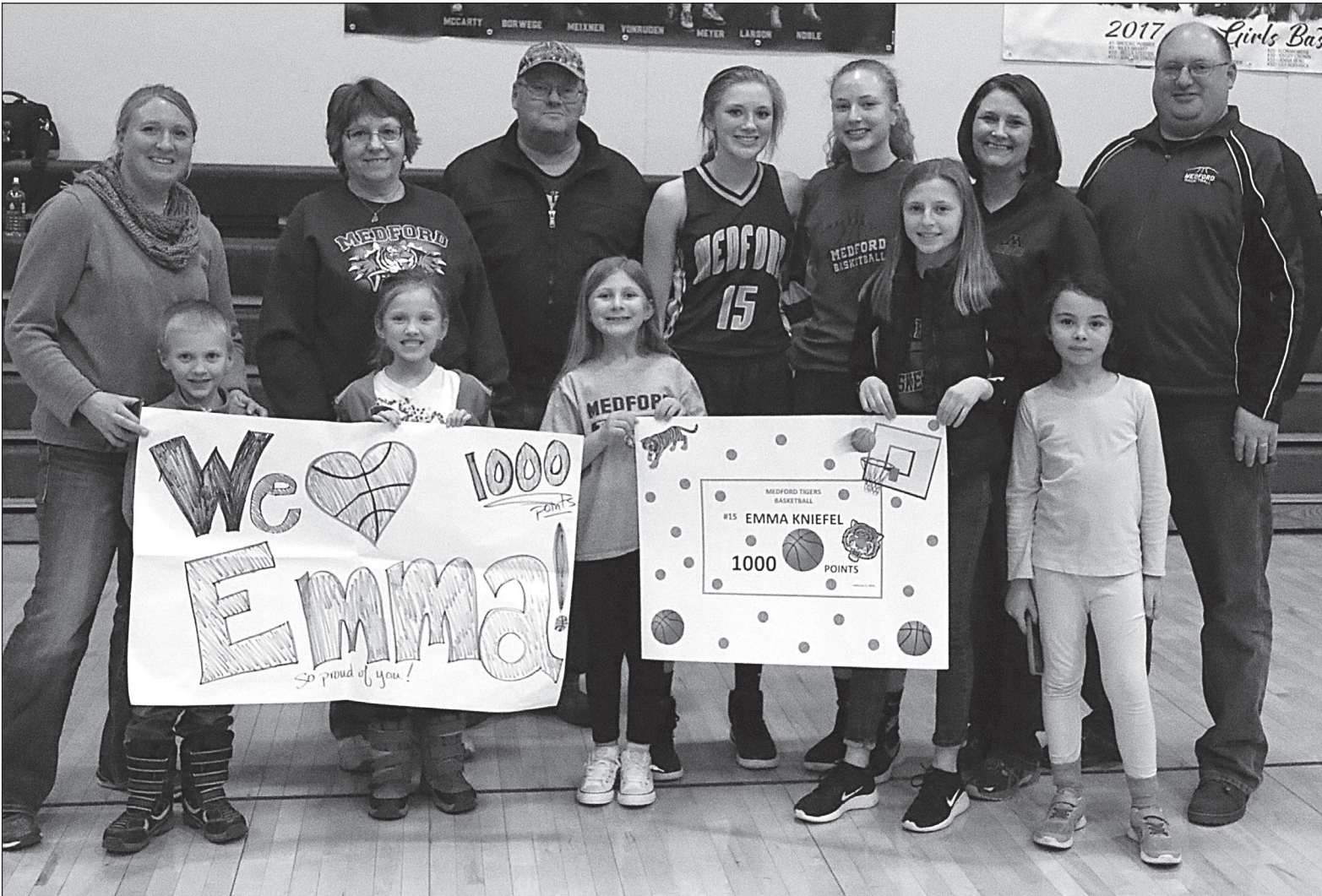
Saturday, Jan. 27
Blooming Praire was first at Lake City Invitational
Medford was tenth at Lake City Invitaional

Tuesday, Jan. 30
Medford 50, Saint Clair 18
TCU 43, Medford 22
Maple River 34, Westfield 30

Thursday, Feb. 1
Medford 42, NRHEG 30
Westfield 42, WEM/JWP 34

Thursday, Feb. 8
NRHEG at Maple River, 7 p.m.
WEM/JWP at Medford, 7 p.m.

MEDFORD: 1,000 career points



STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

FROM PAGE B1

everything to her.

“I would trade them for the world,” she said. “We’re not just team, we are a family. It means the world to know that they have my back like that. I love them all so much.”

Kniefel said the career milestone ranks among the top of all her athletic accomplishments.

“This is definitely up there,” she said. “I’m just looking to come out here play each game and do what I do best. The guess the next goal is 2,000 [points], but I’m just going to keep playing and see where it takes me.”

Nicole Morgan (2009-2013) holds the current record for most points in a Medford girls basketball career with 1,272.

Kniefel said the Tigers didn’t play their best against the Rebels, but they got the job done.

“We are continuing to work hard,” she said. “We are pushing towards the goal of getting better everyday. We are getting ready for playoffs and we have a tough couple weeks coming up.”

Medford plays three road games this week. They travel to Fairmont (10-10) on Tuesday, Blooming Prairie (13-5) on Thursday and Bethlehem Academy (1-19) on Friday.

Kubat said he has high expectations for the Tigers the rest of season.

“We have knocked off a couple of teams that have been our nemesis in the past,” he said. “But now, we have another very tough week ahead of us.”

Kubat said the team has more to improve and still hasn’t played their best game of season.

“We still have a lot of things we need to clean up, but it’s just a great group of kids,” he said. “We just have to keep being sharp as coaches and try to find ways to make them better because they are doing their parts.”

Blooming Prairie Junior High Roundup

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The junior high basketball girls had three doubleheaders in the past two weeks, winning two of them and losing once. On Friday Feb. 2 the girls played a single game at Bethlehem Academy and coasted to a 30-11 victory. The Blossoms jumped to an 8-0 lead and used a press effectively. The team did a good job of finding the open player and making the extras pass. Lauren Schammel counted 13 points and Hannah Hamersma had several second half layups.

BP SHUTS OUT USC

Against USC on Tuesday Jan. 30, the seventh-grade team didn’t allow the Rebels a point in a 38-0 victory. The home team used good pressure and worked well as a team in gaining the shutout. Anna Pauly had 15 points and Sierra Larson added eight. The eighth-grade team started slowly, but picked up good intensity to win 31-16. Emily Miller showed good leadership and scored 13 points to lead the scoring.

HAYFELD WINS TWO

In a home contest on Monday, Jan. 29, Hayfield swept the

Blossoms. The Vikings won the seventh-grade game 28-9 when the locals struggled to find any offensive rhythm. The eighth-grade team press couldn’t quite

finish a comeback and lost to the visitors 34-27. Pauly counted eight points for the Blossoms. The junior high girls have a 10-14 record for the season.

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		E	X	T	E	R	N		E	S	E	

Three Ways to Cut Hearing Aid Costs



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Dear Savvy Senior,
I've heard that hearing aids will soon be available over-the-counter and will be much cheaper than they currently are. What can you tell me about this? My husband desperately needs hearing aids but we simply can't afford them.

Searching Spouse

Dear Searching,
Unfortunately, for many years the high cost of hearing aids has kept millions of Americans with hearing loss from getting hearing aids because they can't afford them.
Hearing aids – typically sold through audiologists' offices – are expensive, usually ranging between \$1,000 and \$4,000 per ear, and are not typically covered by private insurance or traditional Medicare.
But there's good news on the horizon. Last summer President Trump signed the Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017 into law. This will allow people with mild to moderate hearing loss to buy hearing aids without consulting an audiologist, and the devices could sell for between \$250 and \$300 at drugstores and other retailers.
The only problem is that it will be a couple more years before these OTC hearing aids are available to consumers. So in the meantime, here are some tips that can help you find some affordable options.
Check Your Insurance
While most private health insurance companies do not cover hearing aids, there are some that do. For example, Aetna members can purchase aids at a discount through certain suppliers, and United Healthcare offers hearing aids to their beneficiaries

through HealthInnovations for \$799 to \$999 each.
You should also know that some federal workers, as well as residents of Arkansas, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island can get their hearing aids covered by health insurance, as can eligible veterans through the Department of Veterans Affairs.
Or, if your husband is a Medicare recipient, about half of all Medicare Advantage plans offer at least partial coverage or discounts on hearing exams and devices. So, be sure you check your husband's insurance coverage to see if it offers any type of hearing aid benefit.
Shop Around
To help you save money, consider shopping at Costco, which offers no-cost screenings at certain locations, as well as very competitive prices. Hearing aids there range between \$500 and \$1,500 each. You can also shop online at websites like EmbraceHearing.com and Audicus.com, which can save you up to \$2,000 per pair. Then visit a local specialist to make any necessary adjustments.
Another option worth a look is over-the-counter personal sound amplification products (or PSAPs). Unlike hearing aids, the Food and Drug Administration does not regulate PSAPs. And PSAP manufacturers are not allowed to call these products hearing aids or claim that they help hearing. But these devices are very effective for people with mild to moderate hearing impairment, and typically cost between \$350 and \$450 each. To find a wide variety of PSAPs see assistive listening sites like Harris Communications (HarrisComm.com, or call 866-476-9579).
Look For Assistance
If your income is low, there is a number of national, state and independent groups that can help you pay for hearing aids or offer discounts. To find them, visit the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association website at ASHA.org/public/coverage/audfundingresources. Or, call the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders at 800-241-1044, and ask them to mail you their list of financial resources for hearing aids.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago Feb. 5, 2008

Dan Evans, Publisher
The end of an era has come. On Monday, Jan. 28, Lansing Corners closed its doors. Lansing Corners has been a landmark for over 70 years seeing many wedding receptions, holiday parties and family celebrations for over seven generations. The current owners were Ron and Karen Valentine.
The Blooming Prairie Education Foundation banquet drew a full house of folks from both in and out of the community this past Saturday evening at the BP Servicemen's Club. One of the awards given was to LeMar Nelson for the Lifetime Distinguished Service Award. Another recipient was Margaret Hogan, a 1934 graduate who was a part of the girls' basketball team.

20 Years Ago Feb. 3, 1998

Elsie Slinger, Publisher
Steele County Commissioners passed two ordinances Tuesday, Jan. 27 that will govern the operation and location of feedlots in the county. By a unanimous vote, the five commissioners approved a feedlot ordinance and its companion zoning radiancy, as well as deciding to feedlot specialist for Steele County. Farmers will be required to register their feedlot by April 1, 1999, and at that point, the feedlot officer would help farmers with at least 100 animal unit facilities come into compliance with the requirements of the certificate necessary.
Blooming Prairie School Board's negotiations with the local teachers' union went well, as a settlement has been accepted. This settlement was for the 1997-98 and 1998-99 school years and calls for a 3 ½ percent increase for the first year and 4.1 percent increase the second year. Dave Pfeifer and Rick Zaske negotiated on behalf of the teachers.

50 Years Ago Feb. 1, 1968

Victor, Vernon & Vryle

Krejci, Publishers
The 11th annual Four-County Grain, Forage and Home Improvement Show was staged in Bloomington Prairie Monday of this week, Jan. 29, and as in past years attracted many exhibitors and a good-sized crowd to the program. A total of 260 entries were recorded in the various classes at this year's show and attendance at the men's afternoon program exceeded 100 persons.
A new business, "Blooming Prairie Cleaning Center" will open about Feb. 1 in the former Webb Service Station building on Highway 218 south. The firm will be operated by Harvey T. Anderson.
Stanley Muckle, 59-year-old manufacturing executive from Owatonna, was elected president of the Minnesota State Agricultural Society, governing body of the Minnesota State Fair, Wednesday, Jan. 17. Muckle is president of Muckle Manufacturing Co., a custom sheet metal fabricating firm. He served as secretary-manager of the Steele County Fair from 1947 to 1958.

75 Years Ago Feb. 4, 1943

Frank Krejci, Publisher
Despite gas and oil restrictions during the greater part of ETT Blooming Prairie's Central Cooperative Oil Association station experienced one of the most successful years in its history, Manager Claude Grandprey announces. The nice, tidy sum of nearly \$14,000 is being handed out to patrons in the Blooming Prairie area which represents a dividend of 11 percent to stockholders represented on the associations books at the close of the fiscal year, Dec. 31, 1942.
Tommy Oswald, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Oswald and Blooming Prairie's only entry in the golden gloves boxing show for this district held at Owatonna, was an easy winner in the feather-weight championship in the finals Friday night.
Glenn Dennis, faithful village marshall, street commissioners and constable for many years, has asked for a year's leave of absence from his duties with the village.

