

Steele County Times



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Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Soybean harvest begins (we will follow the harvest as it progresses, too early to provide an analysis).

Harvesting Minnesota

County cleaning up after flood



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

The flooding in Owatonna made several of the bike paths in the city unusable, but the water had since receded from many of the areas that were flooded out

"The counties and cities did a good job of getting out where there was flooding

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Countywide recovery efforts are underway in the wake of recent flooding

Public infrastructure damage is currently totaled at $1.9 million. $260,000 of that is in debris clearance costs. Damage to roads and bridges was $472,324, and damages to utilities equaled $300,000. Another $330,000 was found in damage to public buildings.

FLOODING
Continued on page 3A

BP native accepts entrepreneur award



Submitted Photo

Jessica Kruckeberg, a native of Blooming Prairie, received the prestigious 2016 Pioneering Entrepreneur Award by the Colorado Counseling Association last week in Denver.

Jessica Kruckeberg, a BPHS graduate and daughter of local entrepreneur, Craig Kruckeberg, was recently awarded the Prestigious 2016 Pioneering Entrepreneur Award by the Colorado Counseling Association.

She was chosen for the award for her recent contribution to the mental health community through the development of the BlueBrick Communication Assessment and BlueBrick Therapeutic Journals found at www.UseBlueBrick.com.

ENTREPRENEUR
Continued on page 6A

PATH Intl. Region 6 Volunteer of the Year!

Katie has been a very big part of RideAbility since 2007 when she began volunteering at our therapeutic riding center. She started out sidewalking and horse leading and showed us her very positive attitude every day. Katie volunteered to take care of the RideAbility fjord horses over every winter (it has been years and years!) - her idea completely. Katie volunteered to be the horse evaluation team leader and has put herculean effort into loving and personally caring for horses (even rescuing horses from the area when people called RideAbility with emergencies). Katie paid for her own instructor certification and has volunteered teaching classes ever since! Katie is a key part of our instructor team and also teaches independent riders whenever needed. She receives great feedback on our surveys from

VOLUNTEER
Continued on page 6A

BRING SOME HARMONY TO THE HOUSE
ELECT Bev CASHMAN
State Representative 24A
Prepared and paid for by Bev Cashman For Representative 628 E. Academy Street, Owatonna, MN 55060



INSIDE
A: 2A ..... Opinion; 8A ..... Farm Living
B: 1B ..... Sports; 5B ... Public Safety
C: 1C ..... Hometown Living; 7C ..... Legals
D: 1D ..... Football; 10D ..... Contest

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Opinion

Our view

Cheering the Cubbies?

There is a movement going on in this country that really degrades the human spirit. It is a bullying spirit that seeks to condemn your attitude, your opinion and your vote. It deals with getting what "they" want by demeaning your choice to free will. The Trump campaign says that a vote for Gary Johnson is a vote for Hillary Clinton. The Clinton campaign says that a vote for Gary Johnson is a vote for Donald Trump.

This is messed up and is nothing more than an intimidation tactic that should shed light on the character of those involved in such foolishness. In a democratic society we are supposed to be able to vote for the candidate we think would make the best leader and who can work effectively in government to propel the country forward.

Pointing fingers at other voters and slamming, condemning statements as to free choice is a slap in the face of every American who feels that their voice matters. When we are condemned and cajoled because we are voters with opinions and convictions, it is the lowest form of degradation and prejudice.

If your candidates are not strong enough or smart enough or just enough to win votes without condemnation and mockery, then perhaps your candidates are just not strong enough. Voting for one candidate because you don't want another candidate to gain office is just another way to sell yourself out in America.

Where is the backbone of the founding fathers that voted their conscience – no matter what tyranny or threats were levied? Where are the Americans who are not afraid to vote their hearts and will vote for someone they admire and respect – even if that person may be the underdog.

We are not advocating a vote for the left, for the right, for the majority, for the minority. We are advocating a vote for America. When you vote for the wrong reasons, or out of fear or condemnation or perhaps "what's the use-ness," you go against everything this country was built upon.

As voters, we have a right to hear the speeches, check the records, investigate the claims, dispel the lies and embrace the truth. And unless something has drastically changed in this country, we still have the right to vote who we believe in – without fear of condemnation or retribution by slick talking politicians.

Your vote matters. Your opinion matters. When you lay your head on your pillow at night, the peace in your heart comes from you having done the right thing and for you having had the freedom to speak your own mind. It's one of the true freedoms we have left. Don't let someone's words make you become someone else. Regret comes when you did not do what you felt what was right. It comes when you could not be who you really wanted to be.

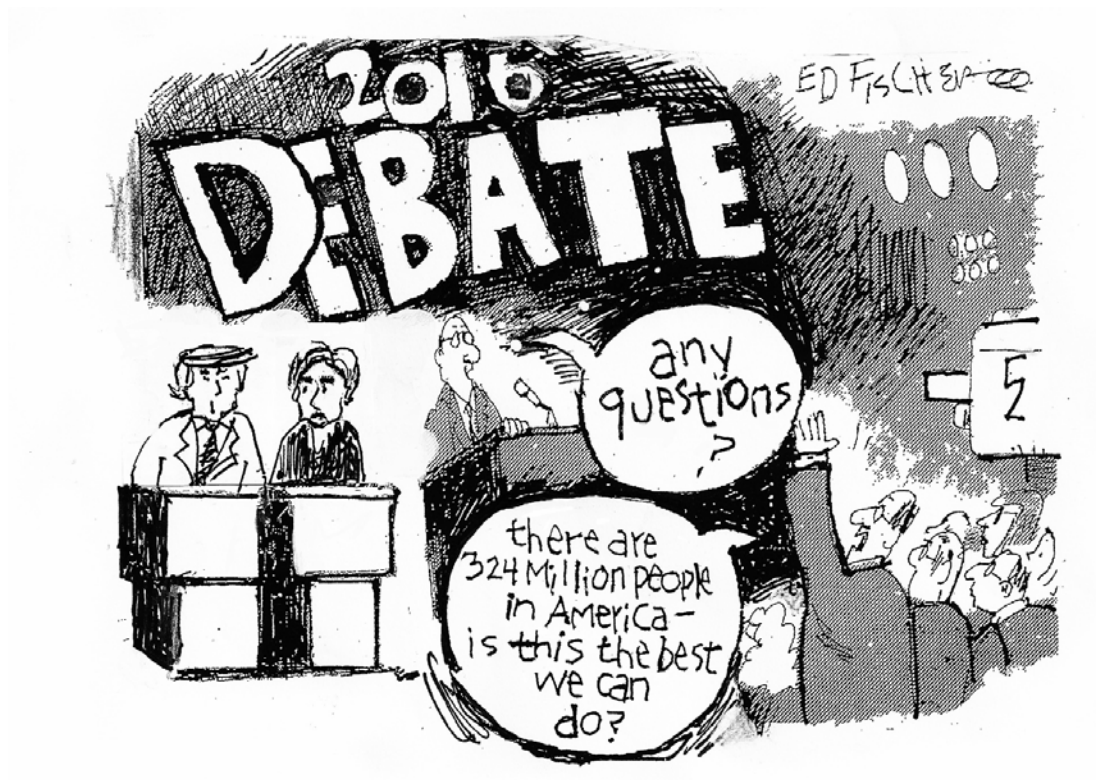
A great sports analogy is upon us this year. The Chicago Cubs. Why did people stick with them when they couldn't win a championship for over 100 years? Because they were the heart of the loyal and the faithful. When some went to root for other teams in an hour of hopelessness and became fair-weather fans, there were still those who would not give up on the right to cheer their own heart.

Celebration is found in that right. Cheer your own heart in the decisions it makes. The outcome may not be always as you desired, but win or lose – you can say that you didn't sell out your integrity.

Rural pulse: optimistic, but not welcoming

In the height of this election season, pollsters are busy making calls. More useful (and less annoying) are poll results from an ongoing survey called the Rural Pulse. Grand Rapids-based Blandin Foundation also spent the last year making calls - 1,144 calls, to be exact - to Greater Minnesota residents. Blandin Foundation conducts the Rural Pulse survey of rural Minnesota residents every

RURAL PULSE
Continued on page 3A



HOT PURSUIT



RICK BUSSLER

It's the 'way to know' your community

Sometimes it's the most celebrated thing, yet other times it's the most cursed thing around.

We have found ourselves on both ends of that amazing spectrum.

If you haven't figured out what I'm referring to, it's the local newspaper. There are times when we hit the mark and knock it out of the water with our great local community coverage. And then there are times when we fall short and make some mistakes.

The primary difference between us making a mistake and other industries is that we have thousands of people who get to see our mistakes with their own eyes. That doesn't happen in many other businesses.

This week we're celebrating our successes through National Newspaper Week. The theme is 'Way to Know,' and boy a newspaper is definitely the trendiest thing I can think of in knowing what's going on in your community. We have a unique relevance to the community that hardly anyone else has.

At the Times we have committed to singing the praises of community journalists and the work they do for everyone during National Newspaper Week. We are definitely the way to know what's going on in the world around us, especially those areas so close to home.

We serve many different roles as a service to the community. We serve as a government watchdog role, publish timely public notices, cover countless community events and publicize the triumphs—and yes, sometimes the failures—of people in the community.

For years people have been suggesting that newspapers are dying. What a crock of BS that is, and I have proven that in Steele County since taking over this newspaper almost seven years ago.

What I will say is that newspapers are definitely different than they were 25 years ago. Just like any other industry, the underlying economic drivers for newspapers look a lot different than they did in the 1980s.

Besides putting out a printed newspaper every week, we also find ourselves pushing stories onto our website, social media and even video. In today's world, they are all tools we use for better stories as we fight to keep readers in the know.

Our promise to you is to provide facts, presented in a clear, accurate and complete manner.

Each week we try to provide compelling human interest stories as we travel the main highways and back roads throughout Steele County and the surrounding area. We have learned how to package hometown news in an incredible format that our readers love to look at week after week.

If there is anything I hope our readers take away from this week, it's that we have a hardworking crew of editors, journalists, graphic designers and office support staff who don't take the challenge of providing quality and accurate information to everyone lightly.

I believe our communities are better because citizens are informed through newspapers and other forms of media. A world without newspapers would be a travesty.

I'm not naïve enough to think we're always going to get everything right. But I hope you will cut us some slack from time to time as we're busting our butts to provide this area with news that no one else provides.

Who else could you depend on to be in hot pursuit of providing 'Way to Know' coverage of your community?

CONTACT YOUR FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE

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CONTACT YOUR AREA MAYORS

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Ellendale Mayor Mark Skroch
507-688-9432

Hayfield Mayor Greg Demmer
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Letters to the Editor

Patti Fritz voted for new senate building

Republican Leadership recently pointed out that Patti Fritz voted for construction of the new Senate Office Building. They failed to point out that the original Capitol building design did not include offices for legislators and had no public meeting rooms. They also failed to point out that due to renovation of the present Capital Building the Senate will lose much of its present space due to new elevators, a stairway, restrooms and public spaces.

Minnesota Companies did 94% of the work on the new building. A Faribault Co. made low energy air handling units, glass came from an Owatonna Co., stone from Kasota and granite from Cold Spring. The Iron Range provided taconite used in making some of the steel used in the building.

When you look at the facts it seems that building a new Senate building was justified. Again it is easy for Republican Leadership to say no and do nothing and then blame Democrats for making needed expenditures. It is interesting to me that Senate Republicans have said they will wait until after the November election before they move into the new Senate Building.

We can save them the trouble of moving by voting them out of office and help put an end to the gridlock caused by Republican Leadership. We need Patti Fritz's experience and foresight back at the State Capital and her getting what is needed done, that has not happened the past two years.

Philip Heim
Medford

Misstatement

I have to address a particular misstatement in the article concerning my presentation to the Chamber Thursday, September 8th. "The still workers were rough, but efficient men. Their manners were excused due to the large amount of money they brought into the town".

I stated that Blooming Prairie people did not work out at the still.

The crew that did work there a very nasty bunch and they were referred to as gangsters and trash.

The local guys took care of the community, they paid well for services and rent, helped people out financially and gave out loans on simple handshakes. It should be pointed out that the fellows that did do time in jail or prison did not squeal on their fellow citizens.

In later years these fellows were not treated very well by many in the community that benefited from the alcohol business.

Sincerely,
Steve Wencl
Blooming Prairie

Counting votes

I'm going to start this letter with a quote by Joseph Stalin. He said, "It's enough that people know there was an election. The people who cast the votes decide nothing. The people who count the votes decide everything."

I ran for city council five times and just barely lost each time. I learned more with each run. By the last try all I needed was to see the judges and I could tell you exactly how it was going to go down. Three weeks before the last election I finally saw who the judges were going to be. At the council meeting I walked up to my opponent and shook his hand. He had been asked to run by Kris Busse and he has told me that already in July. I told him that I had never seen a time when the hand-picked, hand chosen, hand selected did not skate right in. So I said, "It is all yours. Congratulations. Now will you grow a stiff spine or go along – Get along." I knew the answer to my question because that was why he was chosen. I don't think it is the place of the city administrator to be picking candidates. That's the way business is done in Oh-what-a-town.

I'd like to see no x-politicians, government employees, used as election judges. I'd like to see proof of citizenship to vote other than a utility or phone bill. I'd like to see that the ballot box was empty at 7 a.m. when voting begins. I'd like to see poll watchers on hand the entire day and don't let those boxes out of sight for one minute. I'd like to be present when the ballots are counted. I'd like a much shorter time for absentee voting. In other words cut the opportunity for any mischief to occur. Voting is a sacred right to be treated and protected with the utmost security. Same day registration causes illegal voting.

Marlene Nelson
Owatonna

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A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

2016
6 National Awards
8 State Awards
2015
4 National Awards
7 State Awards
2014
3 National Awards
3 State Awards
2013
2 National Awards
7 State Awards
2012
2 State Awards
2011
4 National Awards

(Awards presented by Minnesota Newspaper Association and National Newspaper Association)

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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DEADLINE

News: Noon Fridays.
Advertising: 4 p.m. Thursdays.

LETTERS POLICY

The opinions of our readers in the form of Letters to the Editor are a vital contribution to the healthy exchange of ideas on the Steele County Times opinion page. All letters must be signed by the writer/writers and include a telephone number for verification purposes. Letters are accepted through personal delivery, by mail or by email at bptimes@frontiernet.net.

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Steele County Times and the editor reserves the right to edit letters when necessary. Please limit opinions to no longer than 350 words.

The Steele County Times encourages readers to write letters to the editor as a means of communicating ideas and opinions with others, with a goal being to make the community better for all people.