Italian delight helps After Prom



Members of the Blooming Prairie After Prom Committee dish up spaghetti Jan. 29 at the Pizza Cellar in Blooming Prairie. The dinner featured a free-will donation to benefit After Prom activities. About \$1,700 was raised and will be used to pay for inflatables, a hypnotist, carnival games, food and prizes. The Blooming Prairie prom is scheduled for May 5 with the committee's mission of providing a safe and fun experience for all BP students. Donations are still being accepted and chaperones are needed for prom. Anyone interested



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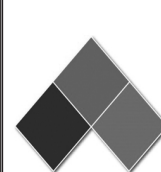
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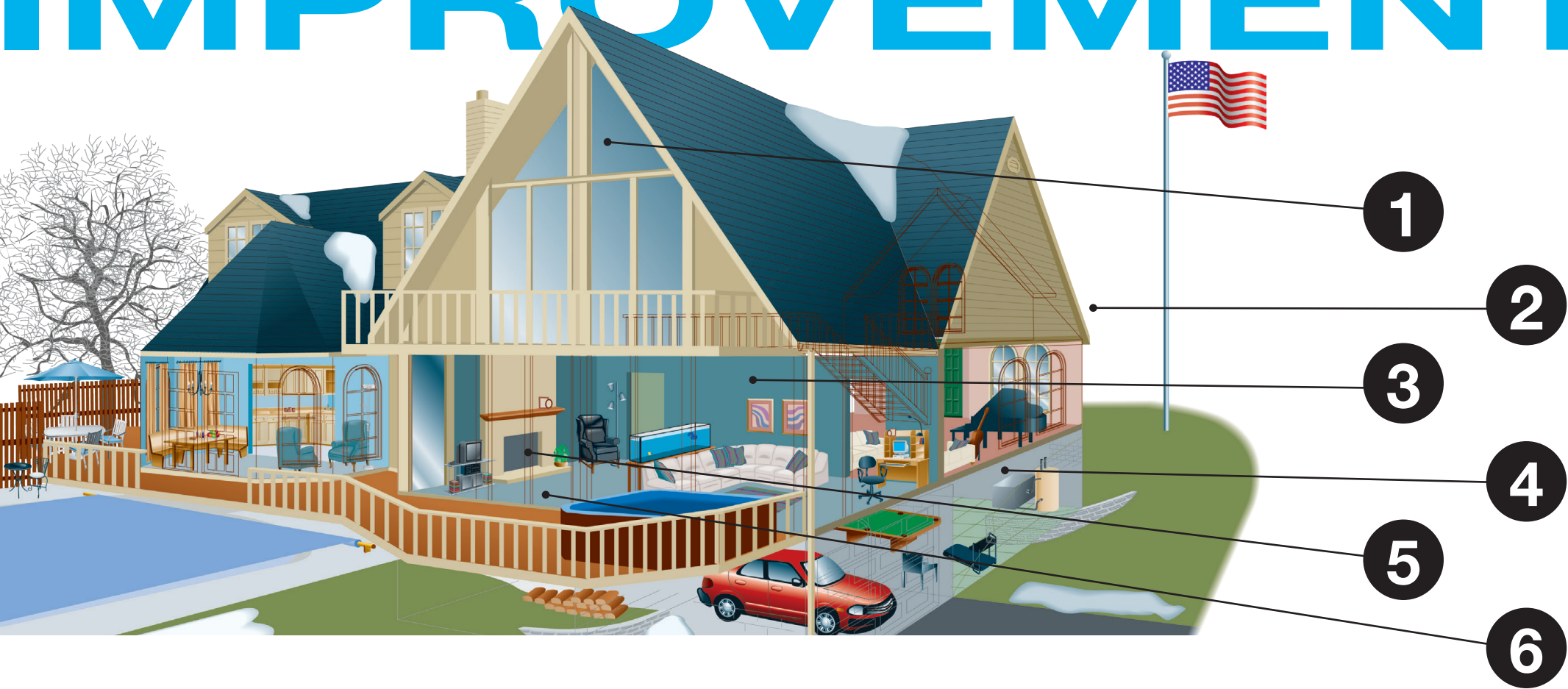


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WINTERHOMEIMPROVEMENT



Maximize fall and winter energy savings with simple tips

By Scott McGillivray
As temperatures decrease during the fall and winter months, energy usage and costs tend to climb. These five energy-saving tips for your home will ensure the comfort of your family and your wallet.

1. Adjust your thermostat. Lower the heat on your thermostat while you are away from home and before you go to bed. Better yet, invest in a programmable thermostat so you don't have to give it a second thought.
2. Seal gaps around windows and doors. Cracks and gaps around windows and doors can let cold drafts into your home. Weather-stripping or caulking will seal these problem areas and keep your home warmer, without having to turn up the heat.
3. Insulate well to protect your home from the cold. Add insulation to your basement walls, headers or attic to make a noticeable difference in the temperature of your home and its energy consumption. A mineral wool product specifically designed for thermal performance, such as Roxul Comfortbatt, is ideal. This type of batt insulation will also provide protection from fire, moisture and unwanted noise. Adding insulation is one of the simplest and most-cost

effective ways to increase home energy efficiency.

4. Make use of natural sources of heat. Pull back your curtains to let natural light in. The sun can help to warm a room with its rays on a bright fall or winter day. If there are any large windows in your home that don't receive much sunlight, keep the curtains closed to form a barrier from the cold.
5. Use ceiling fans to your advantage. In the winter, set the fan to rotate clockwise. The blades will pull the air up and around, redirecting warm air that rises back down into the living space. The effect can help you lower your thermostat by two degrees in the winter. While cutting back on energy may seem more challenging as the weather gets colder, it doesn't have to be. There are many no- or low-cost methods to conserve energy that can provide consistent savings over time.

Scott McGillivray is the award-winning TV host of the hit series *Income Property* on HGTV Canada, a full-time real estate investor, contractor, author, and educator. Follow him on Twitter @smcgillivray.

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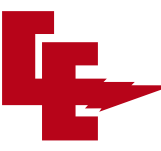
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STEELE COUNTY **Times**



Auctioneers call out bids during the Eagles annual Cancer Auction last Friday night in Owatonna. All of the proceeds were donated to cancer research.

Owatonna Eagles Club holds annual cancer auction

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend the Eagles held their 56th annual Cancer Auction Fundraiser, an event that draws together community volunteers, support, and participation in order to raise money for cancer research.

The auction, which was held on Friday and Saturday, has become a tradition. In past years the Eagles have raised sufficient funds. In 2013 the auction, for example, was able to raise \$25,500, and in the preceding years that number has only climbed.

Last year they raised \$52,000, with an additional \$8,000 from T-Shirt sales, raffle tickets, and the 2017 Ride for Hope. Joel Hunt, vice president and chair of the Eagle's Auction Committee, is proud to report that 100 percent of the proceeds will be donated to charity.

The money raised will be split between the Mayo Clinic, the University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center, and the Hormel Institute in Austin with the express purpose of

funding cancer research.

"Cancer is a horrible disease that affects everyone, someone you know might have it," Hunt said Friday night in his opening remarks, before thanking local businesses, crafters, bakers, volunteers and the auction committee.

"We got support from all over," Hunt said. "Not just Owatonna, but Austin, Waseca and Faribault." He also stressed the value of his committee. "They're so great! They just know what to do."

According to Hunt, the committee began planning the auction in August, meeting monthly until January, when they had to increase the frequency of their meetings to every week. Satisfied with the results after presiding over a full room of eager bidders, Hunt said he appreciated all of the hard work and cooperation that went into putting the event together. "Of course I have to thank my co-chair, Jim Kittleson."

Hunt has been a member of the Eagles Club for six years, and explains that his parents and grandparents were actively involved in the organization. "Our club motto is people helping people," Hunt said.

Although he expects the traffic to remain steady, Hunt says that most of the expensive items are auctioned off Friday night, with a host of smaller, less expensive items expected on Saturday as a good balance.

Despite the fact that he will pass on the chairship for next year's auction, Hunt is prepared to stay involved. "Really, we all work together and make decisions," he said.

The event also saw members of the Eagles as well as the attendees give reverence for Jeff Kath, a longtime auctioneer who had passed away recently. There were baskets devoted in his honor, and a special table planned for Saturday night.

Ron Ankrum, currently serving his term as Aerie secretary, remembers that Kath "had a lot of friends here," and recalls the man as "quite the auctioneer." When asked about the crowd size, Ankrum said with a smile, "It looks like one of the biggest turnouts I've seen."

Ankrum discussed some of the other charitable events the Eagles have put on throughout the year, including pancake

SEE **BIDDING, C2**



Torey's Restaurant will be moving later this year into the old Arrow Ace Hardware building in downtown Owatonna. Arrow moved out of its facility to a near-by location last month.

Serving up a new spot

Torey's Restaurant to move into downtown Owatonna

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Torey's Restaurant, which is located on West Bridge Street, has been serving up food to Steele County residents for 17 years.

The restaurant which offers fine dining, also specializes in catering and large group events, including weddings and business meetings. But in the past they've been limited in their in-house capacity due to the space available. According to Torey Statlander, owner and manager of the restaurant, this won't be as much of a problem anymore, as the new location seeks to multiply the available space, both in-house, and with parking.

Once the move is completed, the restaurant will see its 80-seat side room at the current location switched out for a 350-seat upstairs banquet hall. With the additional of this upstairs space, Statlander expects to be able to accommodate more guests, as well as host larger parties, group events, and weddings. Off-site catering work will still be offered for larger receptions and events.

"This extra space is very crucial," Statlander says, "it gives us the chance to do bigger parties and weddings on-site."

But it isn't only about the seating. Statlander said, "The larger space also gives us the opportunity to provide our customers with a greater variety of food in-house, as in our own facility we can do a lot more than working off-site."

The increase in parking was also a large part of the draw. Owatonna's downtown offers much more parking space available than the location on West Bridge Street could. Statlander reports that he counted over 200 spots, and expects that on weekends and nights that number could increase due to

SEE **TOREY'S, C3**

Super volunteers



Mayor Lois Nelson of Medford, right, poses for a photo with another volunteer from Lakeville during Super Bowl weekend. The mayor was one of 10,000 volunteers from across Minnesota that helped guide visitors around the Twin Cities area throughout the Super Bowl festivities. Nelson worked her last shift at the Twin Cities International Airport Monday. Mayor Thomas Kuntz of Owatonna also took part in the volunteer effort.

Get ready to solve crime

Are you a Law and Order fan? Enjoy Criminal Minds? If you answered yes, boy do we have a series for you.

History Uncorked offers a fun and innovative approach to historical court cases while enjoying a glass of wine, beer or soda.

The evening begins with a brief overview of a local crime committed in the late 1800s to early 1900s. Attorneys Ben Cass and Him Cole walk attendees through the criminal case and trial. Once all the facts have been presented, each table of attendees becomes the jurors deliberating the case to determine if the accused is guilty or not.

The attorneys are currently selecting the case for our upcoming History Uncorked event being held on Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Steele County History Center. New cases will be heard on June 21 and October 18.

Past cases presented include The Blair Murder Case; Eliza Brown and the Handyman; The Farmer, The Wife, The Neighbor; Jealously, Love and Poison; A Shot in the Dark—The Murder of Harry Krier.

In several of the past cases, SCHS was contacted by family members seeking more information on ancestors that were involved. The family members were able to work with our researchers and add information to their personal histories.

We invite you to discover the intricate facets of historic cases. The cost for the event is \$10 for SCHS members, \$15 for nonmembers. Ticket price includes one beverage of your choice. Tickets can be purchased at the History Center two weeks prior to the event. Additional wine, beer and soda is available for purchase.

The History Center, located at 1700 Austin Road in Owatonna, is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more information, please call our office at 507-451-1420.

Stephanie Kibler is the meetings and events manager at the Steele County History Center. Steele Talkin' is a weekly column featuring authors representing various groups and organizations in Steele County.



Steele Talkin'
STEPHANIE KIBLER

Area funeral home tackles unresolved grief

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Grieving is a natural process. Unresolved grief, however, can effect one's life, negatively impact their relationships, and cause additional problems such as depression.

Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna is offering an eight-week class on the Grief Recovery Method, an action program for moving beyond death, divorce, career changes, or other losses. The class, which began Monday and continues through March 26 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Owatonna, is one of six eight-week sessions Michaelson Funeral Home will be offering throughout this year.

April Paxton, family services coordinator at Michaelson Funeral Home, explains that "grief is the normal and natural reaction to a significant emotional loss of any kind, however, when grief is not dealt with appropriately, unresolved grief can start to affect other areas of your life." These affected areas include one's health, their job performance, and relationships with both family and friends.

According to Paxton, the Grief Recovery Method is an action program which asks participants to complete

SEE **FUNERAL, C3**

Geneva Cancer Group raises record \$110K at auctions

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

It was a record year for the Geneva Cancer Group, which recently completed its series of two weekend auctions at the Geneva Bar & Grill.

Whitey Hagen, one of the originators of the cancer auction in 1984, says the only thing that could have gone better is that we can found a cure for cancer. "We're getting closer all the time," Hagen believes.

Hagen said \$110,000 was raised by the two weekend auctions on Jan. 12-13 and Jan. 19-20. Funds also came from a wild game feed and a golf tournament.

The funds now go to the Eagles Cancer Telethon in Rochester, to the University of Minnesota and to the Hormel Institute. "It keeps a lot of people happy when we keep the funds close to home; I don't care where they put the funds as long we can find a cure," Hagen said.

People come from afar to support the auction efforts. "People trust us putting the money in the right place," Hagen said.

Hagen, his wife LeJune and former Geneva Bar & Grill owner Hank Thompson and his wife Judy (since passed from cancer) sat down one afternoon in 1984 and decided something should be done to fight cancer.

Hagen's brother Richard died from cancer at age 47 in 1983. "Hank told me, why don't you have an auction in memory of your brother," Hagen recalls. Hagen had previously worked with a fundraising auction in Albert Lea at Eddy's Bar, thus he knew some of the tricks to make such an event successful.

Hagen often tells the story of bringing a live chicken to a fundraising auction in Albert Lea and selling the chicken over and over to raise funds to fight cancer.

Hagen, 85, has become a master showman over the years, doing some of the auctioneering himself and also involving his wife, their

children and grandchildren. It indeed is a family affair.

It has become a tradition for Hagen to grab a serving tray, place it on his bald pate and cruise the Geneva Bar & Grill asking for green donations. The trick works like a charm.

Asked where the idea of making money by balancing a tray on his head, Hagen smiles widely. "I'm sure it could not have been because I had too many drinks," Hagen laughed.

He admits that he likes to goof around with the attendees of the auction. "Get your tray Whitey," people from the crowd will say to encourage Hagen to parade through the bar with the serving tray solidly affixed to his head. Has he ever dropped the tray? Nobody is telling.

Hagen said he is so happy to see his three sons and their families become involved in the cancer fundraising. "It's nice to see the kids believe in something you so strongly support," he said.

On the first weekend of the auction on Saturday, Jan. 13, Hagen coaxed his granddaughter Brenna Hagen, a nurse, to join him on his tour around the bar with serving trays on their heads. He even persuaded Brenna to play auctioneer and auction off a few items.

The auctions move very smoothly with polished auctioneers like Tracy Holland and Whalen Busho leading the pack.

There are so many helpers and volunteers who work behind the scenes to make the Geneva cancer auctions successful, Hagen emphasizes. "These are the people who make the fundraising possible," added Victor Mrotz of the Hope Creamery, a large donor always of Hope Butter.

Hagen also paid special recognition to all those individuals and businesses from around the area who donate prizes.

"People trust us putting the money in the right place."

Whitey Hagen
Geneva Cancer Group



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Master showman Whitey Hagen puts on his hat, in this case it is a serving tray at the Geneva Bar & Grill. Hagen has continued the tradition of touring the bar premises with the tray on his head and asking for donations to fight cancer.

LeJune Hagen grabbed some bidding sheets to relate that 115 items were auctioned the first Friday and 251 items auctioned the first Saturday. On Friday, Jan. 19, 106 items were put on the auction block and the biggest day of the auction, the final day on Saturday, Jan. 20, auctioneers sold 308 items.

Not all of the items donated were auctioned due to a lack of time but as usual, a cleanup auction will be held in the near future. "I will get that date to you," Hagen said, emphasizing that he loves the support local media has given

the Geneva Cancer Group.

Hagen, a farmer most of his life on the Bath road, has now moved with LeJune to Albert Lea.

Hagen salutes other area communities that have assembled events to raise money to find a cure for cancer. He singled out Blooming Prairie and Lyle.

"I have done some auctioneering and most importantly have made lots of friends. We are all fighting for the same cause."

More delays cause courthouse reopening to be reset for this week

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

The goal to fully reopen the Steele County Courthouse in Owatonna last week came up short, but it should be totally functional again by later this week.

The courthouse had planned to be fully reopened on Feb. 1 after being shut down for more than a year because of a water leak in the historic building. However, some last minute glitches with technology in the courtrooms prevented the reopening, according to Robin Hoesley, court administrator. Reached by phone on Thursday afternoon, Hoesley said, "It's all up in the air at this moment."

Hoesley was fairly confident, however, that the courthouse would be fully functional again by this Thursday.

Court officials attempted to do a court hearing by conference call last Thursday. But they ran into a snag when the other party could not hear court personnel in the courtroom speak into the phone.

Hoesley said they were able to bring in another phone to finish the hearing, but it was not the built-in system designed for the courtroom.

Prior to this Thursday's opening, Hoesley said some hearings may end up back at the fire station located across the street from the courthouse. Court hearings have been held at the fire station since last January when a heavy water leak forced the entire courthouse to be evacuated and renovated.

The move back to the courthouse began in September when Courtroom B opened. Officials have been moving in stages since that time.

A formal rededication of the courthouse is set for May 1 on Law Day.

Former BP woman named finalist for distinguished faculty

A former Blooming Prairie woman has been nominated for a distinguished faculty award in Colorado.

Jessica Kruckeberg is a finalist for the Distinguished 2018 Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions (RHCHP) Affiliate Faculty award at Regis University in Denver. She teaches academic and clinical courses in the Division of Counseling and Family Therapy, a graduate level program within RHCHP.

The nomination, written by faculty members, administration and students describe Kruckeberg as supportive, discerning and intentional in her

interactions and work. Her students wrote, "Jessica gave us so many valuable things through transparency and humor. She inspired me to continue to try to be the best therapist that I can be... her drive to care for others and serve is apparent through the lens from which she conceptualizes theories and client issues."

The purpose of the award is to recognize an exemplary affiliate faculty member for their contributions to the Regis community.

The recipient of the award will be announced at a ceremony on March 27.

Kruckeberg is a licensed marriage and family therapist with a full-time private

practice in Aurora, Colo. The practice is called Areas of Growth Counseling. She is also the founder of Louder Than a Lion, products and services for therapist by therapists, and an affiliate faculty member and clinical supervisor at Regis University in Denver.

Regis offers innovative and dynamic degree and certificate programs to prepare students for a variety of careers in the health professions with cutting-edge knowledge essential in today's every-changing health care environments.

Kruckeberg is a graduate of Blooming Prairie High School.

BIDDING: Annual cancer auction

FROM PAGE C1

breakfasts, and an upcoming pool tournament.

"The tournament is really fun," Ankrum said. He described how they clear out the bulk of the clubhouse to make room for all the pool tables. "That'll be the end of February," he said. "It feels good to give back."

Hunt concurs with Ankrum's sentiments, and loves the atmosphere that events like this one create. "It's so much fun," he says, "a live auction is more exciting than a silent one, and when you win it feels almost like you've won the lottery." Hunt knows that, "when it's for a good cause, people tend to bid a lot more, which makes things interesting."

With many members of the community donating their time and effort to help assemble a large collection of items, Hunt also did his part, as the Owatonna Police detective found some spare time to build and donate a bench he made.

There was a total of 381 large items, plus around 150 smaller ones, bringing the auction's total item count to over 500. Brandon Nelson of Ellendale, who's been auctioneering at the Eagle's Cancer Fundraiser for around eight years, also loves the atmosphere the live auction provides.

"It's great," Nelson said of working the auction. "It's exciting, and fast paced, and above all, it's for a good cause."

Nelson agrees with Hunt's opinion regarding the difference between live and silent auctions. "A live auction's better. There's way more participation, and you've got a rivalry factor sometimes," he jokes.

Hunt is proud of the work the club does in raising

money, not just at this event, but at many more.

"We are lucky to have three world-class cancer institutions nearby," Hunt explains. He said, "You know, cancer used to be a death sentence, but now it seems there are several types of cancer which do not always

carry such a dire prognosis."

He also lauds the great strides the medical community has taken in its approach to treatment. "I think that the quality of life with some types of treatment is now a lot better than what it had been before."



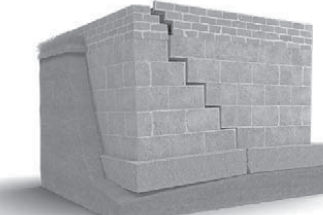
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Thomas Erickson



Zander Peterson

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BLOSSOMS OF THE MONTH



Blooming Prairie High School

Thomas Erickson- Senior

The senior high student of the month is Thomas Erickson, who is a senior. His favorite class is art—expressive. Erickson indicates a passion for creating things.

Some comments from school staff include:

- "Thomas has a very personable personality and takes time to greet and encourage my students. I am very proud of Thomas' growth in maturity and responsibility in his academics and work experience at BPHS."
- "Thomas loves to share his opinion on class topics, and keeps up when it nearly all the time. He is a kid who really enjoys learning, and who lights up when it 'clicks.'"
- "Thomas has displayed maturity in class. He's respectful of classmates and also me, begins work on his own and cleans up after himself and sometimes others. Occasionally, Thomas helps out other students struggling to find their way."
- "Thomas is a very positive role model in my class, and is a great example of how to be responsible, kind, and show true Prairie Pride."

Erickson's special interests are computers, cars and fishin. He has a sibling, Eddie and two dogs, Sally and Penny.

Zander Peterson- 7th Grade

The junior high student of the month is Zander Peterson, who is a seventh grader. His favorite class is math, which he likes because it is challenging.

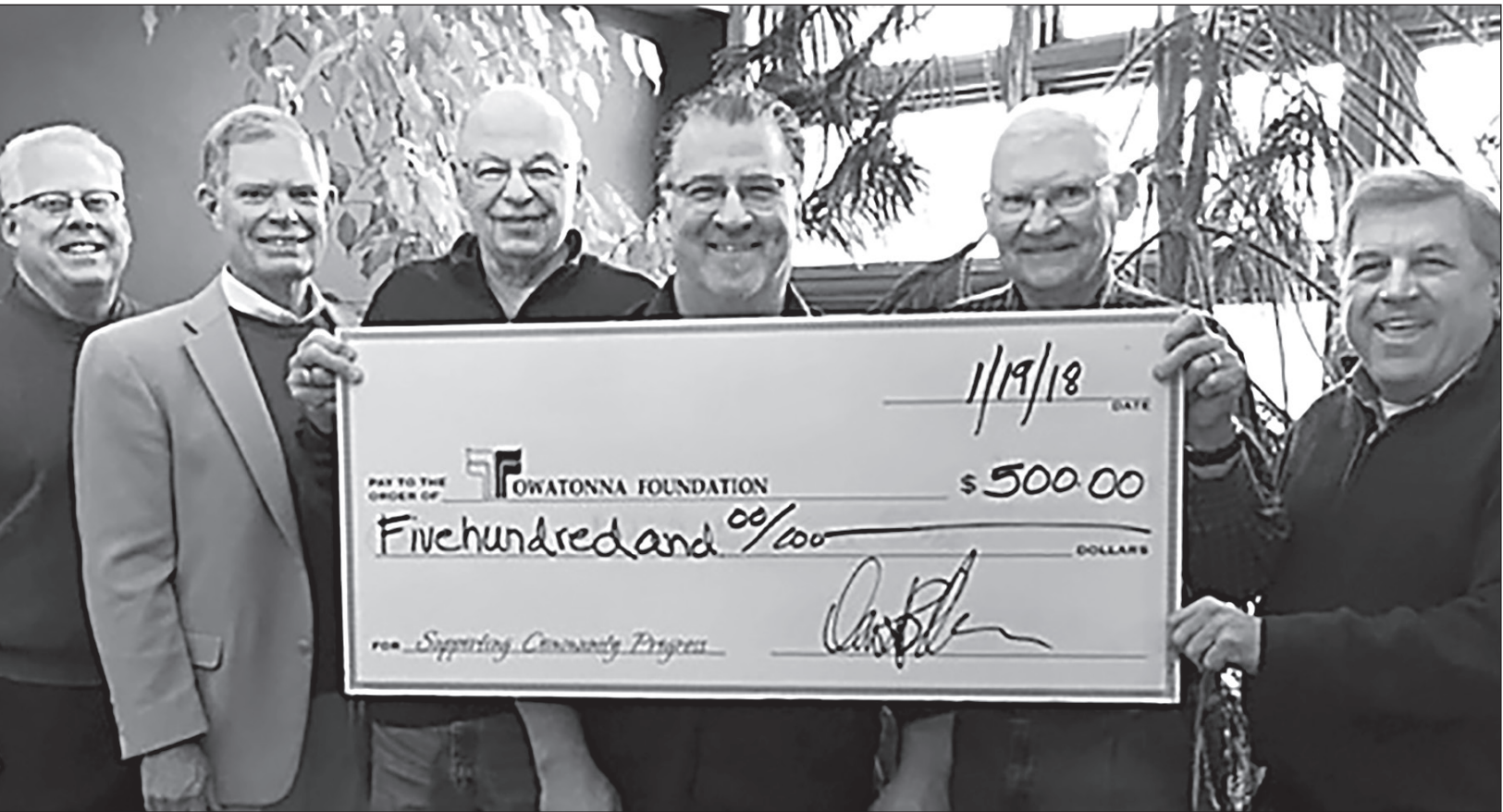
Some comments from his teachers include:

- "Zander is a very smart boy. He cares a lot about his education and grades. He works hard in the classroom."
- "Zander is a respectable student. He does well academically in class. He is book smart and life smart about many things."
- "Zander is a very nice, helpful young man. He wants to do well and is concerned about his reputation. Zander also likes to please others, which is a nice quality to have in junior high."

Peterson's special interests include anything outdoors—ice fishing, hunting, fishing and working.

He has two siblings, Remington and Annastyn. He also has three dogs and two cats.

Congratulations, Thomas and Zander, on your awesome classroom accomplishments!



Dow Natural Chiropractic Health Clinic has donated \$500 to the Owatonna Foundation. Foundation trustees joined in to accept the donation from Dow. Pictured are (left to right) Matt Kottke, Bill Beer, Todd Hale, trustees; Dr. David Dow, Dow Chiropractic and Ray Stawarz and Dave Einhaus, trustees.

Dow Chiropractic makes gift to Owatonna Foundation

The Dow Natural Chiropractic Health Clinic recently made a \$500 donation to the Owatonna Foundation.

“We are extremely grateful to Dow Chiropractic for making this gift to the Foundation. This donation will go far in continuing our mission which is; improving the quality of life for present and future generations by supporting Owatonna projects that focus on community, arts, recreation, and

education,” said Betsy Lindgren, Foundation president.

The Owatonna Foundation, now in its 60th year of serving the Owatonna community, provides capital grants in Owatonna and its environs.

The Foundation was established in 1957 with the goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations of Owatonna residents. Since then, the

Owatonna Foundation has committed more than \$11.8 million dollars in grants to Owatonna projects and annually awards \$30,000 in scholarships for both traditional and non-traditional students.

For more information about the Owatonna Foundation, go to www.owatonnafoundation.org, or call the office at 507-455-2995.

TOREY’S: New spot downtown

FROM PAGE C1

the absence of business hours traffic.

Torey’s relocation is just one of the many projects planned for Owatonna’s downtown area. “I think there’s a lot of projects in the works. I know there’s a hotel going up across the street,” Statlander said. He feels that this relocation, and the city’s emphasis on revitalizing their downtown, will help Owatonna’s economy, and maintain a quality downtown space for additional business opportunities.

“We’ve got some important big employers, but also small businesses, and they all need to eat,” Statlander said when discussing the importance of both large and small employers. The existence of multiple businesses and corresponding traffic in the area is something he thinks will help bring a bevy of additional customers to the new location.

Greg Kruschke, Owatonna community development specialist, hopes that such a move might help inspire other, similar projects to be considered. “Hopefully this is a lead-in for other projects, as one of our big goals is to renovate and improve our downtown space,” he said, adding he is confident that revitalization efforts like this one will have a reverberating effect on the town and its central hub.