ETHICS

The Steele County Times editorial staff strives to present the news in a fair and accurate manner. Please bring any grievances against the Steele County Times to the attention of the managing editor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Steele, Dodge, Freeborn & Mower $38
Elsewhere in Minnesota $40
Out of state $42

Second Front



Staff photo by Karen Jorgensen

Bruce Schmoll explains his farming operation to a group of South Korean retails. At right is Jiahe Yang of the South Korea office of the U.S. Meat Export Federation. The etail group was in the United States to learn about the home meal replacement industry.

South Korean trade group visits Schmoll farm

By KAREN JORGENSEN
County Staff Writer

A South Korean retailers group visiting the United States to learn about home meal replacement products stopped by the Bruce Schmoll farm in Claremont last week for a closer look at American agriculture and to sample some of the meal types that are gaining popularity in South Korea.

The group represented the top three retailers in South Korea, Jihae Yang, of the U.S. Meat Export Federation's (USMEF) South Korean office said. Yang served as the group's guide and interpreter during their visit to the United States.

The group stopped by the Schmoll farm after their tour of the Hormel facilities in Austin and on their way to Minneapolis where they were scheduled to visit a Hy-Vee store in New Hope.

At the Schmoll farm the delegation had a chance to take a look around the 1,000-acre farm where Schmoll, USMEF President-elect, raises corn and soybeans. The visit also included a dinner featuring a variety of products from Schwan's home meal delivery service.

Ready-made convenience meals are gaining popularity in South Korea, Yang said.

The convenience market is a growing market, she said, because people are busy as they are working and do not have the time to cook and they don't want to spend money on buying the fresh ingredients.

The purpose of the visit to the United States, she said, was to get a better idea of how marketing the prepared and frozen packaged meal industry works here.

The dinner served by Schmoll and his wife, Tarrie, included a variety of frozen products available from Schwan's home meal service including skillet meals, appetizers, meats and lasagna.

The purpose of the dinner, Schmoll said, was to show the Koreans one version of the ready-made meals available in the United States. They ordered the meals online for delivery to their home and Schmoll grilled the meat for the visitors on an outdoor grill and additional meals were prepared in the Schmoll's kitchen.

The meals gave the visitors the chance to sample American beef and pork and the convenience with which they could be prepared.

The visit to his farm had several purposes, Schmoll said.

"They (the South Koreans) don't get a chance to go on a farm and see where their food comes from," he said.

The USMEF and the Minnesota Soybean Growers who sponsored the visit to Minnesota also hope to sell more meat to foreign countries like South Korea, he said.

As a grain producer, he said, he wanted to explain to the group the connection between the farmer who grows the corn and soybeans and the livestock and red meat industries that feed the grain to their cattle.

Active in both Minnesota Soybean and the USMEF, the Schmoll's have hosted numerous international trade delegations visiting the United States. One of the goals of the visits, Schmoll said, is always to explain the connection between the grain producers and the livestock producers and the red meat industry.

After their visit to Minnesota the group headed to Denver, where the USMEF is headquartered, where they toured a number of retailers including Trader Joe's, Target and Whole Foods.

Survey serves as a valuable compass

RURAL PULSE: from page 2A

three years to "gain a real-time snapshot of the concerns, perceptions and priorities of rural Minnesota residents."

This survey serves as a valuable compass to those of us working for economic prosperity and community vitality in Greater Minnesota, including Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF). In their phone interviews, interviewers asked big and meaningful questions on issues where we're looking to move the needle: How optimistic do you feel about the future of your community? What are the most critical issues facing your community? Is your community a welcoming place for people of all backgrounds and perspectives?

The overall message was that rural Minnesotans are feeling optimistic, although there are still areas of concern. According to the report, "most rural Minnesotans feel their community is vibrant and resilient, though not all believe that they can shape its future." Sixty-nine percent of rural Minnesotans believe their community is a vibrant place to live and work. About three-quarters feel their communities collaborate effectively. Nearly a third feel their local economy has improved, though job growth and development remain top priorities.

One finding is worth noting: The survey found that nearly one-third of Minnesotans do not feel their community is welcoming to people of varying backgrounds and perspectives. This is a troubling finding, especially when demographic changes show we need to create inviting communities for "brain gainers" (young people seeking rural communities for the quality of life) and new immigrant communities seeking economic opportunities. Historically, we have seen that an increasingly diverse population enhances a culture of entrepreneurship and helps combat workforce shortages.

According to Blandin President Dr. Kathy Annette, "Diversity exists in rural places as well as big cities. Inclusion of diverse backgrounds, experiences, skills and perspectives can make our rural communities strong and vibrant. I encourage you to learn about and reflect on your own culture and how that has shaped your perceptions and beliefs, learn about the cultural backgrounds of people in your community, and interact and build relationships with a diverse array of people in your community."

The Rural Pulse breaks its survey results down by both urban/rural regions and by Minnesota Initiative Foundation regions (six total). In the findings for SMIF's region, 75 percent of residents feel their community is a vibrant place to live and work, compared to the overall 69 percent. The issues listed as most critical for our region are growing local job opportunities, attracting new business, healthcare and crime.

Another statistic that provides useful insight: when asked why they haven't served in a leadership role, 28 percent answered that they weren't asked. Our communities rely on invested volunteers and benefit from new leaders. Simply asking newcomers what they're interested in and how they'd like to be involved seems like an easy starting point.

We are lucky to have the Blandin Foundation as a partner in our region. In the past 30 years, Blandin staff have trained more than 7,000 rural Minnesota leaders in the ways of building and uniting communities through its Blandin Community Leadership Program. We are a stronger state when all of our residents feel ownership in their communities, are empowered to make change and are optimistic about the future.

For the full report and the southeast sub-report, visit ruralpulse.org. I encourage you to take a look and share with your networks.

I welcome your comments and questions. You can reach me at timp@smifoundation.org or 507-455-3215.

Tim Penny, President/CEO
Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation

Miner's Outdoor & Rec of Blooming Prairie

SPOTLIGHT: from page 6A



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Miner's Outdoor & Rec owners Doug and Kristi Miner greeted guests at a 15th anniversary open house on Saturday, Oct. 1. They are shown with their children Maverick, 1; Alexa, 3; Derek, 6 and Elizabeth, 10. KOWZ Radio broadcast live from Miner's Outdoor & Rec. Good until Oct. 15, customers can get 15 percent off all in-stock Husqva na products.

were supplied Deer Creek recently for its fall jamboree.

Cars are on lease at the following golf courses: Blooming Prairie Country Club, 26; Castlewood in Forest Lake, 27; Root River, Spring Valley, 12; Valley Golf Course in Mondovi, WI, 40 and Cedar River Country Club, Adams, 20. Miner's also has a golf car lease with the Jellystone Campground near Austin.

Miner's is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays.

In addition to Doug and Kristi handling counter sales, accounting and other tasks, Miner's employs five full-time workers and one part-timer. The Miners are currently looking for a sales person.

Shop mechanics are Brian Hamlin and Todd Bruggeman. Dave Egerdal works on parts and the counter. Ron Jensen and Dave (Scolrpion) Staley set up equipment. Samantha Abbe works as part-time office help and backup at the counter. She is a student at Riverland Community College.

"We have a really good team and they all bring something different to the table," says Kristi.

The Miners have four children: Elizabeth, 10; Derek, 6; Alexa, 3 and Maverick, 1. Kristi says the two oldest children want to work at Miner's. Liz helps her mother in the office and Derek likes working with his dad.

Letters to the Editor

When is the last time you voted in a contested local judicial election?

My name is David F. McLeod, and I am running for the position of District Court Judge in our Third Judicial District. Voters in the Third Judicial District will see this contested judicial race, as well as five others, on the November 8th ballot.

The Third Judicial District includes the following counties: Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, and Winona. Voters in these counties will see six contested judicial races, including one contested seat in our supreme court. The five local judicial races include a contested race in Houston County, one in Mower County, two in Olmsted County, and finally the one in Wabasha County which is the seat I am seeking.

From what I can tell, the three challengers for the judgeships in Mower County and Olmsted County are not actively campaigning. Candidate, Tim Guth, is actively campaigning against incumbent judge Carmaine Sturino; and, I am actively campaigning against incumbent judge Terrence M. Walters. For voters desiring more information about these contested judicial races and the candidates, I recommend using the Minnesota Secretary of State's extremely informative website (www.sos.state.mn.us). The main home page has a button entitled "Elections and Voting;" then, select "What's on my ballot;" and, then select "Search candidate filings." Voters can also utilize a basic internet search by simply typing in the name of the candidate.

Minnesota's constitution has always provided for judicial elections, and the Minnesota Supreme Court instructs us that our constitution does not prefer one method of selection over the other. Our constitution also provides that a judge stands for election every six years; however, if a judge leaves office during his or her term, the vacancy is filled by appointment of the governor.

If re-elected, Judge Terrence M. Walters will be required to retire before

completing his term due to mandatory retirement at age 70. If that occurs, the Governor will appoint the new judge - not the voters. Thus, voters have the opportunity to choose the next judge for Wabasha County and the Third Judicial District. Voters can learn more about me at mcleodjustice.us. While campaigning, I've heard many voters state "I never know anything about the candidates." So, I urge voters to research the candidates in these judicial races, and make informed choices on November 8th.

David F. McLeod
Judicial Candidate

Rep. Daniels deserves another term

I am writing in support of the reelection of Rep. Brian Daniels. He has accomplished much in first term, and is deserving of another.

He has signed onto a bill that addresses the disparity of the funding between metro and out state schools, bringing us more per-pupil dollars. In addition, his support of the opportunities for the disabled was demonstrated by his securing funding for computer hard and software for the State Academies in Faribault. Rep. Daniels strongly supports student loan tax credits -the first legislation of its kind in the nation.

He has authored legislation to help farmers install roll bars as a safety feature using farm group donations rather than taxpayer dollars, and supported extending unemployment benefits to workers during the avian flu crisis. He also has secured funding to increase the payment to our out state nursing homes I especially appreciate his concern for our veterans-from signing onto legislation that would relieve the tax burden on military retirement pay, he also has authored legislation to complete the Rice County Veterans Memorial.

Rep. Daniels has been strongly supportive of transportation dollars for out state Minnesota. He heavily favored the transportation bill that would have finished the reconstruction on Hwy. 14, and signed onto the legislation that would have given 800 million dollars of tax relief to Minnesota families.

Rep. Rod Hamilton, Chair of the Agriculture Committee, calls Rep. Daniels

"a terrific member" of that committee and he is strongly supported by the Speaker of the House, Kurt Daudt.

Rep. Daniels has a strong commitment to greater Minnesota, our businesses, families and communities. I would encourage all vote and send him back to St. Paul for another term!

Kathy Dodds
Lonsdale

Editor's Note: Brian Daniels is state representative for District 24B, which covers a large chunk of rural Steele County, including the cities of Medford and Ellendale, and portions of Dodge and Rice counties.

How and when to apply for Social Security retirement benefits

Dear Savvy Senior,
What is the easiest way to apply for my Social Security retirement benefits, and how far in advance do I need to apply before I start collecting?
Approaching 62

Dear Approaching,
The Social Security Administration offers three different ways you can apply for your retirement and/or spouses benefits, depending on your preference and how much help you need. Here's a rundown of the options, along with a list of information you'll need to apply, and when to fill out the application.

How To Apply?
The easiest and most convenient way to apply for your Social Security benefits is to do it yourself online at SocialSecurity.gov. It takes less than 15 minutes to complete the application, as long as you've gathered all of the required information and documentation (more on that at the bottom of the column).

If, however, you'd rather have a Social Security employee assist with the process, you can also apply by phone at 800-772-1213, or at your local Social Security office. If you apply in person, be sure to call ahead and schedule an appointment to cut your office wait time.

Whichever method you feel most comfortable using, your application will be reviewed and processed as soon as all necessary documentation and information is received. And, the Social Security Administration will notify you if it turns out you could qualify for higher benefits on your spouse's record, or if other family members can receive benefits on your work record.

When To Apply?
While full retirement age is currently 66 (for those born between 1943 and 1954) you can start receiving your Social Security retirement benefits as early as age 62 or as late as age 70, but the longer you wait the larger your monthly check. See ssa.gov/retire/estimator.html to estimate your benefits.

Social Security recommends that you apply for retirement benefits three months before you want your payments to start. So if you want your benefits to begin as soon as you turn 62, you should apply at 61 years and nine months old.

It's also worth noting that if you start receiving your Social Security retirement benefits before age 65, you will automatically be enrolled in Medicare Part A and Part B, and you'll receive your Medicare card about three months before your 65th birthday. It will include instructions to return it if you have work coverage that qualifies you for late enrollment.

But if you decide to delay your retirement benefits, you'll need to sign up just for Medicare at age 65, which you can also do at SocialSecurity.gov, over the phone at 800-772-1213 or through your local Social Security office.

If you do not sign up, in some circumstances your Medicare coverage may be delayed and cost more.

Need Information
In order to apply for Social Security benefits, you'll need to be able to document some information about your identity and work history. So before applying, have the following information handy:

- Your Social Security number.
- Your birth certificate (original or certified).
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or lawful alien status if you were not born in the United States.
- A copy of your U.S. military service papers if you had military service before 1968.
- A copy of your W-2 forms and/or self-employment tax return for last year.
- Your bank information (including your account number and the bank routing number) you want your benefits direct deposited to.

For a complete checklist of information you'll need to complete your application, see ssa.gov/hlp/isba/10/isba-checklist.pdf.

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.


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History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2006
Dan Evans, Publisher

Chelsie Hansen, a Blooming Prairie high school senior, has been awarded the United States Presidential Freedom scholarship for her outstanding volunteer service in her community. She received notification and letters of congratulations from President Bush, Senator Mark Dayton and Congressman Gil Gutknecht.

Hansen has volunteered over 100 hours of community service through a variety of on-going activities such as coaching a summer youth girls' softball team, highway ditch cleanup, Big Brothers Big Sisters, mowing for U.S. Servicemen's families, church activities and numerous other service events.

On July 1st Colette Holmes and Tony Lea took over as the new co-owners of the Pizza Cellar and Blooming Prairie Cue Company. Carrying on the time-honored tradition the previous owners started 15 years ago, Holmes and Leas don't plane to change a whole lot. They are now thoroughly enjoying running their new business.

20 Years Ago
Tuesday, Oct. 8, 1996
Elsie Slinger, Editor

It dwindled to almost nothing, but now that the FFA program at the high school has been resurrected, new advisor Alison Banick will strive to keep it strong. A few years back, the program was down to five members- that was before Tim Woehler was hired as agriculture instructor, and brought it back to 70 members. Woehler couldn't have done it without the support of the newly formed FFA alumni group and the school administration. Banick is confident the FFA program is getting stronger every year, and welcomes support from parents.