Explaining some of the difficulty the project entailed, Kruschke noted that “we have three buildings, and three walls that need to be merged so that it looks seamless.” He went on to clarify that most of the work has to be done at the basement and second story levels.

“The building’s in decent shape,” he said. “But it’s still challenging to change it from a one level retail space to a two story restaurant.” Kruschke tallies the total cost of the project to somewhere

“Hopefully this is a lead-in for other projects, as one of our big goals is to renovate and improve our downtown space.”

Greg Kruschke
Owatonna Community Development

just over \$2 million, and said that the city will be assisting Statlander and his investing partners with tax increment financing in order to help the developer fill a monetary gap.

With the project in the works, Kruschke feels assured that it will be a success for both the developer and Owatonna’s downtown. “The downtown’s a big draw, and this can only help with that,” he said. He too sees the vital importance of having lots of employers within distance of the new location. “We have over 2,000 employees downtown when accounting for all employers,” he expounds, anticipating this volume will carry over to an increase in customers for the new restaurant.

“Torey and his partners came to us with a dream and a thought, and we wanted to help them achieve this dream,” Kruschke said. “We’re here to help everyone out.” With this and several other ventures currently in

development, Kruschke hopes to meet the goal of trying to steer Owatonna’s downtown into a sort of resurgent renaissance.

When asked about Krushcke’s role in the process, Statlander had nothing but positive things to say. “Greg was a vital part of this move,” he noted. “He has a wealth of knowledge on the rules and code compliance and those sort of things.”

Statlander has confidence in both the project and his contractors and hopes for the new site to be open around August or September of this year.

If all goes well Owatonna’s downtown will boast a brand new restaurant to further entice visitors, and make certain that the traffic continues to flow, and this important town center continues to prosper.

GIANELLE

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This week’s Panther of the Week is Gianelle Cazares. Gia resides in Hartland with her parents Gladys and Adan Cazares. She is in Mrs. Larson’s 2nd grade class.

Gia has shown tremendous Panther Pride by making a new student feel welcome. Her kindness and patience has been a great example on how to be a good friend. She has been a great leader. Gia loves to sleep and watch TV. Her favorite food is sausage pizza and her favorite book is Junie B. Jones.

Keep up the great work Gia!

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Plural of be
- Dress
- Nothing
- Relating to apes
- They protect and serve
- Swindle
- Show’s partner
- Lift
- Raise up
- Do something to an excessive degree
- Occupies
- Power-driven aircraft
- Indicates position
- Matchstick games
- This and _
- No longer here
- Health insurance
- Spore-producing receptacle on fern frond
- Monetary unit
- Sweet potatoes
- Tropical Asian plant
- Guilty or not guilty
- Carbon dioxide
- Able to arouse intense feeling
- Earl’s jurisdiction
- Omitted
- Heartbeat
- Albania capital
- Fashion accessory
- Interaction value analysis

CLUES DOWN

- Enrages
- Capital of Saudi Arabia
- Uses in an unfair way
- Cesium
- Written works
- Breakfast item
- Found in showers

- A way of fractioning
- Unit of measurement
- Sailboat
- Indian goddess
- For each
- Farewell
- Ethnic group of Sierra Leone
- German industrial city
- Measures intensity of light
- Small, faint constellation
- Promotes enthusiastically
- Malaysian inhabitant
- Ancient units of measurement
- An unspecified period
- Frame house with up to three stories
- Lassie is one
- Martinis have them
- Rant
- Famed journalist Tarbell
- Opening
- Round Dutch cheese
- Archaic form of do
- Once more
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BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT

Blotter Spotlight: Suspicion: On Jan. 24 at 6:55 a.m., Casey's in Hayfield reported that there was an occupied truck sitting at the pumps for several hours.

Pastors partner with deputies in Dodge County to form chaplain program

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A first of its kind program in Dodge County will pair up sheriff's deputies and area clergy members.

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office began a new program last week with nine pastors joining the ranks of the office as chaplains. The clergy members have completed the required state and federal background checks and required training to earn their credentials to serve as volunteers in the program.

Serving as sheriff's chaplains are Tim Chase of Grace Lutheran Church, Dodge Center; James Zotalis of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Kasson; Jim Martin of Seventh Day Adventist Church, Dodge Center; Roger Landworthy of Praise Fellowship, Dodge Center; John Todor of First Baptist Church, Kasson; Peter Moen of Concord Church of Christ, West Concord; Rex and Shari Edge, Blooms of Love, Dodge Center and Bernie Lattner of the Federal Medical Center.

"We are excited to have these great people volunteering for this program to help us better serve our community."

Sheriff Scott Rose
Dodge County

career is confronted with more situations that can demoralize and create extreme emotional and mental burdens than law enforcement," he said. "These incidents are often difficult to deal with for both the public safety professional and the citizens involved."

After reviewing a handful of devastating incidents over the past couple years, the sheriff began researching the idea of starting a chaplain program. He noted that the sheriff's office lacked this type of internal support system for its staff, other public safety agencies and the victims.

Sgt. Shannon Boerner will supervise the program. He helped in the planning and implementation phases of the program.

"We are excited to have these great people volunteering for this program to help us better serve our community," said Sheriff Scott Rose.

With every call, every day, law enforcement officers, Rose said, are faced with potentially life threatening situations in which split-second decisions have to be made. "No one



SUBMITTED PHOTO

After several months of planning, the Dodge County Sheriff's Office started a new chaplain program last Thursday night. The new chaplains include back row (left to right): Sheriff Scott Rose, Peter Moen, Tim Chase, Jim Martin and Rex Edge; front row: Bernie Lattner, John Todor, Roger Langworthy, Shari Edge and Sgt. Shannon Boerner. Missing from the picture is James Zotalis.

"Our local law enforcement officers, dispatchers and first responders are out there day and night, 24/7 to help and protect our community," Rose said. "We need to make sure they are taken care of too," he added.

Rose said today more than ever before law enforcement agencies need a resource for guidance, counseling and assistance to their officers, their families and their communities.

"The burden these officers take on can tremendously affect the officer's family, too—often the forgotten victims," Rose said. The officer's own clergy person or religious advisor, although trained in the ministry, likely doesn't have a good understanding of the particular problems law enforcement officers face, Rose said. "In such cases, this is where a chaplain could listen with empathy, advise calmly and offer assistance when such assistance is appropriate," he said.

The chaplains are not there to proselytize, but rather to be an understanding ear and provide support and guidance with an open heart and mind, Rose said.

Some of the ways the chaplains will be assisting local officers

CRIME BRIEF

Man faces felony credit card fraud

An Owatonna man faces a felony charge in connection with a credit card fraud at various Kwik Trip stores.

Ben Drabek, 22, has been charged with financial transaction card fraud in connection with the case.

On Jan. 9, a citizen reported his credit card lost and three fraudulent transactions taking place at various Kwik Trips in Owatonna.

A detective viewed surveillance video of three transactions and observed the same person at all three stores. Police also obtained a license plate number

from the vehicle driven by the suspect. With that information, police viewed the driver's license photo of the registered owner and made a match.

Police interviewed Drabek on Jan. 26 during a probation meeting. Drabek admitted to the fraud, police said. He told detectives he found the card under a table at a restaurant he worked and used it to commit the fraud, according to police.



Drabek

include ride-along program, respond to all major disasters, assist with making death notifications, assist with suicides, provide assistance to victims and counsel members of the law enforcement community.

Chaplains will also be called upon to visit sick or injured officers and other department personnel at home or in the hospital.

Rose said he could still use more support in the Hayfield, Claremont and West Concord areas to help respond to calls. The requirement is to be a minister with at least five years of experience, and the willingness to be available to respond to any situation where a chaplain's presence may be needed.

The St. Paul Chaplain program, which provided input during the planning phase last year, has offered to assist with future training for Dodge County's chaplains.

The program will hold monthly training sessions at the sheriff's office in Mantorville.

For more information, contact the sheriff at 507-635-6200 or by email at scott.rose@co.dodge.mn.us.

COURT NEWS

Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Jan. 22 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding:

Kimberly K. Hammer, 54, Clarks Grove, previously appeared and was convicted of felony theft. She was sentenced to \$15,979, 60 days in county jail, obtain permission to leave the state, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, maintain employment, no contact with victim, do not enter victim's business and 5 years of supervised probation.

Michael L. Wiuff, 22, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony sale of cocaine or meth. Wiuff was sentenced to \$3,081, 8 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, obtain permission to leave the state, 30 days of electronic home monitor and 10 years of supervised probation.

Blake A. Yearling, 20, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. The defendant was sentenced to \$1,081, 30 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Jan. 22 – 26:

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Jordan L. Roe, 21, Albert Lea, expired tabs and no insurance, \$311.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER
Kulmeyer A. Abuker, 21, Kansas City, MO, speeding, \$131; Kalyan R. Admala, 39, Olivette, MO, speeding, \$131; Ton Aung, 35, Willmar, speeding, \$131; Precious H. Beauford, 33, Inver Grove Heights, speeding, \$141; Isaac D. Bollman,

25, Dassel, speeding, \$121; Adam P. Casper, 37, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Juan M. Coterio, 30, Pingree Grove, IL, speeding, \$141; Diane M. Feeney, 52, Waseca, seat belt, \$106; Quentin L. Guyton, 31, Oakland, CA, revoked license, \$281; David S. Hare, 35, Austin, suspended license and unsafe passing, \$331; Daniel Hernandez Barbadillo, 28, West St. Paul, permit violation, \$131; Jordan A. Ibarra, 19, Lufkin, TX, no license, \$181; J. Guadalupe Jacinto, 54, Omaha, NE, speeding, \$141; Laura R. Jensen, 40, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Harlan E. Johnson, 26, Sycamore, IL, speeding, \$141; Joshua J. Kindt, 26, West Concord, open bottle, \$181; Nathaniel J. Konen, 19, Tonka Bay, speeding, \$131; Stephen T. Leon, 21, Minneapolis, speeding, \$131; Victorious I. Long, 26, Chicago, IL, possession of marijuana, \$131; Jabier M. Martinez, 28, Austin, no license and no insurance, \$381; Bradley P. McNally, 52, Austin, revoked license, \$281; Ya S. Mea, 21, Austin, speeding and no insurance, \$341; Lizbet Mendoza, 27, Sullivan City, TX, speeding, \$141; Jennifer L. Mitchell, 42, Rochester, speeding, \$141; Rachael Moran, 35, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Sabrina S. Murrell, 22, Fort Lauderdale, FL, open bottle, \$181; Franco Navarro, 39, Minnesota Lake, no child passenger restraint system, \$131; Philip R. Nelson, 24, Mankato, speeding, \$141; David A. Pennig, 57, Stacy, speeding, \$141; Mario Ruiz Acevedo, 27, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Zachary C. Shaw, 27, Medford, seat belt, \$106; Jose P. Soto, 35, Bastrop, TX, speeding and no license, \$231; Kalik T. Stanley, 27, Philadelphia, PA, speeding, \$121; David W. Strobel, 55, Austin, speeding, \$121; Emma K. Sullivan, 18, Albert Lea, window tint violation, \$131; Victoria A. Sutch, 34, De Kalb, MO, speeding, \$121; Harun H. Tahirou, 36, Brooklyn, NY, weaving over lane lines, \$131; Sammang Theng, 38, Oakdale, revoked license, \$281; Armando J. Wagui, 21, Fort Lauderdale, FL, seat belt, \$106; Brady D. Waldhauser, 25, Ellendale, window tint violation, \$131; Mindy J. Walston, 44, Johnston, IA, failure to yield, \$131; Joshua F. Weller, 29, Owatonna, failure

to deliver title, \$281; Jason B. Worrell, 31, North Mankato, speeding, \$121; James A. Yoho, 42, Rochester, expired registration, \$111.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT
Mohamed O. Abdi, 19, Owatonna, give peace officer false information, \$54.48 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Regina C. Bateman, 53, Owatonna, speeding, \$100; Javier H. Benavides, 44, Plymouth, suspended license, \$281; Anthony W. Caywood, 35, Owatonna, stop sign, no insurance and rear lights violation, \$371; Dawn M. Dickie, 46, Waseca, suspended license, \$281; Isaac R. Dillon, 20, no insurance, \$281; Antonio J. Garcia Jr., 18, Owatonna, no insurance, careless driving and no license, \$481; Pedro A. Garza, 29, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Treerelas D. Harris, 34, revoked license, no insurance and expired tabs, \$711; Clara J. Osmont, 24, Annapolis, MD, DWI, \$381, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Daniel M. Shay, 70, Owatonna, domestic assault, stay of adjudication, \$81 and 1 year of supervised probation; Spencer J. Steckelberg, 18, Owatonna, following vehicle too closely, \$131.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Lindsay E. Ahlman, 26, Medford, speeding, \$121; Ginger M. Benjamin, 33, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Devin M. Brandvold, 24, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Anival Cuellar, 41, Owatonna, escape from custody, 147 days in county jail; Diew G. Diang, 18, Austin, speeding and no insurance, \$321; Ilia Galliamov, 29, Plymouth, suspended license and speeding, \$341; Ezekiel N. Garza, 24, Owatonna, no insurance, speeding and no license, \$431; Maryan S. Hussein, 25, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; Tressie C. Masching, 30, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$121; Christine M. Mitchell, 29, Faribault, stop sign, \$131; Jennifer E. Norton, 39, Murray, IA, speeding, \$121; Aaron J. Pidde, 42, Bloomington, failure to yield, \$181; Laura L. Robinson, 35, Medford, no license, failure to drive in single lane and improper informa-

tion on license, \$251; Angelita Rodriguez, 29, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Baihley M. Rothstein, 20, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Michael A. Smith, 25, Waterville, speeding, \$121; Christina M. Tempel, 53, Hayfield, speeding, \$281; Leopoldo Valencia, 43, Faribault, no license and failure to drive in single lane, \$231; Blake A. Yearling, 20, Owatonna, DWI, \$406, 23 days in county jail, attend MADD impact panel, cognitive skill training, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation.