Perhaps it is more than just a little ironic that for five straight years some of Minnesota's worst autumn weather has swept through BHS during homecoming week. Maybe the bad weather is a call straight from nature telling us to get more involved, or else suffer the consequences. It's disappointing to think that the weather virus has managed to attack BPHS homecoming traditions in recent years, but one can't help but notice how dying traditions are being followed by inclement weather. Activities such as the bonfire, parade, and football game all lose character when the sun isn't shining. Hopefully the sun may be shining this year!

50 Years Ago
Thursday, Oct. 6, 1966
Victor, Vernon and Vyrle Krejci, Editors

A special series of revival meetings have been scheduled nightly from Tuesday, October 11 through Sunday, October 16, at the First Baptist Church in Blooming Prairie. The Reverend Robert Terrey, pastor of the Plymouth Baptist Church in Minneapolis, will speak at the service. He is recognized as an outstanding speaker and his messages will be of interest to everyone attending. Inspiration singing and special music will be provided at each service. The public is invited to attend.

Doug Braaten, 15-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Braaten, suffered a broken right collarbone Monday while playing for the Blooming Prairie "B" team against Kasson-Mantorville. He sustained the injury during the fourth quarter of the game, which was played at Kasson. Doug was taken to St. Mary's hospital in Rochester for x-rays and placed in traction.

75 Years Ago
Thursday, Oct. 9, 1941
Frank Krejci, Publisher

Spencer Olson, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Olson, will leave on Monday for Chicago to join the U.S. Naval Reserve for the duration of the present emergency. Spencer has passed his preliminary examinations and will report to the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. He has been employed by the Northwestern Drugs Company at Minneapolis.

Here's great new for local housewives! Blooming Prairie's new water supply is going to be without rust and much softer! This information was forthcoming this week from officials of the village, water, power, and light commission after a thorough chemical analysis had been made of the water produced in the new well.

A number of farmers in the area were reported this week to be barring members of the Blooming Prairie gun club from hunting on their lands. The reason for this being that members of the gun club restrict non-members from hunting the Oak-Glen grounds!

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USDA commits $56 Million for food projects, organic research

Latest investments connect consumers to their food while creating new market opportunities

At the New York Times Food for Tomorrow Conference, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced more than $56 million in grants to strengthen local and regional food systems, support farmers markets, and fund organic research. Since 2009, USDA has invested over $1 billion in more than 40,000 local food businesses and infrastructure projects.

"Since this Administration launched the Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food initiative in 2009 to coordinate USDA efforts to support local and regional food systems, there has been a dramatic increase in consumer demand for buying local," said Vilsack. "Over the years, we've seen how these new market opportunities are helping to drive job growth in agriculture, increase entrepreneurship in rural communities, and expand food access and choice. This latest round of grants will expand the capacity of farmers and businesses to serve this growing market, help revitalize local economies around the country, and support efforts around the country to provide fresh, healthy food to all Americans."

The Food for Tomorrow conference brings together a range of leaders to discuss important issues and trends affecting how we feed our nation and the world. At the event, Vilsack made three significant funding announcements.

•$26 million in Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program grants for more than 100 projects that will support rural economies, increase market opportunities for farmers, and help close supply chain gaps in communities across the country. These competitive grants are divided equally between the Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) and the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) and are administered by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, which works to improve market opportunities for U.S. growers and producers.

•$21.4 million for Organic Research and Extension Program grants for 26 projects to help organic farmers and ranchers improve business operations and bring more organic food to the table of consumers. The grants are funded through the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI) and the Organic Transitions Program (ORG), two programs administered by USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

•$8.6 Million in Community Food Projects grants to 33 projects that help make healthy, nutritious foods available to people from low-income neighborhoods. The grants, offered through NIFA's Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program (CFP), support projects that foster self-sustaining solutions to food security in at-risk communities. Recent analysis shows the U.S. is making tremendous headway in battling hunger and food insecurity across America, decreasing food insecurity through healthy diets and nutrition education.

In conjunction with the funding announcements, Vilsack announced $48.1 million in available fiscal year 2017 funding through the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) to support systems-based research and extension activities that accelerate science-based solutions and new technology for the specialty crop industry. Specialty crops are defined as fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture The Specialty Crop Research Initiative was authorized in the 2014 Farm Bill to invest in long-term solutions that address problems in the overlapping systems of production, distribution and processing, and consumers and markets.

USDA is committed to helping organic agriculture grow and thrive. USDA strongly supports the organic sector through a wide variety of programs, including conservation grants, organic crop insurance, certification cost-share, organic market news, and simplifie microloans. To learn more about USDA support for organic agriculture, visit the updated organic portal at www.usda.gov/organic.

USDA's Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food (KYF2) Initiative coordinates the Department's work to develop strong local and regional food systems. Over the course of the Obama Administration, USDA has invested close to $1 billion in 40,000 local food-related projects on farms and in communities across the country. Information on local and regional supply chain resources is available on the newly-revamped KYF2 website and the KYF2 Compass can help users locate USDA investments in their community. More information on how USDA investments are connecting producers with consumers, expanding rural economic opportunities, and increasing SNAP access at farmers markets is available in the New Markets, New Opportunities Medium chapter. Under this Administration, USDA has also significantly expanded its efforts to improve access to safe, healthy food for all Americans. More information about USDA efforts to support the health of our next generation can be found on USDA's Medium chapter, Growing a Healthier Future.

Minnesota Crop Report:

Drier weather allowed Minnesota farmers to harvest over a quarter of the soybean crop during the week ending October 2, 2016, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork. While the drier weather allowed harvest activities to pick up, there were reports of fields still too wet to harvest. There were reports of white mold in soybeans and concerns about corn stalk quality. Field activities for the week included harvesting and tilling.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 33 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 29 percent surplus.

Eighty-seven percent of Minnesota's corn acreage was mature, 8 days ahead of the five-yea average and slightly ahead of last year. Eight percent of the corn for grain acreage was harvested, about a week behind average. Corn condition rated 85 percent good to excellent. Ninety-two percent of the corn for silage acreage had been harvested. With nearly all the soybean crop dropping leaves or beyond, 40 percent of the soybean acreage was harvested, slightly behind average and 4 days behind last year. Soybean condition rated 82 percent good to excellent, up 3 percentage points from last week. The dry edible bean crop was 94 percent harvested, 12 days ahead of average, but 3 days behind last year. Twenty-two percent of the sunflower acreage was harvested, 3 days ahead of average. Sunflower condition rated 58 percent good to excellent. Seventy-nine percent of the potato acreage had been harvested. Nineteen percent of the sugarbeet crop was harvested. Sugarbeet condition rated 81 percent good to excellent.

The third cutting of alfalfa hay was 97 percent complete. Pasture condition rated 73 percent good to excellent.

Minnesota Crop Report is sponsored by:





Weed of the Month: Giant Knotweed

By EMILIE JUSTEN
Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Giant knotweed (Polygonum sachalinense) has hollow, bamboo-like stems and grows over 12 feet tall, making it the largest of the invasive knotweeds. It forms tall, dense thickets that degrade habitats, particularly along riparian areas where it facilitates erosion and flooding

Giant knotweed is native to Asia. It was brought to North America in the 1800s and planted as an ornamental, for erosion control, and as livestock forage. Giant knotweed escaped cultivation and has become a serious invasive plant in many states.

Giant knotweed has distinctive characteristics. The tall, hollow stems have swollen reddish nodes arranged in a zigzag pattern. Leaves are heart-shaped, dark green, and 12 inches or more in length. Small white flowers in the leaf axils bloom from July to October. The root system of giant knotweed is extensive, growing deep into the soil and producing thick, dense mats of rhizomes. Giant knotweed may be confused with a closely related species, Japanese knotweed (Polygonum cuspidatum) but can be distinguished by the leaf base: giant knotweed has a heart-shaped leaf base and Japanese knotweed leaves have a flat base

Giant knotweed is adapted to many habitats. It can be found in disturbed areas, along roadsides, gardens, stream banks, and riparian areas. The rhizomes allow giant knotweed to spread quickly and aggressively. Root fragments can be spread by equipment and water, making management a challenge.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Giant knotweed infestation.

•Do not plant giant knotweed as an ornamental and control existing plants. If you find this plant, immediately report by calling the Arrest the Pest Hotline at 888-545-6684 or arrest.the.pest@state.mn.

•Management efforts should focus on eliminating root growth. Mowing in combination with herbicide application will produce the best results.

•Always clean and inspect equipment after working in an infested areas to reduce the transport of plant fragments to new areas.

•Herbicide treatments need to be repeated for several years to eradicate a population. If using herbicide treatments, check with your local University of Minnesota Extension agent, co-op, or certified landscape care expert for assistance and recommendations.









Community

Obituaries

Constance (Connie) McLaughlin Thomas, 68, Loganville, GA



Constance (Connie) Alice McLaughlin Thomas passed away on Mon., Sept. 26, 2016, at her home in Loganville, Ga.

She was born July 31, 1948, to Janice and Clifton McLaughlin in Spencer, Iowa. She graduated from Blooming Prairie High School and married Michael Nolan in 1966. They were blessed with two children, Michael and Colleen.

She moved to Georgia in 2010 to be near her daughter and grandchildren.

Connie is survived by her daughter, Colleen Crewey, of Grayson, GA, Sisters, Vicki Ball (Denny) of Owatonna, MN and Michelle Arneson (Robert) of Howard Lake, MN, Brothers, Greg McLaughlin (Sheryl) of Owatonna, MN and Mark McLaughlin (Jen) of Madielia, MN. Her grandchildren, Alicia, Michael and Jamie Crewey of Grayson, Ga. Her Uncle and Aunt Tom and Freeda Owen of Spirit Lake IA, nine nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her son, parents, and grandparents.

County assess recent flood damage

FLOODING: from page 1A

On an individual assistance level, 219 private properties have been reported with damage. The cities and county do not report these damages; it's up to homeowners to submit their claim to the proper authorities. The office of Steele County Emergency Management does not anticipate any more properties reporting flood damage.

The county ranks the damage on a five-color scale from blue, unaffected, to red, destroyed. Most reported private properties have ranked either green or yellow for minor to moderate damage. No current damage reports have ranked a property as destroyed. 14 businesses also reported damages.

The county assesses the damage so they can turn the reports over to homeland security in hopes of receiving aid. The threshold for receiving aid as a county is $130,000, which current damage has exceeded.

The threshold for receiving aid as a state is $7.4 million. When all of the counties affected by the recent flood finish reporting their damages, they'll know if they've collectively qualified for further aid. If they have, FEMA workers will be sent in to do further assessments.

There were no casualties or serious injuries sustained during the flood. No water rescues were required.

Rivers are returning to pre-flood levels, and water gauges have started reading at normal levels again. All most all township roads are now open.

Emergency Management credits the preemptive measures taken by the county and cities in the last few years as a major reason for the decrease in damages and injuries, as opposed to the 2010 flood.

"The counties and cities did a good job of getting out where there was flooding," a management representative said. People also showed a lot of good sense and obeyed the warning and barricades that were placed.

"We didn't have that county-wide flooding like we did in 2010," he said.

The county is currently utilizing its debris clearance plan. If residents leave their debris on the right of way in front their house, the county will clear it for free. The clearance is just about complete with Wednesday being the deadline for placing debris for removal.

Busy mom still finds time to volunteer

VOLUNTEER: from page 1A

Submitted photo

Katie Livingood working with Emily McCool Katie works as the Executive Director of SEMYO; in addition to working part-time in communication at the lutheran church in Kasson, volunteering at RideAbility, teaching private horseback riding lessons, and keeping up her own farm and family.

from families - telling us they respect and appreciate her skill and knowledge. She also does a wonderful job educating volunteers and helping them by using her equine knowledge. Katie has put together an informal team of volunteers to keep us up-to-date online with an effective facebook page and a very good website. Katie took the time to setup and run a website design meeting, during which she took real input from several people to create a website that would serve our needs. She came to RideAbility before she was married (Katie Butler), thought she would "just sidewalk" and she said "I have to be careful how much I do, I have a tendency to take on a lot more ...". RideAbility appreciates how Katie "takes on a lot more"!!!!!

Thank you to the PATH Intl. 2016 Region 6 Volunteer of the Year – Katie Livingood!

ENTREPRENEUR

Continued from page 1A

The BlueBrick Communication Assessment is a cuttingedge kit that allows therapists and counselors to teach communication skills using Lego building blocks. The assessments received rave reviews when they were launched earlier this year. One therapist commented, "It is organized very well, creative, and allows clients to practice skills without realizing it!" Another said, "This was a great tool to engage kids and parents. I've already recommended this to colleagues."

The BlueBrick Therapeutic Journals will be a line of journals that include a gratitude journal, anger log, and an insight journal, which will allow therapists, counselors, and their clients to continue the therapy process between sessions. The BlueBrick Therapeutic Journals will be launched next month at the Colorado Association of Marriage and Family Therapist's annual conference.

Kruckeberg is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) with a fulltime private practice in Aurora, Colo., called Areas of Growth Counseling. She also is the founder of Louder Than A Lion, products and services for therapist by therapists, and an affiliate faculty member at Regis University. More information can be found at www.AreasOfGrowth.com and www.LouderThanALion.com.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

October 4
Mark McDonald
Jennifer Naatz
Gabe Staloch
Cathy Janning
Jack Abbe
Veronica Thompson

October 5
Jennifer Johnson
Blaire Schewe
Kevin Iversen
Jason Johnson
Lake LaMotte

October 6
Gene Ward

October 7
Linda Gravenish
Brad Klemmensen
Rebekah DeYoung

October 8
Adam Trotman
Brandon Haubenschild
Ethan Jenzen

October 9
Mark Coughlin

October 10
Catelyn Bartlett
Anna Miller
Victor Peterson
Elisa Wright
Jamie Klemmensen
Brad Bruggeman
Kristin Bishop
Sydney Heiber
Steve Vaith

October 11
Samantha Nelson
Meinard Haberman
Patrick Jones

October 12
Candace Bartlett
J.R. Shawback
Ian Paulson
Travis Doocy
Alexa Miner
Aaron Anderson
Candace Anderson

ANNIVERSARIES

October 4
Martin & Avis Krampitz

October 7
Davin & Jennifer Johnson
Lee & Kara Trotman
Jeff & Kim Erickson

October 8
Carl & Kathi Peterson

October 10
Mark & Joan McDonald
Shelia & Gary Wiese
Shayne & Randi Johnson

October 11
Scott Musel & Cathy Janning

October 12
Maynard & Judy Johnson

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SEMCAC senior menu

October 4:
Vegetable Soup, Crackers, BBQ on a Bun, Macaroni Fruit Salad, Apple Pie

October 5:
Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Fresh Squash, Beet Pickles, Pears/ Caramel sauce

October 6:
Chicken Ala King Over Biscuit, Peas and Carrots, Citrus Fruit Cup, Dutch Cookie

October 7:
Swedish Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes / Gravy, Stewed Tomatoes, Banana

October 10:
Chili Con Carne, Crackers, Peach Half / Cottage Cheese, Corn Muffin, Moon Cake

October 11:
Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Romaine Mixed Salad, Ice Cream

October 12:
Teriyaki Chicken, Baked Potato / Sour Cream, Broccoli, Cranberry Sauce, Pineapple Slices


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Chamber Spotlight

Miner's Outdoor & Rec celebrates 15 years

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Many satisfied customers of Miner's Outdoor & Rec of Blooming Prairie helped Doug and Kristi Miner, their family and staff celebrate the business' 15th anniversary on Saturday, Oct. 1.