POLICE BLOTTER

Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE
Jan. 26
Domestic: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 300 block of Highland Ave. NW at 7:33 a.m. They took a subject into custody.
Hit and Run: At 11:03 a.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 600 block of Eisenhower Dr. NW.
Drugs: Police responded to drug activity in the 300 block of Main St. E. at 1:51 p.m.
Arrest: Officers assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 100 block of Bridge St. W. at 5:23 p.m.

Jan. 27
Suspicion: At 1:29 a.m., police responded to suspicious activity at School St. E. and Elm Ave. S. They issued a citation.
Shoplifting: Officer issued a shoplifting citation in the 400 block of North St. W. at 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 28
DWI: Police arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at Mill St. E. and Cedar Ave. S. at 12:35 a.m.
Hit and Run: At 5:52 p.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 1000 block of 22nd St. NE.

Jan. 29
Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 400 block of Walnut Ave. S. at 8:38 a.m.
Fraud: At 10:48 a.m., police received a report of a fraud

incident in the 400 block of Academy St. E.
Arrests: Police arrested motorists during traffic stops at Bridge St. W. and Riverside Ave. NW at 11:39 a.m. and at Alexander Dr. SW and 24th Ave. SW at 2:55 p.m.
Forgery: Police took a report of counterfeit money in the 3900 block of Cabela Dr. NW at 4:19 p.m.

Jan. 30
Crash: Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at Havana Road SE and Greenleaf Road SE at 7:46 a.m. They issued a citation to one of the drivers.
Warrant: Officer arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 800 block of Oak Ave. S. at 9:04 a.m.
Arrest: Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop in the 600 block of Bridge St. W. at 12:58 p.m.
Shoplifting: At 1:42 p.m., officers arrested a subject for shoplifting in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W.

Jan. 31
DWI: Police made a DWI arrest in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 12:02 a.m.
Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 900 block of Olympic Hills Place NE at 7:55 a.m.
Arrest: At 7:56 a.m., officer arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Rose St. E. and Grove Ave. N.
Crash: Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at 21st St. NE and Cedar Ave. N. at 10:54 a.m. They issued a citation to one of the drivers.
Warrant: Police arrested a juvenile for an outstanding warrant at Riverside Ave. NW and Bridge St. W. at 3:34 p.m.
Shoplifting: A shoplifting incident occurred in the 400 block of North St. W. at 9:45 p.m.

Feb. 1
Domestic: At 12:03 a.m., officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW. They arrested a subject at the scene.
Juvenile: Police received a juvenile complaint from the 300 block of School St. E. at 9:36 a.m.
Fraud: Police took reports of fraud incidents in the 1200

block of Oak Ave. S. at 11:10 a.m. and the 1900 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 11:23 a.m.
Burglary: Officers began a burglary investigation in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 12:38 p.m.
Warrant: Police made a warrant arrest in the 200 block of Cedardale Dr. SE at 4:25 p.m.
Hit and Run: At 8:39 p.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 200 block of Mill St. W.
Steele County Sheriff

Jan. 26
Drugs: Deputies issued a citation for drug activity in the 700 block of 2nd Ave. NE in Medford at 12:42 p.m.

Jan. 27
Crash: At 3:46 a.m., a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage occurred on Interstate 35 southbound in Owatonna Township.
Restraining Order: Deputies responded to a restraining order violation in the 87000 block of 37th Ave. SW in Somerset Township at 8:10 p.m.

Jan. 28
Check: Deputies conducted a premise check in the 56000 block of Austin Road in Aurora Township at 8:46 p.m.

Jan. 29
Restraining Order: Deputies received a report of a restraining order violation at the detention center at 5:02 p.m.

Jan. 30
Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 4:27 p.m.

Feb. 1
Assault: Deputies responded to an assault in the 600 block of School St. in Ellendale at 7:52 a.m.
Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 48000 block of 98th St. SE in Aurora Township at 11:34 a.m.
Criminal Sexual Conduct: Deputies began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the 53000 block of Crane Creek Road in Meriden Township at 11:41 a.m.
Domestic: At 9:18 p.m., deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Central Ave. W. in Medford. They arrested a subject at the scene.

CONTINUED ON C5

WARRANTS: The following individuals have active warrants in Steele County. The Sheriff provides this information as a public service

1. Harold Crafton – give false name - \$500 bail
2. Elias Cruz – DWI - \$12,000 bail
3. Jose Cruz – DWI - \$1,400 bail
4. Luis Cuevas – restraining order violation – no bail
5. Stuart Culpepper – DWI - \$700 bail
6. Ricky Dague Jr. – revoked license - \$1,000 bail
7. Joel Dahl – DWI - \$3,000 bail

8. James Davis – domestic assault – no bail
9. Lonell Davis – cancelled license – no bail
10. Roderick Davis – registration violation - \$1,000 bail
11. Jeanne Day – worthless check - \$10,000 bail
12. Federico De la Cerda Jr. – controlled substance - \$75,000 bail
13. Arturo Dector – DWI – no bail

14. Felipe Delacerda – DWI - \$750 bail
15. Jose Delbosque – dishonored checks - \$10,000 bail
16. Jose Delrio – criminal damage to property - \$3,000 bail
17. Rachell Dentz – obstructing - \$3,000 bail
18. Donald Derrick – theft – no bail
19. James Desbiens – child support – no bail
20. Michael Deslongchamps – DWI - \$6,000 bail

Disclosing active warrants promotes public safety and aids in the identification and apprehension of wanted individuals

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

FEB. 7
10:30 a.m. – Storytime,
BP Library

FEB. 10
Memorial Benefit for Jon
Carlson, Cue Company

FEB. 12
6:30 p.m. – Friends of the
Library Meeting, BP Library

FEB. 13
10:30 a.m. – Storytime,
BP Library

FEB. 16
KC Fish Fry, Servicemen's
Club



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ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST
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ELLENDALE/GENEVA/HOPE

FEB. 8
3:15 p.m. – After School
Adventures – 4-H, Ellendale
Cafeteria
6 p.m. – NRHEG FCA
Huddle, NRHEG HS Gym
6:15 p.m. – Country Heat
Live Workout, Ellendale
Cafeteria
7:30 p.m. – Ellendale City

Council Meeting, Ellendale
Community Building

FEB. 12
7 p.m. – Berlin Township
Meeting

FEB. 13
6:30 p.m. – Karate,
Ellendale Gym North



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OWATONNA/MEDFORD

FEB. 8
2 p.m. & 7 p.m. – Movies
at the Library, Owatonna
Library
5 p.m. – Airport
Commission Meeting,
Degner Airport Lounge
6:30 p.m. – Family
Storytime, Owatonna Library

Opportunity Dinner,
Owatonna Country Club

FEB. 12
4:30 p.m. – Owatonna
Park & Rec Board Meeting,
City Admin Building

FEB. 13
9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
– It's Tale Time, Owatonna
Library
1 p.m. – So Many Books...
So Little Time, Owatonna
Library
5 p.m. – Steele County
Commissioners Board
Meeting, County Admin
Building
5:30 p.m. – Owatonna
Planning Commission
Meeting, City Admin Building
5:30 p.m. – Owatonna
Human Rights Commission
Meeting, City Admin Building
7 p.m. – Veterans Open
Roundtable, Good Shepard
Lutheran Church
7 p.m. – Poetry Writers'
Group, Owatonna Library

FEB. 9
5:30 p.m. – Kid's Korner
Educare Annual Family Fun
Night, Wilson Elementary
School

FEB. 10
11 a.m. – 10 p.m. –
Winterfest, Brooktree Golf
Course
5:30 p.m. – Valentine
Dinner, Holy Trinity Catholic
Church of Litomysl

FEB. 11
8 a.m. – Noon – Shrine
Club Pancake Breakfast,
Owatonna Eagles' Club
6 p.m. – 9 p.m. – 2018
Ambassador Golden

Anti-protest

STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL ANDERSON

Cindy Rossow and John Rassieur of Owatonna braved the cold Sunday at Bethel Baptist Church in Owatonna, to oppose a message endorsed by members of Westboro Babbist Church from Topeka, Kan., who visited the Owatonna church.

About 12 Westboro church members waved signs with statements such as "God Hates Fags" and sang a parody song, "God Hates America" while the locals held signs and posters relating to messages of love and diversity.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

VALENTINE DINNER COMING TO HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH
Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Litomysl is hosting an adult valentine dinner on Saturday, Feb. 10.
Social hour starts at 5:30 p.m. with wine and appetizers with dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. The menu includes Wind-sor chops, salad, baked pota-toes, vegetables, rolls, coffee and dessert. There will also be door prizes and entertainment.
Tickets cost \$20. Tickets must be bought by Feb. 4, as no tickets will be sold at the door.
Contact people for tickets are: Carol at 583-7848; Jean at 583-2885; Laurie at 451-2001 or Mary Ann at 451-2564.

SHRINE CLUB HOSTING PANCAKE BREAKFAST
The Owatonna Area Shrine Club is hosting a pancake breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 11 from 8 a.m. to Noon at the Owatonna Eagles' Club.
Pancakes, eggs and sau-sage will be served. Tickets cost \$6.00 in advance or \$7.00 at the door. Children 5 and under are free. Tickets are

available at Kottke Jewelers, Costas, the Eagles Club or from Shriner members. You can also call 507-213-0575.
Proceeds benefit the Shrine Club, which has been helping area children obtain expert orthopedic medical care at not cost to the family for over 50 years.

AUDITIONS SET AT LITTLE THEATRE
Little Theatre of Owatonna (LTO) is pleased to announce auditions for the comedy by Erik K. Hatach, 'My Man Godfrey' on Feb. 18-19 from 7-9 p.m. at the Little Theatre of Owatonna, 560 Dunnell Dr., Owatonna.
In the depths of the De-pression, Godfrey, a "forgot-ten man," is rescued from his packing-crate home by ditzzy socialite Irene Bullock during the course of a scavenger hunt. Irene offers Godfrey a job as butler to the banking family of Bullocks. Godfrey tolerates their eccentricities, alcoholism and general nuttiness.
He cures hangovers, dodg-es missiles thrown by Irene's jealous sister, Cornelia, and charms matronly Angelica Bullock, who sees pixies every morning. Irene and Molly, the

pert Irish maid, both fall in love with Godfrey, but for Irene, it's serious-and she's determined to get her man. Falsely ac-cused by Cornelia of stealing the famous Bullock Pearls "de bullock boils" according to the detective on the case), God-frey uses the opportunity to recover his personal finances and when the Bullocks end up going broke, he rescues them by getting them all (gaspl) jobs in The Dump, a new nightclub Godfrey has built to provide work for his friends and for the Bullocks, too. Finally, Irene weds her man Godfrey, and it all works out in the end.
Audition packets are avail-able at the Owatonna Public Library or by contacting Mary Butler Fraser at 507-455-0125. Callbacks, if necessary, will held from 7-9 p.m. on Tues-day, Feb. 20.
There are 16 roles for both men and women with ages ranging from the 20s on up. Between 5-6 roles need to be 20-30 years old. There are a number of walk-on parts that only require being in 1-2 scenes. This would also be a good production for those in-terested in non-speaking roles or only a few lines.
The artistic director is Jon

Terril and the technical director is Mary Butler Fraser. Perfor-mances of 'My Man Godfrey' will be 7:30 p.m. on April 20-21, 27-28. Matinee performances will be 2 p.m. on April 22 and 29.
'My Man Godfrey' is pre-sented in special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service.

AAUW SETS FEBRUARY MEETING

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Owatonna members invite interested guests and poten-tial members to attend their meeting on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna.
The program for the evening will feature Carol J. Winter, MD, a general internist in her 30th year of medical practice in Owatonna. For 24 years Dr. Winter was engaged in traditional internal medicine practice and in 2012 switched gears and became a hospi-talist. The evening's discus-sion will focus on the role of physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants in delivering medical care. It will also touch on changes Dr. Winter has observed over her years of practice.

Jared Allen Krippner, 44, arrested at 2:46 p.m. Feb. 1, warrant arrest, body only.
David Ortiz, 39, arrested at 10:06 p.m. Feb. 1, disorderly conduct, held for court.

COURT NEWS
Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Jan. 22 – 29:

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Marlys Benesh, 53, Dodge Cen-ter, parking violation, \$32; David N. Blocki, 29, Brownsdale, no insurance, \$280; Christo-pher R. Burden, 30, Hayfield, possession of marijuana and no insurance, stay of adjudica-tion, \$1,155, 62 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, cogni-tive skill training, mental health screening and 5 years of su-pervised probation; Dakota R. Cisneros, 21, Blooming Prairie, revoked license, \$280; Jeremi-ah J. Meyer, 33, Dodge Center, revoked license, \$280; Jason S. Peterson, 45, Kasson, speed-ing, \$220; Katie E. Ranvek, 35, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; Jacob K. Schandorff, 20, Hay-field, possession of parapher-nalia, \$130; Charles D. Schutz,

56, Oronoco, speeding, \$140; Brett A. Thompson, 43, Dodge Center, disorderly conduct, \$255, domestic abuse evalua-tion, no contact with victim, 10 hours of community service and 1 year of supervised probation; Tyler J. Tointon, 20, Oronoco, speeding, \$220.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Joseph T. Bennett, 37, Austin, expired registration, following vehicle too closely and speed-ing, \$200; Ayla L. Godshall, 23, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; Lindsay A. Howard, 30, Forest Lake, revoked license, \$280; Max S. Kundert, 19, Kasson, possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, \$280; Lacy M. Munson, 26, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; Jordan M. Papin, 23, Kasson, suspended license and no insurance, \$480; Alfredo B. Parades, 25, Rochester, re-voked license, \$280; Karlee M. Paradise, 24, Rochester, speed-ing, \$220; Danielle A. Roche, 19, Rochester, parking violation and expired registration, \$130.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER
Jessika F. Beucler, 28, Hay-field, speeding, \$130; Sean M. Chvtal, 49, Kasson, speeding, \$130; Richard W. Gwilt, 56, Hayfield, cancelled license, \$380, 30 hours of community service and 2 years of unsu-pervised probation; Luke D. Klassen, 37, Eyota, speeding, \$120; Nickolay B. Scanlan, 20, Oronoco, speeding, \$130; Nich-olas J. Tindal, 28, Waltham, speeding, \$140.

WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
Eric R. Hofmann, 32, Dodge Center, speeding, \$120.

POLICE BLOTTER
Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office handled 186 complaints during the week of Jan. 24 – 30. Some of them include:

Jan. 25
Civil: Deputy assisted with a civil matter on Airport Road S. in Dodge Center at 3:17 p.m.
Animal: Deputies received information regarding a cat bite in the 65800 block of 180th Ave. in Dodge Center at 5:39 p.m.

Jan. 26
Narcotics: Deputies found narcotics on Main St. W. in Dodge Center at 1:37 a.m.
Violation: At 4:45 p.m., deputies responded to a civil matter regarding an order for protection violation in the 100 block of 1st Ave. NE in Hayfield.
Suspicion: Deputies responded to suspicious activity in the 700 block of Airport Road S. in Dodge Center at 9:51 p.m.

Jan. 27
Welfare: Deputies completed a welfare check on young children in the 100 block of 3rd St. in Claremont at 4:32 p.m.

Jan. 28
Larceny: A citizen reported the theft of a trolling motor from the 100 block of 9th Ave. NE in Dodge Center at 7:14 a.m.

Paraphernalia: Drug paraphernalia was found in the 600 block of 5th St. SE in Dodge Center at 4 p.m.

Jan. 29
Civil: Deputy assisted with a civil matter in the 800 block of Center Ave. S. in Hayfield at 11:22 a.m.
Civil: At 11:53 a.m., deputies responded to a civil issue at 210th Ave. and 555th St. in West Concord.

Jan. 30
Civil: Deputies assisted with a civil matter in the 600 block of 5th St. SE in Dodge Center at 7:32 a.m.
Fract: At 4:07 p.m., a Claremont resident reported social security fraud.

OWATONNA FIRE

Jan. 29
Crash: At 4:06 p.m., a motor vehicle accident with no injuries occurred in the 400 block of 16th St. NE.
Cooking Fire: Firefighters responded to a cooking fire in the 600 block of Rice Lake St. E. at 5:07 p.m.
Carbon Monoxide: Fire personnel responded to a carbon monoxide incident in the 600 block of 13th St. NE at 9:55 p.m.

Jan. 31
Smoke: Firefighters assisted with smoke or odor removal in the 300 block of Cedardale Dr. SE at 9:08 p.m.



J&H LIQUOR

● **BAR BINGO:** Monday, 6:30 p.m.
● **BLOOMIN' GRAPEVINE WINE CLUB:** Meets Tuesdays at J&H Liquor from 7 to 8:30 p.m. On these dates: Jan. 30, Feb. 20, March. 20, April 17 and May 8th/Season Finalē. Benefits the BP Youth Club.

2018 EVENTS
● **APRIL 7:** Customer appreciation day "32" years of business
● **JUNE 23:** Cruise for Cancer ride
● **JULY 3:** Street dance (21 and over only)
● **JULY 4:** Open 9 a.m. to close
● **JULY 21:** B.O.B. ride: "Toys for Tots"

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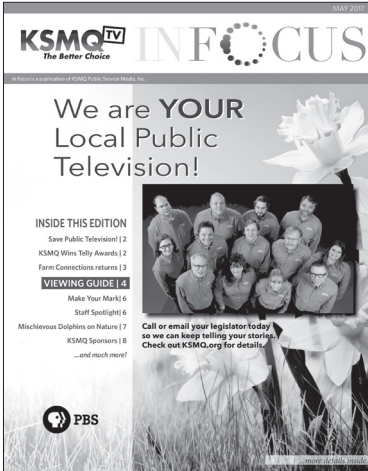
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Viracon makes big donation to United Way



The entire SMT Night Crew department at Viracon in Owatonna contributed to the United Way of Steele County this year. Viracon employees donated nearly \$112,000 to United Way, making it the second highest workplace campaigns.

Viracon, Inc. of Owatonna and employees made generous donations totaling \$111,990 to the United Way of Steele County 2017 campaign.

The donations include \$94,300 from payroll deductions, \$8,300 from fun workplace events, such as raffles and contests, and \$9,300 from corporate contributions.

Veteran Workplace Campaign Chair, Viracon's Carla Kern, led an informative and fun filled campaign for her coworkers inspiring her colleagues to increase their donations over 3 percent above last year, which was a 12 percent increase over the previous year.

Viracon finished second in United Way's 2017 Top 20 Most Generous Workplace Campaigns. Fifty percent of Viracon's over 1,400 employees gave to this campaign with 100 percent of the SMT Night Crew department making contributions. United Way wished to extend a special thanks to SMT Night Crew.

"Viracon, Inc. is one of those workplaces we know we can count on year after year to support the vital human services represented by United Way's Opportunity Programs and agency partners. They demonstrate their commitment to our community through their generosity," said United

Way director Kim Schaufenbuel.

"Community leaders like Kelly Schuller and Carla Kern set examples for all of us to do the right thing locally."

The mission of the United Way of Steele County is to change lives by mobilizing and optimizing the caring power of our community. This year's funds raised of \$745,122 will fund 24 critically needed programs operated by local nonprofit agencies. To make a contribution go to www.unitedwaysteelecounty.org or mail a check or pledge to United Way, Box 32, Owatonna, MN 55060 or text UWSC to 40403.

STEELE COUNTY PUBLIC RECORDS - AUGUST 2017

BIRTHS

Raelynn Jean Gardner, Parents: Bailey and Nicholas, Aug. 1.

Lucy Jo Kasper, Parents: Betsy and Anthony, Aug. 2.

Jeyralee Tamayo Garcia, Parents: Maria Garcia Pina and Gustavo Pacheco, Aug. 3.

Ezra Robert Knudson, Parents: Nikkole Schwichtenberg and Matthew Knudson, Aug. 3.

Meliah Emma-Maria Sanjuane-ro, Parent: Keyarra Cortez, Aug. 5.

Harrison Pater Sundine, Par-ents: Marcy and Shawn, Aug. 5.

Ethan Charles Anderson, Par-ents: Karen and Eric, Aug. 6.

Anwar Sebriye Osoble, Parents: Seynab Mahamud and Sebriye Gaal, Aug. 7.

Da'mias Harm Williams: Parent: Janeen Wolters, Aug. 7.

Brieanna Rose Duval, Parents: Amanda and Gerard, Aug. 8.

Jasper Clark Morse, Parents: Andrea and Jonathan, Aug. 8.

Scarlett Sue Wondra, Parents: Lachelle and Andrew, Aug. 8.

Myla Kate Price, Parents: Amy and Jason, Aug. 9.

Brynnlynn Margaret Mehling, Parents: Emily and Scott, Aug. 10.

Laney Belle Williams, Parents: Michelle and Ryan, Aug. 10.

Liam Edwin Morgan, Parents: Kelsey and Derek, Aug. 17.

Miles Nicholas Murray, Parent: Devon Wolters, Aug. 17.

Amelia Marie Duncan, Parents: Annette and Bryan, Aug. 17.

Kenneth Rae Lucky-Greenleaf, Parents: Serena Lucky-Lewis and Charles Lewis, Aug. 20.

Sudais A. Abdulle, Parents: Asha Aden and Abdullahi Ab-dulle, Aug. 22.

Adam Afoda, Parents: Aissatou Saibou and Adnane Afoda, Aug. 22.

Maximus Aquilles Duron Flores, Parents: Breanna and Jose, Aug. 23.

Logan Jason Eyberg, Parents: Lisa and Jason, Aug. 25.

Adella Mae Wimer, Parents: Dawn and Sean, Aug. 25.

Barry Benjamin Andrews,

Parents: Cheyanne Folman and Cody Andrews, Aug. 25.

Asher Ansel Paulson, Parents: Danielle and Eric, Aug. 27.

Ephraim Gudmund Run-ner-Brase, Parents: Heidi and Jonathan, Aug. 30.

Adaline Jo Pettet, Parent: Anna, Aug. 30.

Anzal Abdirizak Ahmed, Parents: Fatumo Bundit and Abdirizak Abdi, Aug. 30.

Averie Gayle Tabor, Parents: Esther and Matthew, Aug. 31.

Sylas Rodney Vail, Parent: Jes-sica Stromley, Aug. 31.

Emily Irene Horness, Parents: Michelle and Sean, Aug. 31.

DEATHS

Grace Evelyn Van Ryn, 81, Owatonna, Aug. 1.

Betty Elaine Bickford, 92, Farib-ault, Aug. 1.

Rita Angela Berning, 79, Owa-tonna, Aug. 2.

Jo Anne Jasinski, 90, Faribault, Aug. 2.

Eugene Louis Deml, 90, Owa-tonna, Aug. 3.

Dolores Joan Renchin, 88, Owatonna, Aug. 3.

Lorraine Ann Gregor, 86, Owa-tonna, Aug. 4.

Janet Rae Rosenblatt, 79, Owatonna, Aug. 5.

Dennis Warren Wimer Jr., 32, Owatonna, Aug. 5.

Marcia Jean Camerer, 73, Owa-tonna, Aug. 5.

Walfred Lorraine Knutson, 92, Owatonna, Aug. 7.

Rebecca Jean Webster, 43, Owatonna, Aug. 7.

Emilie Josephine Laite, 94, Owatonna, Aug. 8.

Betty Mae Guse, 84, Owatonna, Aug. 8.

Marlene June Quaintance, 69, Claremont, Aug. 9.

Stanley Paul Gilman, 74, Owa-tonna, Aug. 9.

Stanley Roy Miller, 78, Owaton-na, Aug. 12.

June Della Plath, 95, Owatonna, Aug. 13.

Dona Rae Hadland, 79, Owa-tonna, Aug. 15.

Dorothy Teresa Rysavy, 93, Owatonna, Aug. 16.

Ruby Lucille Wolesky, 93, Owa-tonna, Aug. 18.

Leslie Robert Shawback Sr., 79, Blooming Prairie, Aug. 19.

Yvonne Elaine McDaniel, 67, Blooming Prairie, Aug. 20.

Mary Catherine Nespor, 82, Owatonna, Aug. 22.

Elva Mae Freiheit, 94, Owaton-na, Aug. 22.

Danielle E. Reiter, 27, Owaton-na, Aug. 22.

David Thomas Howieson, 83, Owatonna, Aug. 24.

Helen Marie Margaret Biren, 81, Owatonna, Aug. 25.

MARRIAGES

Anna Mary Bastyr and Taylor Van Hulett, Aug. 4.

Richard Craig Jones and Susan Jane Raway, Aug. 5.

Jacob John Johnson and Emily Mae Spatenka, Aug. 5.

Wade Alfred Ihlenfeld and Mari-ah Anne Hagen, Aug. 5.

Curtis John Sandsmark and Lindsey Jo Reese, Aug. 5.

Morgan Taylor Mayfield and Samuel Norman Wales, Aug. 9.

Vincent Frederick Guggisberg and Tara Marie Wheeler, Aug. 12.

Thomas John Boever and Ali-sha Marie Kramer, Aug. 12.

Daniel Darren Wagner and Kris-tina Ann Cole, Aug. 12.

Tyler Daniel Oeltjenbruns and Alissa Jean Blaha, Aug. 13.

Justin Todd Rions and Jennifer Marie Tollefson, Aug. 19.

Randy Stephen Carlson and Jacqueline Marie Selbrade, Aug. 19.

Christopher John Johnson and Mercedes Michele Brittany Bain, Aug. 20.

Ambjor Charlotte Anderson and Jacob Lee Johnson, Aug. 26.

Adele Jeanne Miller and John Francis Juliar, Aug. 26.

Eric Gregory PirkI and Cali Jeanne Kleven, Aug. 26

DIVORCES

Janiffer Lyne Suchanek and Joseph John Suchanek.

Matthew Michael Seykora and

Melinda Kay Seykora.

Douglas Laverne Kinny and Lori Ann Kinny.

Ranell Kimberly Kittel-son and Matthew John Kittelson.

Laurie lone Hedberg and Dennis J. Hedberg.

Sarah K. Ramberg and Darren L. Ramberg.

Katherine Elizabeth Blomstrom Somage and Tory Alexander Somage.

Mallory R. Young and Zachary J. Young.

Olivia Frances Dion and Samantha Mae Dion.

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number:
74-PR-18-179

ORDER AND NOTICE
OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR
ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY,
DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP,
APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE IN
UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re: Estate of
Jon Harlan Carlson
Decedent

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS
AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the March 19, 2018 at 2:45 pm, a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Owatonna, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship and for the appointment of Angela Carlson whose address is 111 E. Main St., Owatonna, Minne-sota as Personal Representative of the estate of the above named decedent in unsupervised admin-istration, and any objection thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and ex-penses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representa-tive shall file a statement to close the estate and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as ordered by the Court.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal repre-sentative or to the Court Adminis-trator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court
1-26-2018
Dated

Jason J. Iacovino, Attorney at Law
P O Box 818; 415 E. Main Street
Blooming Prairie MN 55917
Telephone Number: 507-583-6663
Attorney Registration Number:
0386770

2/6, 2/13

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File Number:
74-CV-07-3148

In Re: The Irrevocable Special
Needs Trust of CHASE HUIS-
MAN created under agreement
dated October 1, 2007.