The Miners said more than 200 persons stopped by, enjoyed lunch catered by Signatures of Northwood, Iowa and signed up for some attractive door prizes. KOWZ Radio 100.9 broadcast live and also gave away four tickets to NASCAR races Oct. 15-16 in Kansas.

Miner's sells a variety of Husqvarna products. A special savings is offered during the first 15 days of October. A discount of 15 percent has been offered on all in-stock Husqvarna products.

Miner, a graduate of Blooming Prairie High School, started the outdoor and recreation business as a supplement to a snowmobile repair and salvage business began by his father Marlin many years ago. That business was located on a farm about six miles east of Blooming Prairie in Dodge County.

Doug worked with his dad in the salvage business and also helped him farm. Doug and wife Kristi and family currently reside on the family farm. Doug is also a 21-year veteran of the U.S. Army National Guard. He was deployed for a year as a chief maintenance officer in Kosovo with the Red Bull Division of the Minnesota National Guard.

It was on June 17, 2001 that the Miners' business interests changed from a nights and weekends business to a full-time outdoor and recreation business. On that day, Doug was participating in two weeks of annual training at Camp Ripley. He called his father to wish him a happy father's day and was informed of the news that the shed that housed the snowmobile business was on fire.

The Miners were newly married at the time and made a decision to move the business to its present location on Highway 218 South. Property and four buildings owned by Krampiz Lumber were for sale. The lumber yard sold Husqvarna and Cub Cadets. The Miners kept Husqvarna to supplement their snowmobile business.

Husqvarna is known for its outdoor power equipment, especially its chain saws, leaf blowers, weed trimmers, walk behind lawn mowers, tractor mowers, zero turn mowers and snow blowers. Doug's knowledge of this brand helps him tell the customer what will fit their needs.

Miner's Outdoor still deals in snowmobile parts but directs more attention to golf cars, holding a Club Car golf car dealership. "We sell and customize any kind of golf cars," Kristi says. "We're busy all year around and there is a less of a focus on snowmobile parts," Doug said. He offers that personal touch in sales.

Miner's also specializes in golf car rental fleets for special events. Miner's dispatched over 100 golf cars for the Big Iron Classic Truck Show in Kasson, Sept. 9-10. Miner's also is a sponsor of the Gopher 50 Race at the Deer Creek Raceway in July. Thirty-five cars

SPOTLIGHT

Continued on page 3A

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Area Church Spotlight

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Owatonna

Pastor's corner

Who is my neighbor?



A religious lawyer asked Jesus the question, "who is my neighbor?" I think he expected Jesus to respond with the predictable human answer of, "someone like you, of course. Your neighbor is a person who looks like you, thinks like you, talks like you, and shares the same beliefs."

But Jesus goes far beyond the simple and predictable answer. As a matter of fact, Jesus could not have chosen a neighbor to talk about more offensive to the lawyer and the other peoples of that region than the one he did. He told a parable about a man beaten and robbed on a road. The obvious or predictable neighbors did not help. But a Samaritan did. Jesus chose to represent a neighbor with a man from a mixed breed of people with their own unique sense of identity and culture. A neighbor that was judged as a misfit And He choses to make this Samaritan the hero.

The Samaritan went to the beaten man, touched him, provided first aid to his wounds, and pressed his body against him to lift and place him on his own donkey. Taking him to an inn the Samaritan paid for a two-month stay, promising to cover any costs that exceeded that amount. Ever since, the title "Good Samaritan" has been synonymous with any good deed done, even including people who take risks and act heroically to aid or rescue others.

In our individualistic and narcissistic time, I am well aware that we tend to define neighbors as good by other standards. We want neighbors who keep their property maintained equal to ours, keep their lawn and weeds under control, pick up behind their pets, do not make too much noise or inconvenience us in some way, and offer a helping hand when needed. Blessed are the people who have neighbors with whom they have a deepening relationship. They look out for each other, have frequent conversations in their yards or streets, and know some of each other's stories.

Jesus gave the lawyer an answer to who his neighbor was he did not expect and that challenged his every sensibility. Even more difficult for the lawyer than accepting a Samaritan for his neighbor would be his understanding and accepting the deeper significance of who Jesus was. Each of us without faith are the one beaten, robbed, naked and exposed, left on the side of the road. It is Jesus who finds us dead in our sins, comes to us, touches us, heals our wounds, and provides for all we need to live and heal from the consequences of our sins. He has paid all with His own life blood. The mercy, forgiveness and love we receive from Him both challenges and prepares us to live toward others in the same way, being a good neighbor ourselves, living God's love to others.

Rev. Mark Rosenau, Sr Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Owatonna

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Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor
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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

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2500 Seventh Ave. N.E., Owatonna
The Rev. Mark Rosenau,
the Rev. Gregory Schlicker
(507) 451-4125
www.goodshephardowatonna.com
Services: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. &
10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
9651 SW 75th Street Ellendale
(507)465-8366
Family Choir 9:00-9:15 a.m.
Sunday School/Adult Education
9:15 a.m. Sunday, Worship 10:15 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN—ELCA
30450 570th Ave., Waltham
Minister Dwight DoBell
(507) 567-2474
Service: 8:30 a.m. Sunday Sunday
School: 9:45 a.m.

RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN—ELCA
30456 Mower-Freeborn Road, Austin
Pastor Lindsay Stolen
(507) 583-2038 or (507) 437-3000
www.roglutheran.org
Service: 9 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School (Sept-May): 10:15 a.m.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS
1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Kirk Griebel
(507) 451-2720
www.redeemerowatonna.org
Service: 9 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH —LCMS
4532 S.E. 84th Ave., Claremont
The Rev. Alan Broadwell
(507) 528-2404
sjlcoffice@frontiernet.net
Weekly Church Services:
Saturday Evening at 6 p.m. with Holy Communion, Sunday Morning at 10:30 a.m. with Holy Communion offered during the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Sunday School 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. (Sept. - June)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS
28959 630th Ave., Sargeant
Pastor Collin Duling
Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
104 First St. S.E., Hayfield
The Rev. Paul Hauschild
(507) 477-2248
www.trinityhayfield.org
Services: 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN—LCMS
57403 300th St., Waltham
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
(507) 567-2272
Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN—LCMS
202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
(507) 567-2272
Service: 8:00 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
106 Third St. S.E., Geneva
Pastor Kristen Venne
(507) 256-4288
Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165
Worship 8:30 AM



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS
108 Third Ave S.W., Medford
Pastor Mark Biebighauser
(507) 451-0447
Service: 9 a.m. Sunday
Education hour: 10 a.m.

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2781 S.W. 92nd Ave., Meriden
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165
Worship 10:30 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor
Dean Smith, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4520
www.tlcowatonna.org
9:00 am Worship
10:15 am Sunday School

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, AFLC
Ellendale, Minnesota
Pastor Richard Sliper
Saturday - 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship: 10:10 Sunday School; 10:15 Coffee and Fellowship Tuesday - 6 a.m. Call to Prayer, open to all Churches; 7 p.m. Call to Prayer Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study; 6 p.m. Call to Prayer; 6:15 Hands of Praise; 6:30 Confirmation; 6:30 p.m. Youth Group

MOLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
7618 NE 84 Ave, Kenyon
Pastor Nancy Edwardson
(507) 789-6666
(Sept. - May) 10:45 a.m. Worship
(June - Aug.) 9:00 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Catholic

ST. AIDAN CATHOLIC PARISH
Hwy 30 Ellendale
507-465-8217
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH
Rural Geneva
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 465-8217
Sunday Mass: 11:00 a.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St. Hayfield
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 477-2256
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.
Reconciliation: Before Mass
Adoration: Tuesdays 9 to noon

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC PARISH
114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 583-2784
stcolumbanuschurch.com
Reconciliation: 4:30 p.m. Saturday
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday.
Adoration: Mondays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 First St. SW., New Richland
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 465-8217
Sunday Mass: 9:15 a.m.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer, Pastor
The Rev. Brian Sutton,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588
www.litomysl.webs.com
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
with Children's Church
Reconciliation: after Mass 1st Sunday
Family Faith Formation and Adult Bible Study after Mass with noon potluck: 2nd Sunday of month
Confirmation class: 2nd Sunday and Wednesday evening

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer
(507) 451-1588
www.sacredheartowatonna.org
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday, 8:30 a.m., & 10 a.m.
Spanish Mass: 11:45 a.m. Sunday
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday
Adoration: Thursdays 9 a.m.- 10 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
512 S Elm, Owatonna • 507-451-4845
Fr. Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sat. Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Reconciliation 3-3:30 p.m. Saturday
Daily Mass 8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri
(Communion Service 8 a.m. Thursday)
Adoration Chapel avail Mon-Fri
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. key fob required after hrs or wknds

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING
205 NW Second Ave., Medford
(507) 451-6353
Fr. Kevin Connolly, Pastor
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: Vigil Saturday 5 p.m.,
8:30 a.m. Sunday
Monday Mass: 9 a.m.



Christian

DESTINY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Owatonna Campus
422 W. North Street, Owatonna
Pastors Sam and Cheri Benson
507-254-8514 www.destinycc.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

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Methodist

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Pastor Cindy Kennedy
(507) 835-8726
Service: 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 Sixth St. N.W., Ellendale
Pastor Randy Cirksena
(507) 684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
Services: 9:30 a.m. Sunday
Free home style meal on the first Sunday of the month through Dec. 2016. Worship is at 10:30 a.m. followed by the free meal at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday
Contemporary Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Church School/Adult Classes: 10 a.m.

Non-Denominational

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
130 East Bridge St, Owatonna,
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Sundays 10:00 AM
Coffee Fellowship starts at 9:30 a.m.

CEDAR CREEK CHURCH
30 E. Main St. P.O. Box 224, Hayfield
Pastor Aaron de Neui
(507) 477-2255
www.cedarcreekchurch.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

ELEVATION NORTH CHURCH
2002 Austin Rd.
Pastor Doug Jones
(507) 363-3099
www.elevationnorth.blogspot.com
Sun 10 a.m. English Service
10:30 a.m. Service & Kids Zone
2 p.m. Spanish Service
Wed. 7:00 Bible Study
Fri 7:00 Spanish Outreach

NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
332 14th St. N.E., Owatonna
Pastor Scott Peterson
(507) 213-9194
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
Bible: 7 p.m. Wednesday

DESTINY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Owatonna Campus
422 W. North Street, Owatonna
Pastors Sam and Cheri Benson
507-254-8514
www.destinycc.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

SIMPLE CHURCH
Pastor Todd Lundgren
507-451-5661
Sundays 9:30
Meeting in the Country Goods building across the freeway from Cabela's.
Other gatherings? Please call.

Mennonite

PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH
13638 750th St., Blooming Prairie
Dennis Martin
(507) 583-2081 & (507) 477-3216
Services: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Mormon

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
404 31st St. N.W., Austin
Bishop Rick Bremner
(507) 433-9042
Service: 9 a.m.-10:10 a.m.

Presbyterian

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
109 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Steven Robertson
(507) 477-2631
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

Seventh-Day Adventist

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
2373 Seventh Ave. N.E., Owatonna
Pastor Robert Brauer
(507) 340-7143
Service: 11 a.m. Saturday
Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Saturday

UCC

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
211 Main St. S., Medford
Pastor Louise Bender
(507) 451-4596
Confirmation: 9 a.m. Sunday
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday

Assembly of God

VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
702 Third St. S., Ellendale
Pastor Patrick Stitt
(507) 684-3421
Service: 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
vibrantlifeag.com

Baptist

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
104 First Ave. N.E.,
Blooming Prairie
Pastor Matt Fennell
(507) 583-2673
Services: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday and 10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday

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Community Calendar



LAST YEAR AROUND THIS TIME

Margaret and Mitchell Jones ride in style during the Blooming Prairie Homecoming parade, held last year.

Blooming Prairie

Tuesday, Oct. 4
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story Time
Wednesday, Oct. 5
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story Time
Friday, Oct. 7
BP Homecoming
Saturday, Oct. 8
BP Homecoming
Tuesday, Oct. 11
BP Card Club & Luncheon
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story Time
Wednesday, Oct. 12
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story Time

J&H LIQUORS
340 E. Main St. Blooming Prairie • 507-583-7557

♦ ♦ ♦ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ♦ ♦ ♦
BAR BINGO: MONDAY @ 6:30 P.M.
AUGUST 8, 22 & 26; SEPT. 12, 19 & 26
(MUST BE 21 TO PLAY)
WINE + WOMEN: WED 6-10 P.M.
CRAZY DAYS: SEPT. 14-17 (OFF SALE)
BLOOMIN' GRAPEVINE WINE CLUB:
SEPTEMBER-MAY - SCHED AVAIL 9/1

HOLIDAY DAZZLE WINE & BEER TASTING: THURS. NOV. 3RD
HOLIDAY DAZZLE DOWNTOWN FESTIVITIES: THURS. DEC. 2ND
HARVEY'S HOLIDAY CHEER: DEC 10TH
NEW YEAR'S EVE: MUNCHIES & CHAMPAGNE

WE CAN ACCOMMODATE YOUR BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY OR RETIREMENT PARTY. GIVE US A CALL!! DETAILS ON ALL EVENTS @ J&H
BINGO . . . LOTTERY . . . PULLTABS . . .

Ellendale/Geneva

Tuesday, Oct. 4
Hope Curbside Recycling S of 42nd Ave.
7 p.m. Hope City Council Meeting, Hope City Hall, Council Chambers
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellendale
Wednesday, Oct. 5
Hope Curbside Recycling N of 42nd Ave.
Thursday, Oct. 6
5:30 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Room
7 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Room
7 p.m. NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Room
Monday, October 10
6:20 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellendale
Tuesday, Oct. 11
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellendale


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Medford

Wednesday, Oct. 5
7 p.m. Medford Park Board (1st Wed. even months)
Thursday, Oct. 6
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior
Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
Monday, October 10
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior
Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
Wednesday, Oct. 12
4 p.m. Medford Veterans Committee Meeting

Owatonna

Tuesday, Oct. 4
9:30 a.m. OPL It's TALE TIME!
5 p.m. Owatonna Human Rights Commission, 2nd Floor Conference Room, City Hall
7 p.m. Owatonna City Council, Council Chambers, City Hall
Thursday, Oct. 6
2 p.m. OPL Independent & World Films
6:30 p.m. OPL Family Story Time
Monday, October 10
4:30 p.m. Owatonna Park & Rec Board, Council Chambers, Brooktree Golf Course or City Park
Tuesday, Oct. 11
Steele County Commission
9:30 a.m. OPL It's TALE TIME!
7 p.m. Steele Co: Co Board Meeting, Admin Center, BR
7 p.m. Veterans Open Roundtable, Good Shephard Lutheran Church, Owatonna (2nd Tue. Sept – June)

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www.minimizer.com

Albert Lea/Freeborn Co

Tuesday, Oct. 4
10:30 a.m. Story Time
3:45 p.m. ALPL Book Pals (3rd & 4th Grade)
5:30 p.m. AL Planning Commission, City Hall
6 p.m. Rock Gym, 211 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea
Wednesday, Oct. 5
7:30 a.m. AL Port Authority Meeting, AL EDA
8 a.m. Hawthorne's Dental Day
3:30 p.m. Staff Mentee Meetings (Elementary), Hawthorne Elementary School – Room #134
Thursday, Oct. 6
10:30 a.m. ALPL Story Time
10:30 a.m. Music & Movement, ALPL
5:30 p.m. Council Workshop, City Council Chambers, City Hall
6 p.m. Domestic Violence Awareness Candlelight Vigil, New Denmark Park, Albert Lea
6 p.m. ALPL Night-time Story Time
Friday, Oct. 7
6 p.m. Rock Climbing Open Gym, 21 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea
Saturday, Oct. 8
Library Closed
9:30 a.m. Annual Blessing of the Animals, Frank Hall Park, Albert Lea
6 p.m. Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea
Monday, October 10
Lakeview Picture Retake Day
Sibley SHARE Meeting 5:30 p.m.
8:55 a.m. Jostens Senior Meeting – Caps & Gowns, ALHS Auditorium
10:30 a.m. ALPL Story Time
3:45 p.m. Book Pals (Grades 5 & 6), ALPL
5:15 p.m. Human Rights Commission, City Council Chambers
5:30 p.m. Hawthorne PTO Meeting
7 p.m. City Council, Council Chambers, City Hall, 211 E Clark Street, Albert Lea

Austin/Mower County

Tuesday, Oct. 4
12 p.m. Tuesdays with Toastmasters
3:30 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
4:45 p.m. Public Skate, Riverside Arena, 501 2nd Ave NE, Austin
5:30 p.m. Uncork and Create: Sunflowers, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
6 p.m. 2016 Austin Police Department Citizen Academy, Law Enforcement Center, 201 1st St NE, Austin
6:30 p.m. Lion's Club Meeting, Lyle Community Center
6:30 p.m. Stick Time, Riverside Arena, 501 2nd Ave NE, Austin
Wednesday, Oct. 5
1st Responders Meeting, City of Lyle
11:30 a.m. SEMCAC Meal
5:30 p.m. Writing Memoirs and Personal Stories #4 – Writing a Crisis, Conflict, or Change
6:30 p.m. Adult Hockey, Riverside Arena, 501 2nd Ave NE, Austin
7:30 p.m. Cabaret, Frank W. Bridges Theatre, Riverland Community College
Thursday, Oct. 6
10:30 a.m. Introduction to Glass Fusing, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
11:30 a.m. County / State Candidate Forum, Austin Eagles Club
3:30 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
4 p.m. Austin Farmers Market, 501 Oakland Ave. East
4 p.m. Farmers Market Place LLC, 18th Ave, in front of Shopko
4 p.m. LeRoy Farmers Market, Corner of Broadway and Main Street, Downtown LeRoy
5 p.m. Chili Cookoff, Spam Museum, 101 3rd Ave. NE, Austin
6 p.m. Brownsdale PL Puzzle Night (Subject to Change)
6:30 p.m. Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale – Members Only, Austin Public Library
7 p.m. Keepsake Quilters Guild Meeting, St John's Lutheran Church, 1200 13th Ave NW, Austin
7:30 p.m. Cabaret, Frank W. Bridges Theatre, Riverland Community College
Friday, Oct. 7
9 a.m. Defensive Driving Class, Mower County Senior Center
9 a.m. Garden Spot Market, 106 W Main St, Brownsdale, MN
10 a.m. Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale, Austin Public Library
11:30 a.m. SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House
5 p.m. 2nd Floor Gallery Opening Reception, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
5 p.m. Austin ArtWorks Gallery Opening, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
5:15 p.m. Bingo, Austin VFW
7:30 p.m. Cabaret, Frank W. Bridges Theatre, Riverland Community College
Saturday, Oct. 8
8 a.m. Hunt for a Cure 2016, three arrows game farm, 78590 125th St., LeRoy
8:30 a.m. Ride it – Race it – Walk it, Bandshell Community Park, 4th St. and 9th Place SW, Austin
9 a.m. Austin Farmers Market, 501 Oakland Ave E, Austin
9 a.m. Farmers Market Place LLC, 18th Ave, in front of Shopko
9 a.m. Scandinavian Festival Bazaar, St. Olaf Lutheran Church, 306 2nd St. NW, Austin
10 a.m. 2nd Annual Terry Dilley Symposium, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
10 a.m. Austin ArtWorks 2nd Floor Gallery – Theodore Rasmussen and Steve De Laitsch, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
10:30 a.m. Kids Studio, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
11 a.m. Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale, Austin Public Library
1 p.m. Fireman's Fundraiser, Mower County Fairgrounds
1 p.m. Public Skate, Riverside Arena, 501 2nd Ave NE, Austin
1:30 p.m. Walking Meditation Class, Jay C Hormel Nature Center, 1304 21st St NE, Austin
7:30 p.m. Cabaret, Frank W. Bridges Theatre, Riverland Community College
9 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory Viewing, Sola Fide Observatory
Sunday, Oct. 9
12 p.m. Austin ArtWorks 2nd Floor Gallery – Theodore Rasmussen and Steve De Laitsch, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
1 p.m. Grand Meadow Open Gym, Wrestling Room, Weight Room
1 p.m. Riverside Figure Skating Club – Basic Skills, Riverside Arena, 501 2nd Ave NE, Austin
2 p.m. Cabaret, Frank W. Bridges Theatre, Riverland Community College
2:30 p.m. Riverside Figure Skating Club – Power & Moves, Precision Line, Advanced Ice Time, Riverside Arena, 501 2nd Ave NE, Austin
Monday, October 10
American Legion & Auxiliary Meeting
10:30 a.m. Read Any Good Books Lately?, Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave NE, Austin
11:30 a.m. SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House
4 p.m. Austin Farmers Market, 501 Oakland Ave East
4 p.m. Farmers Market Place LLC, 18th Ave, in front of Shopko
5:15 p.m. Bingo, Austin VFW
5:30 p.m. History Happy Hour: Orphan Train Riders, Hormel Historic Home, 208 4th Ave NW, Austin

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EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED- NOW HIRING! FT afternoon caregiver position available at Wellington Adult care. Working with elderly clients, experience preferred but will train. Must love elderly people and enjoy working in a home setting. Applicant must be 18 years old, have a valid drivers license, and pass a background check. If interested please call Janie or Bill at 507-374-2198 or 507-319-4821. 31tfc

Do you enjoy your summers off and the same time off as your children? We have two employment opportunities available with Taher. One is at the Kasson Mantorville High School 8:30 AM-1:00PM making sandwiches and cashiering. The other is at Kasson Mantorville Elementary 8:00-1:00 cutting fruit and vegetables and serving. Please call Wendy Sellers 507-634-4462 or email w.sellers@komets.k12.mn.us if you are interested. 40-42c

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HELP WANTED: 500 cow dairy in SE MN looking for FT employee. Duties include 3-4 weekly shifts in 60 cow tie stall barn, daily chores, tractor driving, field work and occasional parlor shifts. Experience a benefit, but will train a motivated, dependable person. Fluent English required for this position. Call 507-259-4096 42,43c,44nc

Help Wanted: Part Time Bartender/Waiter/Waitress to work flexible hours Monday-Sunday. Will train, must be at least 18 yrs. of age. Pick up application at 505 Frontage Rd. NW or send application or resume to: Byron American Legion P.O. Box 687 Byron, MN 55920. 40tfc

Part-time waitress wanted, flexible hours, some weekday and Sat. evenings, no Sundays or holidays. Call Harold's Club, Dodge Center at 374-9425. 40,41c; 42nc

Taher Food Service, Triton School District, Looking for a 6th hour server, prep and cashier. Call 507-418-7531, and ask for Billie, Or stop at school to pick up an application. 41-43c

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Crop land to rent. Young farmer looking to expand existing corn and soybean operation in Hayfield and surrounding area, call David Stanton, 507-951-0915 38tfc

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Federated Insurance makes gift to the Owatonna Foundation

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Since 1958, through generous contributions from local businesses and individuals, the Owatonna Foundation has provided over $11.75 million dollars in support of 259 community projects across Owatonna. Among them; the Hospice House, the Public Library, St. Mary's School, ISD 761, the Four Seasons Centre, Trail System, Water Park, Little Theatre, and History Center.

"Federated Insurance is pleased to support the Owatonna Foundation because of the work they have done over the years helping to build this community. Many Federated employees and customers as well as the community as a whole have benefited from projects supported by the Foundation." said Julie Rethemeier, Vice President and Director of Public Affairs for Federated Insurance.

"The Owatonna Foundation values its ongoing partnership with Federated Insurance. They have been an important supporter of the community and we appreciate their trust in us to continue that work through this gift." said Foundation Board President Betsy Lindgren.

The Foundation was established in 1957 with the goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations of Owatonna residents. For more information about the Owatonna Foundation, grants or scholarships, please visit our website at: www.owatonnafoundation.org, or call our office at 455-2995.



Submitted photo

Pictured in the front row left to right are Federated representatives: Jeff Fetters, Chairman, President, & CEO of Federated Insurance, Julie Rethemeier, Vice President, Director of Public Affairs, Betsy Lindg en, President of the Owatonna Foundation, and Pat Cooper, Executive Vice President, Director of Communications and Corporate Support. In the back row pictured left to right are Foundation Trustees: Dave Seykora, Dale Gandrud, Todd Hale, and Corey Mensink.

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Hometown Sports

B Section | www.steeledodgenews.com | Tuesday, October 4, 2016

Tigers outlast Titans, win in fiv

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Medford's Amanda Honsey (15) points to the sky as she walks over to celebrate with her teammates after the Tigers scored late in the third set Thursday night. The Tigers battled back from two sets down to win the match in five sets.

Only during homecoming week could have scripted the perfect story.

After dropping two straight sets, the Medford Tigers found themselves on the cusp of dropping its first match in two weeks. That is until Head coach Tanya Powers gave them a reminder about where they were playing.

"I told them that this is our court, its our game, its our crowd, its our win," shed explained.

The Medford Tigers were able to escape a home court loss on homecoming, battling it out with Tri-City United for five sets. While the first four matches were fairly close, the fifth set was all Medford, running away with a 15-2 set win.

In the first set, the two teams were trading points left and right, until the Titans edged out a quick 7-6 lead. However, after a Sydney Langeslag block, the Tigers started to pull momentum away, jumping out to a decisive 14-10 lead, forcing TCU to call a timeout.

Despite the timeout, there was no cooling down the outside hitters for Medford. Freshman duo Payton Powers and Emma Kniefel, along with Amanda Honsey, were firing on all cylinders as Medford built its largest lead of the night at 22-15.

The Titans attempted to mount a comeback and were able to pull the score to 24-17. However, a powerful spike from Mikayla Spinler was the set winning point.

The second set was a little different story. After struggling in the first set, the Titans started out hot, building a quick 12-6 lead. Due to the vast power that the Titans were displaying in their outside hitters, it appeared that the defense started to compensate and provided extra help on the back line.

Unfortunately, when the defense was shifting as much as it was in the second set, the Titans saw the middle start to open up. Instead of focusing on getting the ball to the outside hitters, the Titans started smashing drop balls in the middle. Mid-way through the second set, Tri-City United build its largest lead of the night at 23-16.

The Tigers attempted to mount a comeback, powered by libero Callie Nagel, cutting the deficit to 4. Unforunately, a block shot drizzled onto the Medford side of the net creating an even game. In the third set, the Tigers appeared to get back to what was working in the first set.

While the teams continued to trade points, a Spinler block started to again shift the momentum back to the Tigers. Building a 15-9 lead off two straight Nagel aces, the Tigers were in great position to grab game two. The Tigers would extend its lead to 20-14 as Titans' players started to show signs of frustration.

However, instead of folding, the Titans started fighting. After a TCU timeout that saw the score at 22-16 in favor of Medford, Titans outside hitter Gabby Robinson stole any remaining momentum that Medford had. In the remainder of the set, the junior added three straight kills to go along with two aces that gave TCU a decisive 24-23 lead. Robinson's spike would sail off the arms of Powers, giving the Titans the crucial one set advantage.

The fourth set continued to prove that this game was going to come down to the wire. A Titans lead would be crushed and vice versa. After a pair of Honsley kills gave the Tigers an early 9-7 lead, the momentum again started to shift. Up 17-12, the Tigers had plenty of chances to put the game out of reach. Instead, the Titans continued to attack the gaping hole in the middle of the defense-keeping the game close. While the Tigers were allowing the Titans to crawl back into the game, once TCU brought the score to 20-17 in favor of Medford, the Tigers decided to put it away.

The freshman duo of Kniefel and Powers each recorded a pair of kills to extend the lead to 24-18. Robinson would attempt to fool the Tigers' middle with a drop shot, but Spinler and Langeslag rejected the attempt, sealing the tying set and sending the game to a crucial fifth set.