ORDER FOR HEARING

The Petition for Settlement and Allowance of Trustee's Accounts From December 4, 2012 to De-cember 4, 2017 and for an Order Approving all Acts of the Trustee by Petitioner, FIDUCIARY FOUNDATION, LLC, the Trustee of the Irrevocable Special Needs Trust of CHASE HUISMAN, by and through its attorney, Brenna M. Galvin, Maser, Amundson, Boggio & Hendricks, P.A., 6601 Lyndale Avenue South, Suite 320, Richfield, Minnesota 55423, having come before the Court;

IT IS ORDERED that said
Petition be heard on the 1st day of March, 2018 at 10:50 a.m. by the above-named Court at the Steele County District Court, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, MN 55060.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that
Petitioner give notice of said
hearing by mailing at least fifteen (15) days before the date of the hearing a copy of the Order for Hearing to all interested parties at their respective addresses, and this Order published once, at least twenty (20) days prior to date of said hearing in a legal newspaper.

BY THE COURT:
Karen Duncan
01/31/2018

MASER, AMUNDSON, BOGGIO
& HENDRICKS, P.A.
Brenna M. Galvin, Attorney ID
#0395367 bgalvin@maserlaw.com
6601 Lyndale Avenue South,
Suite 320
Richfield, MN 55423
Phone: (952) 952-4147
Fax: (952) 952-1926

2/6

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS Minnesota Rule 7020.2000, subp. 4

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR LIVESTOCK FEEDLOT PERMIT

Notice is hereby given per Minnesota Statutes 116.07, subd. 7(a), that Kevin and Cory Klemmensen, will be applying to Steele County and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for a permit to expand a feedlot with a capacity of 500 animal units or more.

The feedlot proposed to be expanded is located in the NE1/4 of Section 27 of Lemond Township, T106N, R21W, of Steele County, Minnesota.

The existing feedlot currently has 2400 head of finishing swine housed in a total confinement for a total of 960 (720 State) A.U. The proposed expansion will consist of constructing one total confinement building with an under-floor concrete pit housing 2400 head of finishing swine. After the expansion the feedlot will consist of 4800 head of finishing swine for a total of 1920 (1440 State) animal units.

The liquid manure will be stored in under-floor concrete pits. The feedlot will be owned by Kevin and Cory Klemmensen.

This publication shall constitute as notice to each resident and each owner of real property within 5,000 feet of the perimeter of the expanding feedlot as re-quired by Minnesota State Law.

Published at the request of Kevin and Cory Klemmensen.

2/6

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Happy and sad for a young show competitor

Area girl exhibits champion heifer at national show



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud
Ava Kylo, 14, of the Six K Ranch displays ribbons and banners she has won recently in showing her Aberdeen Angus.

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

NRHEG (New Richland, Hartland, Ellendale, Geneva) eighth grader Ava Kylo knows what it feels like to be happy and sad at the same time.

A showman at heart since her 4-H days, Ava recently returned with her parents from a cattle show in Denver where she showed the Grand Champion full-blood Aberdeen heifer. The scene was the 2018 National Western Stock Show Jan. 15-21.

The Aberdeen Angus comes from Australia and is about 70 percent the size of a full Angus. At full growth cows weigh about 950 pounds and bulls weigh 1,300 pounds.

Ava then moved on to compete against the Grand Champion Aberdeen bull and won Supreme Exhibit designation.

For these honors, she received a jacket, a belt buckle and a huge banner. “Bragging rights, too,” said her father Eric.

There’s still glee in the blonde-haired Ava’s sparkling eyes over winning these giant-sized cattle showmanship awards.

Look deeper and find sadness because the animal that won her those awards, is no longer her property. The animal, known as DeeDee, was sold to JC Ranch of Southern Arkansas and will be used in its breeding programs.

DeeDee and Ava have had a loving relationship the past two years. During that time, Ava has shown DeeDee 12 times including winning Grand Champion honors at the Minnesota State Fair AOB (All Other Breeds).

Ava has shown DeeDee as a calf and as a yearling heifer. The next step will be as a cow and calf. “She was a showy heifer that

wanted to be in the ring,” smiled Ava.

The next day after she had won top honors, this Grand Champion full-blood Aberdeen was shown by her new owners and won Grand Champion honors in the open class.

Often showing shyness, Ava, 14, has still learned to love competition in the show ring and on the softball field. She plays catcher for the Panthers eighth grade team.

She also hits the books hard and

The Kylos reside on a 200-acre farm about seven miles northwest of Blooming Prairie. Their farm is called the Six K Ranch.

The family cattle operation includes about 100 fullblood Aberdeen animals. By full blood, it means that the Aberdeens are DNA’d to the original herd of 1992.

The Kylos have been raising Aberdeens as breeding stock since 2012.

Ava says the cattle showing gig has allowed her to meet more people and make friends. She also brings her cousin, Summer Kath with her on many trips.

“I love to travel,” grins Ava as she says she will begin showing again in April.

Her first cattle shows were major stock shows. She has traveled to Kansas City for the American Royal Show, has entered the World Beef Show in Milwaukee and participated in the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, KY.

Ava started getting involved in selecting which animals to show at age nine.

She works with her mother



Cousins Summer Kath, left, and Ava Kylo get together in the show ring before bringing in their show animals, Aberdeen angus.

her prize Clara, through three stages: calf, heifer and cow and calf.

Ava works very closely with her family in preparing for shows. She spends considerable time feeding the animals and also in training them.

She has also competed in fitting contests. That’s where the contestant fits the animal within a time frame of 45 minutes. She recently won reserve champion in a fitting contest with contestants up to 21 years of age.

“She likes to get out of housework,” Lisa laughs when saying Ava prefers being with her animals. In the heart of the showing season, Ava gets up early to feed them and wash them.

“I talk to them and they understand,” Ava volunteers. She practices showing at home in a pen or on the farm yard.

She then catches the bus at 7:05 a.m. While at school one day, Ava was surprised when her mom brought balloons and cookies to celebrate a successful show.

Ava loves to name her animals. She has a heifer calf named Evelyn and now has a bull calf named “Elvis in the House.”

Hoping to continue showing Aberdeens, Ava said she plans to attend college and possibly study animal science. She also plans on developing her throwing arm from her catcher’s position on the Panthers softball team.



Submitted photos
Ava Kylo, 14, takes an early morning walk with one of her prized Aberdeens. (Submitted photo)

loves mathematics.

Ava has been showing cattle for the past five years. She actually started showing animals in 4-H as a third grader with her Boer goat projects.

Ava’s three older brothers, Grant, 21; Garrett, 19 and Graham, 17 helped her learn how to show goats, she says. She represented the Straight River Stars 4-H Club.

“We broke the mold,” with a girl, parents Lisa and Eric happily reflect. Naming by a prominent G ended and moved to an A.

in halter breaking calves at five months. She then works on tying them up and leading them. This includes stick training.

In her first show, she placed second in Kansas City with her Aberdeen, Alma. “I got a ribbon,” she said.

“I want to do good and get our name out there,” Ava says.

She remembers fondly competing in the Junior Nationals in Stillwater, Okla. and winning Grand Champion honors with her heifer.

Ava has shown one Aberdeen,

Clarifying some dicamba-related confusion: keep it simple!

ON THE FARM



Claire LaCanne

Many people are confused about the new rules concerning the use of dicamba herbicides in Minnesota.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated three new formulations of dicamba products as Restricted Use Pesticides: XtendiMax™ with VaporGrip™ Technology (from Monsanto), FeXapan™ with VaporGrip™ Technology (from DowDuPont), and Engenia™ (from BASF). In addition to the federal EPA requirements, there are some specific requirements for use in Minnesota.

Applicators who wish to use these dicamba products in Minnesota must be certified to apply Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs), undergo additional dicamba label training, and follow federal and state label restrictions. I will describe these requirements (as simply as possible) which you must follow if you wish to apply these dicamba products.

First, there are the rules regarding certification and label training. You must be certified to use RUPs if you plan to use the dicamba products. In other words, you need to have either a private pesticide applicator certification or a commercial/non-commercial pesticide applicator license. Minnesota does not allow “uncertified applicators” to use RUPs under the supervision of a certified applicator, which is allowed in some states. Becoming certified or licensed includes completing an exam and re-certifying every three years. You can renew your certification by taking a Pesticide Applicator Course through University of Minnesota Extension. In addition to this certification, you need to attend a mandatory

dicamba label training, which is offered by the chemical companies, which have the registered dicamba products.

There are several questions which people have regarding the label trainings in Minnesota. The chemical companies, which own the dicamba products, are responsible for providing the label training. That means that Monsanto, DowDuPont, and BASF are offering these trainings in Minnesota. You can attend training from any of these companies, regardless of the product you apply. For example, you can use Engenia™ from BASF but attend label training hosted by Monsanto or Dow DuPont. These free trainings take two hours, and you can find the training dates and locations on the Minnesota Crop Production Retailers website at: <https://mcpr-cca.org/dicamba-information-trainings/>.

Label training will cover all of the requirements in detail, but here are the new federal and state label requirements in a nutshell.

Federal requirements:

1. Dicamba label training is required for applicators to reinforce product stewardship
2. Applicators must maintain specific records of product use
3. Do not apply unless wind speed is below 10 mph
4. Apply only in the hours between sunrise and sunset
5. Tank clean-out is required; instructions on the federal label

Minnesota’s additional requirements:

1. Do not apply after June 20.
2. Do not apply if the air temperature in the field at the time of application is over 85 degrees Fahrenheit or if the National Weather Service’s forecasted high temperature for the nearest available location for the day exceeds 85 degrees Fahrenheit. This consideration of temperature applies only to the day of application, not the day(s) following application.

These requirements can be confusing, so feel free to contact me at 507-332-6165 with any questions

Claire LaCanne is the agricultural extension educator for Steele and Rice counties. Her column appears on the farm pages regularly.

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FORECLOSURE

11-073286

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 1, 2003
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$89,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Paula L. Aldrich and Raymond P. Aldrich, wife and husband
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed May 6, 2003, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A 310176
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Commencing at a point 2 rods East and 12 rods and 2 links South of the NW corner of E1/4 of SE1/4 of SE1/4 of Section 3-107-20; running thence East 127.60 feet; thence South 66 feet; thence West 127.60 feet; thence North 66 feet to the point of beginning
AND
The E1/2 of the following described property: Commencing at a point 2 rods East and 12 rods and 2 links South of the NW corner of E1/4 of SE1/4 of Section 3-107-20; thence East to a point 2 rods West of the East boundary of said SE1/4 of said SE1/4; thence South 66 feet; thence West to a point 2 rods East of the West boundary line of said E1/4 of SE1/4 of SE1/4; thence North 66 feet to point of beginning
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1315 Bigelow Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17.003.2207
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$77,766.35
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: February 22, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on August 22, 2018, or the next business day if August 22, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday

“THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR’S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN 5 UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

“THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR’S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN 5 UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Dated: January 2, 2018

Wells Fargo Bank,
N.A. Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

1/9, 1/16, 1/23
1/30, 2/6, 2/13

FORECLOSURE

17-107902

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: March 30, 2016
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT

OF MORTGAGE: \$100,708.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Jill H. Haubenschild, an unmarried woman
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100273872511026742
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Envoy Mortgage, LTD
SERVICER: PHH Mortgage Corporation
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed April 4, 2016, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000406888
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: PINGORA LOAN SERVICING LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Lot 2 and the West 7 feet of Lot 1, in Hansen's Addition to the Village (now City) of Blooming Prairie
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 116 5th St NW, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-110-0102
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$103,578.53
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 22, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on September 22, 2018, or the next business day if September 22, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

“THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR’S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN 5 UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Dated: January 23, 2018

PINGORA LOAN SERVICING LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

1/30, 2/6, 2/13
2/20, 2/27, 3/6

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number: 74-PR-18-84
NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re: Estate of
Ethel M. Quimby,
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on March 19, 2018, at 2:45 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, December 5, 2014, (“Will”), and for the appointment of Suzanne Lea Klukas, whose address is 40501 170th St., Waseca, MN 56093 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an unsupervised administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Karen R. Duncan
1/22/2018
Judge of District Court

Robin Hoesley
Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner
Eric J. Mattison
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 151609
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: mattison@owatonnalawyers.com

1/30, 2/6

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number: 74-PR-18-85

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

In Re: Estate of
Ronald Jerome Jensen,
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on March 19, 2018, at 2:45 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Douglas D. Jensen, whose address is 1038 Grandview Avenue, Owatonna, MN 55060 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an unsupervised administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.
Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Karen R. Duncan
1/22/2018
Judge of District Court

Robin Hoesley
Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner
Eric J. Mattison
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 151609
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: mattison@owatonnalawyers.com

1/30, 2/6

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: September 8, 2014
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$99,170.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Cindy K. Rogness, a married person
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation, as nominee for Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank and Trust Co., N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on September 9, 2014 as Document Number A000398644 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on October 17, 2017 as Document Number A000415345 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot Three (3), Block One (1), in Stormo Addition to City of Owatonna, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1314 N CEDAR AVENUE, OWATONNA, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$97,390.07
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.,
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank and Trust Co.,

N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-157-0103
TRANSACTION AGENT’S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100031200012152291

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 20, 2018 at 10:00 AM.
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff’s Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.
to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on September 20, 2018.

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

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

Dated: January 24, 2018

WELLS FARGO BANK,
N.A. Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/
Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(17-1292-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

1/30, 2/6, 2/13
2/20, 2/27, 3/6

NOTICE

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #756
BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA 55917
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER

PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGENDA

6:00 a.m. Thursday, February 15, 2018 -Regular School Board Work Session –High School Board Room
5:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 20, 2018 -Open Public Forum–High School Media Center -Gary Anderson, Kraus-Anderson Construction Company, will present a \$500 Student Learning Grant to the District
5:15 p.m. Tuesday, February 20, 2018 -Regular School Board Meeting–High School Media Center

Any person may raise a question to the School Board. The Board will not act on any item presented to them, which is not on the agenda, until the following Board meeting. Also, the Board would like persons to limit themselves to five minutes, with a maximum of 15 minutes per topic. These limitations are needed for us to run a timely and orderly Board meeting. Persons are requested to identify themselves prior to speaking.