After fighting for four sets with an equally talented Titans squad, the final set came down to who wanted it more. After being reminded who's court it was earlier in the match by their head coach, the Tigers came out strong.

The Tigers mauled the Titans in the fifth set, running way with a 15-2 win. Afterward, Coach Powers struggled to find words to describe the performance.

"I can't be more proud as a coach. To come at the end and win it 15-2 is pretty dominant," she said.

The Tigers are finished for competition this week but will have a full slate heading into next week.

Huskies crown champions at Big 9 tournament



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna No. 1 doubles players Kaitlyn Anderson (left) and Gabi Deml (right) celebrate after scoing a point against their Red Wing opponent on Saturday. Anderson and Deml won the Big Nine Conference title at No. 1 doubles, helping Owatonna to a second place finish.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

The Owatonna Huskies have been strong all season and at the biggest meet of the season so far, they battled.

Crowning champions at No.3 singles and No.1 doubles, the Huskies finished second at the Big Nine conference meet in Rochester. Rochester Mayo was the conference champion, scoring 73 points-15 ahead of the Huskies. Head coach Curt Matejcek said that every point mattered.

"We also had critical points points on the consolation side by Alissa (Weide) winning," he added.

The teams were spread out throughout Rochester as teams could be playing at either Mayo or John Marshall or the Outdoor Tennis Complex.

The finals however, were played at the Rochester Outdoor Tennis Complex.

In singles, after defeating Hannah Weng in the quarterfinals 6-1,6-0, Huskies No. 1 singles' Emily Rahrick fell to No.2 seed Julia Geske of John Marshall 6-1,6-0. Rahrick would go on to defeat Julia Barber for a third place finish.

No. 2 singles' Alissa Weide fell in the opening match Ambriel Jacobs 6-2,6-1. After defeating Brianna Peterson in the consolation quarterfinals, Weide would defeat Anika Nybo of Red Wing 6-4,0-6, 10-2 to take third as well.

Owatonna's Sara Anderson upset top seed Amalin Sorajja of Rochester Mayo on her way to a No. 3 singles Big Nine Conference championship. In the finals, Anderson defeated the No.4 seed in Chelsea Schaffer 6-3-6-1.

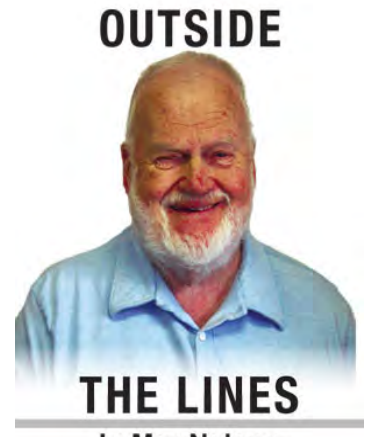
No. 4 singles' Annabelle Paquin took second.

The doubles duo of Caitlyn Anderson and Gabi Deml won the No.1 doubles title after defeating top seed Natali Sorajja and Kailee Johnson 6-4,6-4. In three matches, the duo won 6-0,6-2, 6-3,6-4, and a 6-4,6-4 finals win.

No.2 doubles duo of Macy Voss and Katie Segler took home a second round finish after dropping the finals match to Ani BolBulian and Ellen Barancyck 6-2,6-4. The duo defeated Katelyn Schammel and Amy Stoulil

TENNIS
Continued on page 2B

OUTSIDE



THE LINES

LeMar Nelson

A forfeit victory

It has happened before, but not at BPHS. The Awesome Blossom football team won a game last Friday without even stepping out on the field, when Mankato Loyola handed the locals a win by forfeiting the scheduled game between BP and Loyola.

According to Loyola sources, the Crusaders were beset with illness and a lack of numbers on the squad. I am not familiar with the process ,but I think that gives the Blossoms a 2-0 win. I think the team would much rather have won the game by playing, but there evidently was no choice in the matter for the locals. Instead, they now have to concentrate on getting ready to face Medford Friday night in the annual homecoming game. I just hope the departure from the usual routine will not cause any problems for the team.

The volleyball team lost a pair of matches last week to Goodhue and Maple River. They didn't play that badly in either match, but could not score points at the right times. I think Coach Ranell Kittelson is correct when she says, "We play pretty good at times, but these girls have just not discovered what it takes to win. A little luck or a little more determination by the opposition always makes the girls efforts just a little short. When we learn to win, we will be a pretty good team."

That is the immediate goal for the team.

The cross country teams had the week off. They were scheduled to run at JWP, but the recent heavy rains played havoc with the course, and the Blossoms decided that a week of rest would be more beneficial than running a shortened cross country course. They will be back in action this week when they compete at the Chatfield Invitational today, Oct.4.

A big week ahead

By the time readers see this column, the local high school will have new homecoming royalty. The traditional coronation ceremony took place in the gym last night, and from my perspective, all of the candidates would be an excellent King and Queen. Congratulations to the winner, and I will add my best wishes to the royalty next week in this column.

The week will be active in school all week, as excitement builds to the Friday climax of the parade, the annual football game, and the homecoming dance following the game. The activities in the school halls revolve around each day carrying out a specific theme and students wearing outfits to illustrate each theme. I hope students enjoy those days and enter into the spirit of things with enthusiasm and participation.

Homecoming festivities,

LINES
Continued on page 2B

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Awesome Blossoms drop pair of matches

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

The Awesome Blossom girls had their chances, but Maple River scored all the big points and edged the locals three games to one. The loss on the home floor last Thursday, dropped the Blossoms to 7-12 for the season, while Maple River improved to 8-5.

The loss was a very tough one for the Blossoms. They had chances to both games two and four, but could never get that big stop or the big serve needed to pull out the victory. After winning the first game 25-20, the locals struggled to play with enough consistency or power to earn the win or stave off Eagle efforts. The visitors took game two 28-26 on two serves that BP was unable to block, and game four also went to Maple River 26-24 on a Blossom miscue at the net.

"This was a very tough loss tonight', remarked Coach Ranell Kittelson. "We had some really good practices the last two days and hade high expectations coming into tonight's match. Ultimately, we couldn't finish when it counted. We just had too many things on defense that we failed to execute properly. We played very well at times, but, unfortunately, it wasn't enough to pull out a victory."

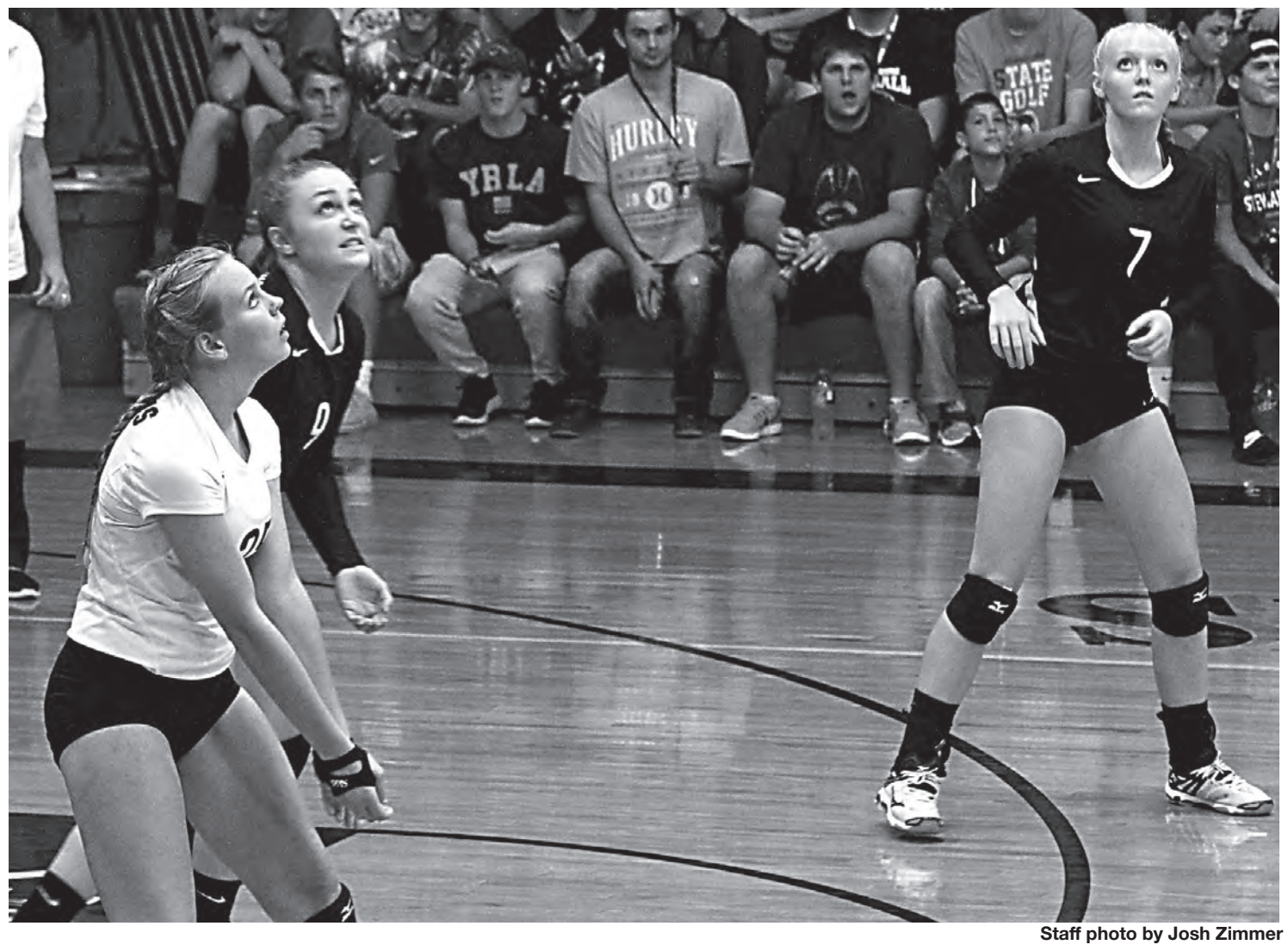
Kylie Forystek and Sam Wurst both had great efforts, with 11 kills. Wurst also had 4 blocks, and Bria Baldwin scrambled for 13 digs. Leah Inwards had 17 digs and 16 assists in the match, and Leah Schiefert added 20 assists and 8 digs. Courtney Wobschall contributed 9 kills and 4 blocks for the Blossoms.

BP's JV team lost to Maple River in two games. The Wildcats won 25-18 and 25-17, before BP took a third game from Maple River 15-10. BP is now 9-9 for the season. Julia Worke served 15 for15, and Maya Lembke went 11 for 11 in serving.

Goodhue sweeps BP

Goodhue had too much firepower for the Blossoms at Goodhue on Monday, Sept. 26, and took down the locals in straight sets 25-20, 25-10, and 25-20. It marked the third loss in a row for the Blossoms.

BP struggled to maintain aggressiveness and keep control of the match. "Our overall blocking and ball control," commented Coach Kittelson, "hindered our ability to pull off a win or at least a set or two." None of the Blossoms had particularly good nights.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Blossoms Libero Asia Thostenson (left in white) prepares for a dig attempt as Ayren Ingvalson (7) watches in a match at Blooming Prairie high school earlier this month. BP dropped two matches last week to Goodhue and Maple River.

Panther round up

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Volleyball

In their only match of the week, the NRHEG girls dropped three straight games to WEM at Waterville last Thursday. The first two games were fairly close in identical 17-25 losses, but the Bucs won game three easily 25-11.

As Coach Onika Peterson commented, "We knew that WEM has had a lot of success this season, and that it would be a tough battle. Our goal was to make sure we competed the whole match, and I think we did that. I was happy with the way the girls played, especially in the first two games."

Marnie Wagner had 6 kills, 6 digs and an ace block, and Betsy Schoenrock added 4 kills. Maddie Wagner and Olivia Christopherson both contributed 3 kills, and Rachel Collins had 14 assists and 5 digs.

The NRHEG record dropped to 4-7, while WEM raised their season mark to 17-3. Both teams will be in action tonight.

Cross-Country

With a lot of water to avoid, the NRHEG cross country teams competed in a shortened course at Janesville Thursday, Sept. 29. The host Grizzlies won the boys' division, while Blue Earth Area took the title for the only two squads with full teams.

On a course that was shortened to 4800 meters, Ben Lewer finished first for the Panthers with a time of 18:42 and 4th place. Josh Fleming trailed Lewer by just 6 seconds for 5th place. Kollin Reese ran the course in 20:54, and Jager Beck and Orin Mely finished in 22:35 and 25:32 respectively.

Ben Lewer had a great race," commented Coach Mike Weber, "and Fleming also ran well. Those two have been putting in solid practices, and the efforts are paying off on the courses. The other boys are all lowering their times pretty consistently."

Freshman Jade Mely led three Panther girls to finishes in the top 15 individually. She timed a 22: 31 for 5th, Madisyn Buetel ran 2:15 for 12th, and Destiny Medrano placed 14th in 25:42. Mia Williams ran 17th with 26:47.

"Jade ran a good race to finish 5th, and she is getting better each time out," commented coach Weber. "We think Madisyn Beutel impressed in her run, and the other two girls are recording personal bests almost every race they run. It was a good performance for the girls," he added.

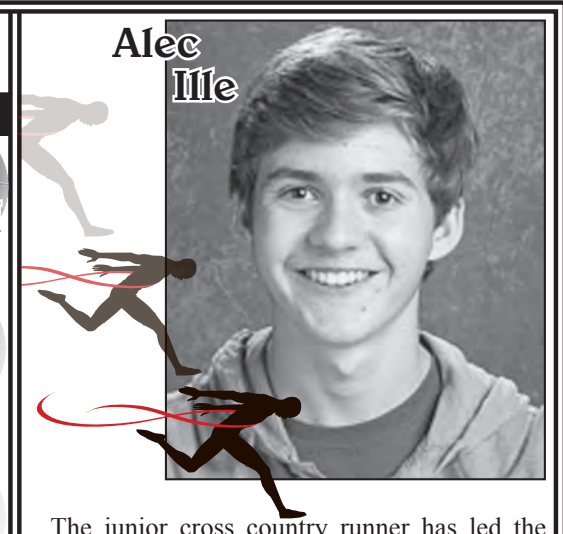
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL



Courtney Wobschall

The senior hitter on the volleyball team has been one of the kill leaders all season. In two matches last week, she led the team with 15 kills in the two outings. Earlier in the season she had a career match in kills. Although the team record has been disappointing, Wobschall has certainly pulled her weight in helping the team.



Alec Ille

The junior cross country runner has led the boys all season with his top finishes in invitational meets. Ille has run every race in the 17-minute range, even going as low as 17:07 over the 5000 m courses. Ille earned entry into the state cross country meet a year ago, and his goal is to repeat that feat again this season.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

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Blossoms football wins by forfeit

LINES: from page 1B

however, are just one part of the week's activities.

Last year for the first time, the Education Foundation decided to host its annual banquet and Blossoms Forever awards program on Saturday, following homecoming. That plan generated a lot of sentiment for using that format every year; thus that banquet and awards program will be held this coming Saturday at the local Servicemen's club. A crowd of approximately 160 people will attend that event.

Honored at the banquet this year will be the 1966 state boys basketball team, long-time custodian Charlie Ellinger, Dr. Leslie Hansen, from the U of Minnesota, community volunteer Linda Christianson, and athletic star Missy (Avery) Ahrens. It should be a well-deserved and meaningful ceremony, and one that attendees can remember for a long time.

With homecoming festivities all week, and the banquet and awards ceremony to cap the week off, it should be exciting and memorable.

In fact, it is events like these that make our school and community so special and make us proud to live where we do.

Just a note to remind everyone that this week is Manufacturers' Week, and a luncheon will be held tomorrow to recognize those important businesses. Those various businesses provide over 200 jobs in our community, and we are fortunate to have them in our small community.

A hero gone

One of my heroes whom I admired for years passed away last week. When I was still able to play golf in my leisure time, Arnold Palmer was one golfer and famous person to whom I always looked up. He not only played incredible golf for many years, but he was also a most gracious and likeable person off the course.

Palmer won 52 tour victories in PGA events, which ranks him 5th all-time in wins, He won eight major tournaments, including the Masters four times, the US. Open twice, and the PGA Championship twice. He also won the European Tour championship twice.

During the early 60s, Palmer, along with Jack Nicklaus, and Gary Player, were known as the big three in the golf world, and Palmer always had the biggest gallery of fans following him. The media even gave his fans the name of "Arnie's Army."

He has been named as one of the greatest players in professional golf history and was one of golf's most popular stars. His respect from fellow golfers was unrivaled in the golf world, and he remained one of the best ambassadors for golf until his death a week ago.

He was named to the World Golf Hall of Fame in 1974 and earned the PGA Lifetime Achievement Award in 1998.

After his playing days were pretty well over, he continued to travel to major tournaments and also had a hand in designing golf courses. At least one of our Mnnesota courses came because of his aid in designing. In this age of too many celebrities and famous personalities more interested in their own image, Palmer was "one of the good guys", and I continue to label him an American hero.

Let's close with a couple of things to think about. When it comes to giving, some people stop at nothing.

And finally, Americans spend fifteen times more money on gambling than they spend in church giving. Despite that, we'll talk again.

Something about Owatonna conference tourney

TENNIS: from page 1B

in the second round 6-2,7-5 and No.2 seed Maddie Ahrens and Morgan Anderson in the Semis.

At No. 3 doubles, Lauren Betti and Margaret Schlicker lost to top-seeded Taylor Julsrud and Deeya Patel in the semis after defeating Olivia Rondeaue and Carson Johnson 6-1,6-3.The duo would tkae fourth, falling to Sumedha Bandi and Sophia Nevenheim 6-2,2-6, 10-8.

Thursday, the Huskies were in Mankato to face Mankato East for their final match of the regular season. The Cougars defeated Owatonna 4-3.

Owatonna 6, Northfield

The Owatonna girls' tennis squad was back in action on Wednesday for a rescheduled match against Northfield.

Powered by another strong performance from the double's squads, the Lady Huskies defeated the Raiders 6-1.

Emily Rahrick continues her strong week with a 6-3,6-4 sweep of Molly Smith to pick up her second win of the week at No. 1 singles. No.3 singles Sara Anderson made quick work of her opponent, winning in straight sets 6-3,6-2. No. 4 singles Annabelle Paquin found herself in a battle with Northfield's Abby Borene. After each player took a set, Paquin won the deciding set, 10-3.

No.1 doubles pair of Caitlyn Anderson and Gabi Deml continued their dominant week of play with a 6-1,6-1 win over Northfield's pair of Anna Weber and May Hayes.

Macy Voss and Katie Segler also won by a sweep, winning 6-1, 6-3 at No. 2 doubles. No. 3 doubles pair of Lauren Betti and Margaret Schlicker defeated their Northfield opponent in straight sets 6-3, 6-4.

Owatonna 6, Austin 1

After taking home multiple individual titles and a team title at the Litchfield invitational last Saturday, the Owatonna Huskies girls' tennis team was back in action Tuesday at the Owatonna Tennis courts.

Powered by five wins by the singles squad and a sweep by the doubles team, the Lady Huskies defeated the Austin Packers 6-1. Head coach Curt Matejcek said that he was pleased with the performance.

"Overall I thought we played well today. We need to play at a higher level on Wednesday and Thursday to have success against Northfield and Mankato East," he added.

No. 1 singles Emily Rahrick bounced back from her third place finish Saturday, defeating Austin's Mariel Flaherty in straight sets, 6-0,6-0. In fact, No. 3 and No. 4 singles players Sara Anderson and Annabelle Paqiun also won in straight sets, 6-0,6-0.

No.2 singles Alissa Weide had a hard fought battle against Austin's Emily Sagles. After splitting the first two sets 6-2, 1-6, the two had a final set where Sagles won 10-4.

In the doubles group, No. 1 doubles Caitlyn Anderson and Gabi Deml made quick work of their opponents, winning in straight sets 6-1,6-1. No. 2 doubles Macy Voss and Katie Segler kept the sweep intact, defeating Austin's Kaitlyn Schammel and Amy Stouili in a hard fought first set 7-5 before winning the deciding set 6-1.

No. 3 Lauren Betti and Margaret Schlicker also made quick work of their opposition, winning in straight sets 6-1,6-0.

There was an abundance of extra junior varsity matches for the day. In singles, Owatonna's Grace Simon defeated Katie Mentz 8-0. In the doubles matches, Owatonna won both matches 8-2,8-3.

Owatonna girls' soccer stays hot

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

On Thursday, the Huskies had another home match against Faribault.

Powered by goals from Sophie Amundson and Megan Peglow, Owatonna defeated the Falcons 2-0.

Owatonna 2, Red Wing 0

As a coach, homecoming week can be a stressful. Especially when it's in the heart of a mid season run to finish at the top of the district. One letdown could mean a loss of vital positioning. For Matt Roddy and the Owatonna girls' soccer team, there was no such letdown.

"It's a credit to the girls. They came out here focused and ready to compete," he added.

Powered by two-second half goals, the Lady Huskies beat conference foe Red Wing 2-0 at the Owatonna Soccer Complex on a chilly Tuesday night.

From the opening kick, Owatonna's offense flexed its muscles. Just three minutes into the contest, junior Kenna West attempted an open shot from the wing but it sailed just wide of the net. West was pivotal on the wing, often winning the one on one match ups against her Red Wing opponents.

Just minutes after West attempted her first shot, she had a free kick that was headed toward the net by Toria Koch but Red Wing's 'keeper jumped just in time to stop any chance of Owatonna taking an early 1-0 lead.

The offensive pressure would continue as after a series of crisp passes, senior Megan Peglow's shot soared just high of the cross bar.

After winning a long counter ball in the middle third of the field, West was back on the attack on the wing. After threatening the ball deep into the offensive zone, she found Koch posted in an opening of the defense and fed her a crisp pass. Unfortunately, the Wingers' 'keeper jumped in front of the shot for the diving save to again stymie any scoring chance.

The Owatonna defense was clutch for head coach Matt Roddy all evening, stopping any Red Wing offensive attack early in the process and creating a turnover. In fact, in 80 minutes of play, Red Wing had just five offensive possessions that made it deep into Huskies territory. Despite the minimal chances, the Wingers had no shot on goal attempts in the match.

After winning a pair of clear attempts, Sydney Kretlow had two separate attempts to push shots on goal. However, both of the attempts sailed just to the right of a diving Red Wing 'keeper and out of play.

As time ran under 10 minutes in the half, the Huskies added 10 more shot attempts but just three of them were registered to be shots on goal.

The Huskies offense was firing on all cylinders throughout the contest. In the first 40 minutes of play, the Huskies registered six shots on goal. Despite the high number of shots, the Huskies were held scoreless. Roddy mentioned that there were numerous wasted attempts.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Sydney Kretlow (15) is embraced by her teammates after scoring late in the second half of the Huskies 2-0 win against Red Wing Tuesday night at the Owatonna Soccer Complex. The Huskies picked up a pair of win on the week, also defeating Faribault 2-0 on Thursday.

"We created a lot of scoring opportunities out on the wings but we were just really wasteful with our scoring chances, especially in the first half," he added.

The second half was a mirror image of the first. Owatonna created numerous scoring chances. The only difference was that they were able to capitalize.

In the 48 minute, Kretlow- who was shutdown on her two previous attempts- netted the first score of the contest on a feed from Toria Koch.

The lead only increased as just 7 minutes later, Kiley Friedrichs scored the final goal of the game.

Owatonna finished with 10 shots on goal for the contest and allowed none from Red Wing. As the hunt for section seeds continue to heat up, Roddy said that their most important soccer is in front of them.

"Some of them are conference and some are section. Everyone this week is conference. First is probably out of reach with how well Mankato West is playing but we want to finished second or third. We need to win every single one of these games on the way out," he said.

Husky Round up

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

Boys Soccer

Thursday, the Huskies were on the road to face Faribault. After falling behind 2-0 just seven minutes into the game, the Huskies were able to battle back and force overtime. Unfortunately, the Falcons netted the game-winning goal.

Scoring for Owatonna were Abukar Fakrudin and Nate Smith. The Huskies will face conference foe Rochester Century on Monday.

On Tuesday, the Huskies were in Red Wing to attempt to continue their strong push to sectionals. The saying goes, the more the merrier, and for head coach Bob Waypa, there was plenty to be merry about.

The Huskies crushed the Wingers behind seven goals from seven different players. Brodee Stanford, Abukar Fakrudin, Spencer Glynn, Zach Williams, Zach Barett, Jamal Abderrahim and Aiden Buryska all scored goals for the Huskies.

Volleyball

Thursday, the Huskies were on the road in Rochester to battle with Big Nine Conference contender Mayo. Despite keeping the game in reach, the Huskies couldn't pull off the win and lost 3-2.

Lexi Langeland had another strong performance, registering 27 kills. Syd Schultz added 16 kills and Maddie Kubista continues her impressive week with 40 assists.

The Huskies will face Red Wing and Faribault next week on the road.

The Huskies continue their long road schedule due to reconstruction of the school's damage gym floor with a match against Rochester John Marshall.

Led by 54 assists by Maddie Kubista, the Lady Huskies picked up a crucial win in Big Nine conference play.

In four sets, the Huskies started off hot with a 25-12 win before dropping the second set 21-25. They would win the third and deciding sets by scores of 25-22 and 25-20 respectively.

Sydney Schultz and Lexi Langeland were the beneficiaries of Kubista's big night, registering 18 kills apiece.

Stats vs. Rochester JM

Kills
Kaitlyn Madole 1
Karissa Gregory 7
Lexi Langeland 18
Maddie Kubista 1
Syd Schultz 18
Tori Urch 7
Assists
Kubista 52
Digs
Devin Miller 1
Langeland 12
Kubista 2
Olivia Spatenka 10
Samantha Mundale 4
Schultz 2
Tate Peterson 8
Ace serves
Langeland 2
Kubista 1
Spantenka 1
Urch 1

Boys Cross Country

At the Jaguar All-Terrain challenge in Bloomington, the Huskies finished in second place behind Edina. Head coach Dave Chateline said it was a good mix up in terms of competition.

"This was a good meet for us on a nice course. It was nice to compete against schools from the Twin Cities, both public and private," he added.

Captain Braydon Kubat continues to have a strong season, bringing home a top ten finish (8th). Caedon McCartney and Ross Stevenson rounded out the top 20 with 19 and 20 place finishes respectively.

All of the Huskies' runner finshed within the top 45 runners.

Chateline said that the team will have their annual homecoming football run from Austin on Friday.

The Huskies will compete in The Berg Invitational-the team's first home meet of the season.

Results

Varsity:

Braydon Kubat	17:05
Caedon McCartney	17:29
Ross Stevensen	17:31
Bryce Knutson	17:39
Evan Steiger	17:47
Brett Ruiter	18:10
Steven St. Martin	18:14

JV:

Logan Bauer	18:37
Connor McCartney	18:41
Miles Kuhn	19:06
David Crawford	19:22
Jonh Beadell	20:28
Dylan Hoover	20:42
Jacob Pfeifer	21:14
Scott Kingland	21:39
Mark Kubista	21:59
Joey Brueggemeier	23:26
Landon Fumo	26:04

Girls Cross Country

The girls also competed at the Jaguar All-Terrain challenge in Bloomington. Out of 16 teams the Huskies took home a top 10 finish (8). Head coach Dan Leer said that he thought it was a solid performance.

"The girls raced pretty good today considering we just came off a race on Saturday in Milaca," he said.

Catrina Herr was the Lady Huskies top runner, taking home a 22 finish. In fact, every varsity runner finished near the top 50 with all but one runner finishing under the top 50 runners.

The junior varsity had a strong race as well, finishing second. Two notable JV runners were Payton Wunderlich, who gutted out a 21:38 and eighth grader Zinash Valen who ran a 22:19. Leer mentioned that both earned varsity spot for the Berg Invite Thursday.



Submitted photo by Seth Bedenbaugh-DeLap

In a few months, basketball season will be upon us. While he doesnt have to worry about his jumper changing, Bedenbaugh-DeLap will have to adjust to the changing of the new scenery for his senior year.

NOTHIN' BUT NET



SETH BEDENBAUGH-DELAP

New place, same game

After a 600 mile move, I have become an Awesome Blossom.

Coming from Greenville, Michigan to Blooming Prairie, Minnesota for my senior year was something I could have never foreseen.

Nonetheless, I have landed here. Surrounded by farms, farms, and you guessed it; more farms.

But within this town is a community of kind and selfless people who really make this place feel like home, and not to mention they love their football.

And rightfully so, as this town has a football program with a rich tradition of winning and a talented coaching staff that you don't find commonly throughout high school sports.

However, coming from a basketball player, I'm trying to change the culture when it comes to this city's excitement for basketball.

As I prepare week-by-week for my senior season, this hangs over my head. While t'm training, I envision packed out Friday night games, with wild student sections. And although this is very important to me, there are larger tasks at hand.

When you move into a new program for your senior year, you are forced to fit into a roster of guys who have been playing together since possibly elementary school. This causes obvious potential problems right off the bat.