I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON
II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
III. ROLL CALL – CLERK
IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS
VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED
A. Consent Agenda
Minutes
Bills
Treasurer’s Report
Resignation
Donations
B. FMLA
C. Employment
D. Volunteer Coaches
E. Final Seniority List for Teachers
F. Resolution Discontinuing and Reducing Educational Programs and Positions
G. Weighted Grading
H. Substitute Teachers
VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY
A. Committee Reports
B. Enrollment Data
C. Dates to Note
VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS
IX. ADJOURNMENT

Dated: February 1, 2018

WELLS FARGO BANK,
N.A. Mortgagee

*Agenda may be subject to changes

2/6

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/
Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(18-0067-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

2/6, 2/13, 2/20
2/27, 3/6, 3/13

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
18-108511

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 11, 2014
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$123,469.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Jarad Sikel and Caitlin Sikel, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100867100130181025
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: American Mortgage & Equity Consultants, Inc.
SERVICER: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed April 15, 2014, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000396488

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Commencing on South line of Vine St., 8 rods East of East line of Maple St., & running South parallel with Maple St. 8 rods; thence East 4 rods; North 8 rods; West 4 rods to beginning (Located in Lot 1 in NE ¼ of SW ¼ of Sec. 10-107-20)
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 415 E Vine St, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-010-3108
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$119,522.82
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 29, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on September 29, 2018, or the next business day if September 29, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

“THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR’S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN 5 UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Dated: February 2, 2018

PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

2/6, 2/13, 2/20
2/27, 3/6, 3/13



PARKS and RECREATION

540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna • Office Phone: 507-444-4321 • www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation • Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.



The optimal temp for working out at the gym is 65-68 degrees. Get out of the winter cold and head to the West Hills Tennis & Fitness Center to get summer ready! Family Memberships are available!

Employment Opportunities

Seasonal and Temporary Parks, Grounds and Golf Maintenance: **\$11.50/hr**
Water Aerobics Instructor-Substitute: **\$12.00/hr**

Apply online today at: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/owatonnamn/default.cfm>

Pavilion Rental

Pavilions may be reserved up to one year in advance...book your graduations and family reunions today!

Contact Information:

Office and Information Line
444-4321
Tennis and Fitness Center
444-4290
Fax
444-4299
SeniorPlace
444-4280
Brooktree Clubhouse
444-2467
Email Address
parkrec@ci.owatonna.mn.us
River Springs Water Park
774-7370
Facebook
Owatonna Parks and Recreation

Registration opens February 22 for Spring/Early Summer programs:

Spring Programs

Soccer
Swim Lessons
Adult Softball League
Girls Lacrosse Grades 1-4 program
Boys Lacrosse Grades 1-2 program

Early Summer Programs

Little League 2nd-5th grade baseball
Girls Huskies Fastpitch 1st-4th grade
T-ball
Squirt ball

2nd Registration day –Uniform Try On for baseball and softball

Date: February 26
Location: SeniorPlace South Entrance
Time: 4:00-6:00pm

Baseball & Softball uniforms will be available to try on at the Senior Place registration. Owatonna Lacrosse Association, Huskies Bullpen Club, and Huskies Fastpitch Club will be there this year as well!

Child swimming level criteria:

Parent & Child Aquatics – child must be at least 18 months old

Pre-School Aquatics – child must be at least 3 years old

Level 1 – Intro to Water Skills helps students feel comfortable in and enjoy the water safely

Level 2 – Works on giving students success with fundamental aquatic skills

Level 3 – Stroke Development builds on Level 2 skills with guided practice in deeper waters

Level 4 – Stroke Improvement develops confidence in strokes and improves other aquatic skills

Level 5 – Provides further coordination and refinement of strokes

Level 6 – Refines strokes so students swim with ease, efficiency & power over greater distances

Adult Slow-Pitch Softball

Team registration deadline: March 14th at 4:30pm

Men's League:

Team Fee: \$350
(American League), \$325(other leagues)

Co-Rec League:

Team Fee: \$195



Ways to Register:

Owatonna Park and Rec has a new registration system, so be sure to follow the prompts on the website to create a new account!

- On-Line: www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation/online-registration (beginning at 6:00 am on February 22-although baseball and softball registrants are encouraged to register in person on February 26 to try on uniform sizes)

- Walk-In Registration: at the Park and Recreation office at 540 West Hills Circle. Office hours are 7:00am-5:00pm Monday – Friday starting Thursday, February 22 or at SeniorPlace on February 26 from 4:00pm-6:00pm.

- Call In: Call our office at 444-4321

Registration deadline is March 8th for soccer, little league and Fastpitch Softball. Save \$10.00 on each program by registering before the deadline.

Please note we no longer accept Discover Card

Youth Swimming Lessons: Spring session begins March

Check our website for all available classes

Gift Cards Available:

Owatonna Park and Rec has gift cards available in any amount. These can be used at River Springs Water Park, West Hills Tennis & Fitness Center, Brooktree Golf Course, or can be used for any of our programs!



CALL FOR TEE TIMES!

Brooktree was voted Best Golf Course in Southern Minnesota the last three years by SCENE Magazine readers

Brooktree Golf Course

Brooktree is one of the finest municipal golf courses in Southern Minnesota, the 18-hole, 6684 yard championship course is located in NE Owatonna near the entrance of beautiful Mineral Springs Park.

The course is welcoming to players of all ages, yet still provides plenty of risk-reward opportunities for seasoned golfers. Brooktree is a member of the USGA and MGA.

2018 Season Passes are available

Family Combo: \$850 -Max of two adults. All youth ages 6-18 and Futures. Must live in the same household and be immediate family members

Senior Couple: \$820 -Two seniors residing in the same household, oldest spouse must be 62 or older as of 12/31/18, or grandfathered in from 2016 (55)

Adult: \$650 -Age 33-61 as of 12/31/17

Senior Single: \$615 -Age 62-79 as of 12/31/18

***NEW*Super Senior:** \$525 -Age 80+ as of 12/31/18

***NEW*Young Adult:** \$450 Age 26-32 as of 12/31/17

***NEW*Futures:** \$300 -Age 21-25 as of 12/31/17

***NEW*Junior:** \$200 -Age 8-20 as of 12/31/17

***NEW*Couple Weekday Pass:** \$750 -Two Adults living in the same household, no age restrictions. Available Monday-Friday only

***NEW*Single Weekday Pass:** \$570 -No age restriction. Available Monday-Friday only

Payment plans are available

*Corporate packages and punch cards are available.

*New in 2018, reward programs available for cart rentals and green fees.

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Tennis & Fitness Center Special

February: You're Special-Keep your heart healthy for American Heart Month. Receive a free ½ hour use of the ball machine with purchase of an hour private lesson. Not eligible with any other promotions or specials. Non-transferable (1/2 hour ball machine includes court fee but not guest fee)

Jr. Tennis Programs

Mighty Mites (ages 4-6): Develops Hand-eye coordination and intro to basic strokes with fun drills and games

Future Stars (ages 7-10):

Fundamentals of movement and continues refinement of stroke production.

Competitive Junior Lessons

Tourney Prep (ages 11-13)

Intro to strategy, fitness, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

Jr. High/High School

Focus on fun and fitness through games, drills and match play.

Academy

This program is for varsity level players and is by pro invite only. Participants may contact Kelly Baker for more information and to be approved to join this class. Kellybakertennis@gmail.com

Junior High Pool-Early Lap Swim

Cost: \$3 per person per session or 20 punch pass available for \$45

Dates: September 6, 2017 – June 1, 2018

Dates: Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, 6:00-7:15am.

Not available: October 20; November 24; December 25, 27, 29; January 1, 15; March 26, 28,

30; May 28. There will be no morning lap swim if inclement weather causes Owatonna schools to have a 2-hour late start or close.

Theme Birthday Parties

Let us do the work for you and check out our special theme birthday party packages. With seven different themes including: Get Your Glow On, Leaping Lego, Superhero, Princess, Under the Big Top, Fins are More Fun and Science, you are sure to find something to entertain your birthday boy or girl. Each package comes with a two hour room rental at SeniorPlace (Fins are More Fun includes a one-hour pool rental at West Hills Tennis and Fitness Center and a one-hour SeniorPlace room rental), decorations, and a trained staff member to facilitate the party. More information and application forms can be found on the Park and Recreation website <http://ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation>

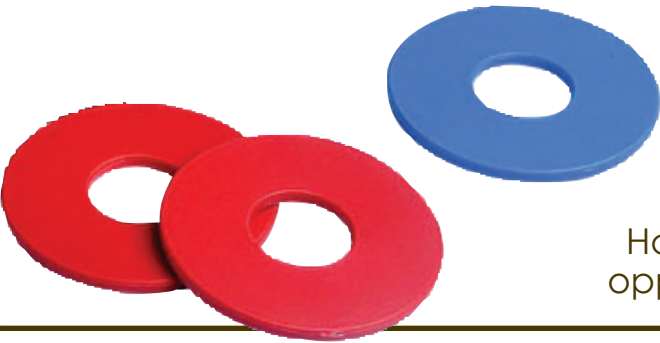
West Hills Pool Open Swim

Cost: \$4 weekdays, \$5 weekends

Days & Hours:	Through September 30	October 1 - Memorial Day
Mon, Wed, Fri	6:00am-7:15am	6:00am-7:15am
Mon, Tues, Wed	7:00pm-8:30pm	7:00pm-9:00pm
Sat	Closed	1:00pm-4:00pm
Sun	1:00pm-3:00pm	1:00pm-4:00pm

Private party facility rentals are available for the pool, gym, and tennis courts

Special Event 6th Annual Mike Hansen Memorial



Washer Board Tournament

Saturday March 17
Eagles Club, 141 E. Rose St.

All proceeds from the tournament will be donated to Owatonna Park & Rec Scholarship Program in Mike Hansen's name. This Scholarship program provides more opportunities for kids to participate in Park & Rec activities.



River Springs Water Park

2018 Season Passes

Individual

48" and taller \$134
Under 48" \$102

Family

*Includes 3 people\$200 (\$20 for each additional person)
10% off Individual Season Passes if purchased before June 1, 2018



River Springs Water Park Family Pass

You've been asking for it and now we're offering it - NEW this year is family memberships to River Springs Water Park! The family membership is a great deal and would make an excellent gift! Family Season Pass Requirements
*A household consisting of up to 2 adults and their dependents
-Membership must include at least one adult
-An adult is considering someone out of high school and older

*Family members must all live in the same household
*Only those individuals in the immediate family can be included on the family membership
*Dependents include children 22 years old and under if they are a full time student in college; otherwise *they would need to get an Individual Membership. (College ID will be needed for proof of enrollment)

2018 Season Open Swim Hours

June 1, Friday: 4:00-8:00pm
June 2 – Aug 12, Monday – Sunday: 12:00-8:00pm

*Aug 13 - Aug 19, Monday-Sunday: 12:00-7:00pm

* Closing times may vary beginning August 7



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ACTIVITY AIDE

Stewartville Care Center is seeking a full-time Activity Aide. Overall expectation is to work toward meeting our residents' emotional, spiritual, and social needs by leading and assisting with our activity program. Candidate will also conduct 1-1 visits with the residents of Stewartville Care Center.

Stop by the facility to complete an application,
apply online at: stewartvillecarecenter.com or send an
email of interest to: kschwartz@stewartvillecarecenter.com



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**120 Fourth St. NE
Stewartville, MN 55976**

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stewartvillecarecenter.com or email a resume to:
kschwartz@stewartvillecarecenter.com



Affirmative Action Employer
**120 Fourth St. NE
Stewartville, MN 55976**

Full-Time Housekeeper

Stewartville Care Center has an opening for a
Full-Time Housekeeper. Day shift hours.

Please stop in for an application,
apply online at: stewartvillecarecenter.com or send an
email to: kschwartz@stewartvillecarecenter.com



Affirmative Action Employer
**120 Fourth St. NE
Stewartville, MN 55976**

Fourth Avenue Homes, Inc. (FAHI)

Mantorville Location

We are dedicated to delivering quality care and services within our homes. This is where you can come in to help make a difference in someone's life while enjoying the work you do.

**FAHI is seeking applicants for
Program Coordinator -
Full-Time Days, every other weekend**



Please apply online at
www.divinehouse.org/fourth-ave/
then click on the orange
"Employment" box

*For additional information
call Mindy (507)429-8962*

EMPLOYMENT

Help wanted: FT feeding,
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Please call 634-4308.

Earn \$44K+ and travel the
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who qualify. To learn more,
call Jonathan at 507-433-0608.

Do you like taking care of
dogs and cats? Must be able
to work weekends and holidays.
Time frame is between
6am-7:30am and 3:30pm-5pm.
Stop in and fill out an application
at Carriage House Animal Hospital
or call 634-6781. Carr's Tree Service
is seeking qualified individuals
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Rochester areas. Competitive
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STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

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February 10, 2018

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Dodge Center
2 - 6:00 p.m.

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Now Hiring: Home Health Aides
Part-Time (Day, Evenings & Nights)
Work Every Other Weekend and Holiday; Flexible Schedules

If you're interested, you can apply online at:
stewartvillecarecenter.com or email a resume to:
kschwartz@stewartvillecarecenter.com



Affirmative Action Employer
**120 Fourth St. NE
Stewartville, MN 55976**

Resident Assistants Wanted

- PT 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.
- PT 4:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- PT 2 p.m. - 10 p.m.
- FT & PT 10 p.m. - 6 a.m.
- PT 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dining Attendant Wanted

- FT position 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- PT position
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Apply at: www.oxfordmgt.com/careers • EOE

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at our Blooming Prairie Location.

We have a Fulltime Fuel Driver and
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To apply go to www.good-sam.com

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