At this point I am only given months to fit into a team's chemistry that has been developed over years.

While everyone knows each other's tendencies on the court already, I'm not even for sure on all of their names yet. But despite my subtle fears for this coming season, I am more than ready to take the Gopher Conference by storm this winter.

I always set expectations high for myself, but this year everything seems that much more urgent. I have a city I need to prove myself to, and college coaches to prove myself to as I try to find my best fit for the next four years of my life,starting in the fall of 2017.

My high expectations don't end at me though. I'm also excited to play with the group of guys we have assembled. We have a solid foundation of upperclassmen leadership, paired with a very talented group of underclassmen that will be the cornerstone of success for the program for years to come.

It's safe to say that for me, basketball season couldn't come soon enough. My confidence going into this year is at an all-time high and it excites me to think that this year could create moments where I see all of my hard work come to fruition.

Most of all, I am anxious to see the support that we gather along the way from our community. We've all being working hard to try and put together a winning and memorable season for the great city of Blooming Prairie.

2016 Parade of Champions

A Salute to National 4-H Week October 2th - 8th

4-H Environmental Science Champions



L to R: Derek Klecker, Marcus Rysavy, Charlie Tucker, Carson Ahrens, Sean O'Brien, Emily Keck, Bailey Keck
Not Pictured: Elliot Rysavy

4-H Creative Expressions Champions



Front Row L to R: Zach Kubicek, Anton Schroeder, Charlie Tucker, Joshua Bluhm, Katlyn Schubert, Bo Zwiener
Back Row L to R: Luke Kubicek, Kalyn Naatz, Baylee Sorensen, Greta Jacobson, Katla Michaelson
Not Pictured: Gabriel Rysavy, Grace Arthur, Elliot Rysavy

4-H Horse Champions



L to R: Sierra Larson, Gabrielle Trenda, Alexa Sommers, Katla Michaelson, Grace Wolfe, Brooke Purrier, Ava Wolfe
Not Pictured: McKinsy Rew, Emily Dahlin

4-H Sheep Champions



Front Row L to R: Casey Chambers, Alex Kindseth, Kalli Nelson, Annabelle Petsinger, Halle Underwood
Back Row L to R: Lanie Rieck, Kaden Nelson, Holly Larson, Lydia Kath, Lynn Larson, Lauren Arthur, Noah Loveless
Not Pictured: Riley Arthur

4-H Beef Champions



Front Row L to R: Brenna Clarey, Kalyn Naatz, Katelyn Rypka, Morgan Styndl, Ethan Arett, Lex Lewison
Back Row L to R: Joseph Stransky, Madilyn Styndl, Elly Buck, Jacob Katzung

4-H Mechanical Science Champions



L to R: Jace Katzung, Kiara Gentz, Matthew Seykora, Michael Kanne
Not Pictured: Elliot Rysavy, Oliver Hansen

4-H Swine Champions



L to R: Bailey Kruesel, Mariah Schroht, Jenna Klecker, McKenna Schroht, Lexi Steckelberg
Not Pictured: Abby Wilker

4-H Social & Community Development Champions



L to R: Cole Sheehan, Alexis Klecker, Kiara Gentz, Andrew Skov, Anton Schroeder, Gabriel Dahle
Not Pictured: Oliver Hansen, Sarah Manderfeld, Abigail Bendorf, Brianna O'Connor

4-H Goat Champions



Front Row L to R: Scott Johnson, Finley Loveless, Carson Ahrens, Beth Ann Hanson, Kallen Hoffmann, Greta Jacobson
Back Row L to R: Zach Finholdt, Aaron Dahlin, Mikayla Spinler
Not Pictured: Sarah Manderfeld, Trevor Hiatt

4-H Home & Leisure Arts Champions



Front Row L to R: Kiara Gentz, Ali Slater, Greta Jacobson, Lauren Arthur
Back Row L to R: Brody Jensen, Marissa Larson, Mikayla Spinler
Not Pictured: Brianna O'Connor, Elizabeth Karl, Jessica Willette

4-H Dog Champions



Front Row L to R: Cole Sheehan, Morgan Styndl, Beth Ann Hanson, Katla Michaelson, Tristan Simon, Marisa Wagaman
Back Row L to R: Amelia Manderfeld, Kayla Crawford, Madilyn Styndl, Anthony Manderfeld, Alexa Sommers, Bailey Purrier

4-H AG Science Champions



Front Row L to R: Ethan Prokopec, Alex Kindseth, Ruth Weckman, Carson Ahrens, Kiara Gentz, Lucy Paschke, Charlea Underwood
Back Row L to R: Hunter Jensen, William Behne, Logan Stenzel, Mikayla Spinler

4-H Home & Leisure Arts Champions



L to R: Nicole Behne, Beth Ann Hanson, Hailey Rysavy, Anna Mollenhauer, Baylee Sorensen, Derek Klecker, Lauren Arthur

4-H Animal Science Champions



L to R: Sierra Larson, Alex Kindseth, Lydia Kath, Melanie Winzenburg, Erin O'Brien, Katelyn Rysavy
Not Pictured: Austin Mundt

4-H Rabbit Champions



Front Row L to R: Elizabeth Roesner, Carson Ahrens
Back Row L to R: Nicole Behne, Holly Larson, Lexie Ignaszewski for Cole Ignaszewski, Tristan Simon, Jarrett Larson, Marissa Larson
Not Pictured: Nikolas Petsinger

CONTINUED WITH MORE OF THE PARADE OF CHAMPIONS WITH THREE MORE CHAMPIONS ON PAGE 5B

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Tuesdays with Minnesota



Staff photo by Tawni Hammer

Tuesday was the perfect example of fall weather. It was cloudy all day without the sun peeking out but a few short times and a high of 64. Winds were high. There is still evidence of the flooding that happened earlier in the week all over the area. This photo was taken just south of Clarks Grove.

Steele County Times
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City Hydrant Flushing

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All city fire hydrants in Blooming Prairie will be flushed on Mon., Tues., Wed. and Thurs, October 10-13, beginning at 7:30 a.m. and continuing until 4 p.m., weather permitting.Flushing of hydrants can cause some rust to come out of pipes in areas; particularly where the water system is not looped.



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PARADE OF CHAMPIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B

2016 Parade of Champions

A Salute to National 4-H Week October 2th - 8th

4-H Poultry Champions



Front Row L to R: McKenna Melby, Alia Kubicek, Grace Logan, Kallen Hoffmann, Annabelle Petsinger
Back Row L to R: Alivia Kubista, Graham Kyllo, Kalyn Naatz, Marisa Wagaman, Brandon Peeters

Not Pictured: Evan Melby, Cameron Deml

4-H Dairy Champions



Front Row L to R: Samantha Fredin, Jerome Stransky, Marcus Rysavy, Maggie Bruns, Madi Murphy, Kiya Erler, Jack Bruns, Courtney Kath, Bobbie Bruns
Back Row L to R: Lacey Nelson, Anthony Manderfeld, Afton Nelson, Hannah Mundt, Zach Stransky, Abby Haberman, Jarrett Larson, Amelia Manderfeld, Arica Kath
Not Pictured: Sarah Manderfeld, Austin Mundt, Kelton Erler

4-H Llama Champions



Pictured: Cameron Deml Not Pictured: Chloe Garten

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Public Safety

Blotter spotlight: Vandalism. On Sept. 25, deputy took a report of a vandalized camper in the 54500 block of 237th Ave. in West Concord at 8:08 a.m.

Crime brief

Two officers assaulte in unrelated incidents

A pair of Owatonna officers was assaulted in unrelated incidents involving people who didn't want to go to jail.

In the first incident, officers responded to the 100 block of East Vine Street on Sept. 23 to assist a parole officer with a urine analysis test for Natalie Moe, 31. Police heard Moe yelling when her parole officer said he was issuing an Apprehension and Detention Order.

According to police, Moe began to resist after she had been repeatedly told she was under arrest. Following orders to stop resisting or face the possibility of getting tased, she complied and exited the house where she kicked one officer in the chest area and attempted to run.

Moe has been charged with fourth-degree assault to a peace officer, which is a gross misdemeanor.

In the second incident, police received information about a man who is a wanted fugitive. On Sept. 24, officers went to Skyline Gardens Trailer Park to arrest Sergio Vargas, police said.

Vargas allegedly sprung a back door open and attempted to leap over the top of the officer. In doing so, the officer tried to tackle Vargas mid-air, carrying them both to the ground. Police said Vargas' kicks struck the officer in the chest, face and head and he was able to squirm himself free to run and scale a nearby fence.

Police later arrested Vargas during a high-risk traffic stop near the Owatonna Airport. Vargas has been charged with felony fourh-degree assault to a peace officer due to demonstrable bodily harm.



Natalie Moe,



Sergio Vargas

Police blotter
Steele County

Blooming Prairie Police
Sept. 24

Vandalism. Officer took a report of property damage in the city at 4:14 a.m.

Sept. 28

Assault. At 6:21 p.m., police responded to an assault in the city.

Owatonna Police
Sept. 23

Fraud. A citizen reported being the victim of a fraud incident in the 600 block of 22nd St. NE at 9:35 a.m.

Vulnerable Adult. Officer took a report of a vulnerable adult in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 2:53 p.m.

Assist. Police assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 1000 block of Vine St. E. at 4:22 p.m.

Hit and Run. Police received information regarding a hit and run crash in the 700 block of Bridge St. W. at 4:20 p.m.

Probation. At 8:29 p.m., a probation violation occurred in the 500 block of 15th St. NE.

Sept. 24

Warrants. Police arrested subjects for an outstanding warrant in the 2100 block of 3rd Ave. NW at 8:24 a.m. and in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 4:09 p.m.

Thefts. Thefts occurred in the 300 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 8:07 a.m. and in the 200 block of Mill St. W. at 12:50 p.m.

Fight. Police responded to a fight at Cedar Ave. S. and School St. E. at 5:20 p.m. They issued a citation.

Child Protection. At 5:06 p.m., police received a child protection report from the 2700 block of 3rd Ave. NE.

Vehicle Pursuit. Officers engaged in a vehicle pursuit at 18th St. NE and Cedar Ave. N. at 7:59 p.m. They made an arrest.

Sept. 25

Drunken Driving. Officer made a DWI arrest on Interstate 35 southbound at 12:24 a.m.

Animal. At 3:23 p.m., police responded to an animal call in the 2200 block of 26th St. NW.

Theft. Officer took a theft report in the 100 block of Oak Ave. S. at 3:42 p.m.

Suspicion. Police responded to a suspicious activity report in the 100 block of 18th St. NE. They arrested a juvenile at the scene.

Sept. 26

Property. Property was found in the 600 block of Bridge St. W. at 3:41 a.m.

Warrant. At 3:43 p.m., police arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 100 block of Main St. E.

Juvenile. Police received a juvenile complaint from the 300 block of Grove Ave. S. at 4:32 p.m.

Domestic. Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 400 block of St. Paul Place NE at 7:34 p.m. They took a subject into custody.

Sept. 27

Warrants. Warrant arrests occurred in the 400 block of State Ave. NW at 10:21 a.m., in the 600 block of 23rd St. NE at 2:35 p.m. and at Clearview Place NW and Riverside Ave. NW at 10:49 p.m.

Domestic. Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of Bridge St. W. at 11:10 a.m. They arrested a subject.

Hit and Run. A hit and run crash resulting in property damage occurred in the 800 block of 17th St. SE at 4:37 p.m.

Child Protection. Officer took a child protection report in the 2200 block of 26th St. NW at 11:01 p.m.

Sept. 28

Thefts. Police took theft reports in the 1500 block of St. Paul Rd. NE at 12:08 p.m. and in the 400 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 1:21 p.m.

Arrest. Officer arrested a motorist following a traffic stop at 16th St. NE and St. Paul Place NE at 9:44 p.m.

Sept. 29

Thefts. Police took theft reports in the 300 block of School St. E. at 6:24 a.m., in the 500 block of Broadway St. E. at 8:02 a.m. and in the 1300 block of Cottage Lane SE at 8:29 a.m.

Trespassing. At 7:46 p.m., police responded to a trespassing incident in the 300 block of Mineral Springs Rd. NE. They issued a citation to a subject.

Steele County Sheriff
Sept. 23

Warrants. Deputies made warrant arrests at the detention center at 2:24 a.m. and in the 100 block of Main St. E. at 10:03 a.m.

Crash. At 3:04 a.m., deputy responded to a motor vehicle accident in the 11400 block of 42nd Ave. SW.

Traffic. Deputies arrested a motorist following a traffic stop in the 11000 block of County Rd. 3 at 6:34 p.m.

Sept. 24

Kidnapping. At 11:43 a.m., deputies responded to a report of kidnapping in the 8700 block of 37th Ave. SW.

Sept. 26

Theft. Deputy took a theft report in the 3900 block of Hwy. 30 W. at 12:05 p.m.

Warrants. Deputies made warrant arrests in the 100 blocks of Main St. E. at 2:44 p.m. and at 4:17 p.m.

Sept. 27

Suspicion. At 9:49 a.m., deputies responded to a suspicious activity report in the 9600 block of 48th St. SW.

Sept. 29

Death. Deputies began a death investigation in the 15900 block of 22nd Ave. SW at 2:03 a.m.

Child Protection. At 10:49 a.m., deputy took a child protection report on Margaret Place SE.

Arrest. Deputies arrested a subject in the 6800 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 7:38 p.m.

Court news
Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of Sept. 19 with Judge Thomas M. Neuville presiding:

Justin R. Luhman, 26, Mankato, previously appeared and was convicted of felony controlled substance crime. He was sentenced to $131, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, enter Drug Court and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Sept. 19 – 23:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Danny Le, 21, Austin, expired tabs, $111; Aaron T. Morgan, 21, Austin, expired license, $181.

MN Dept. of Natural Resources

Falconer R. Bellefy, 21, Owatonna, suspended license and no insurance, $481; Margaret A. Baker, 69, Newport, RI, speeding, $131; Carol J. Cloud, 51, Savage, speeding, $131; George M. Deible, 54, Fenwick, MI, seat belt, $106; Manuel L. Dominguez, 28, Faribault, revoked license, $281; Rebecca S. Draper-Stuck, 66, St. Joseph, MO, speeding, $141; Jessica L. Elmer, 41, Albert Lea, expired registration, $111; Royvone D. Eskridge, 22, St. Paul, speeding and revoked license, $321; Adam J. Guptill, 22, North Branch, speeding, $121; Lori L. Hannam, 54, Webster, speeding, $121; Jessica J. Hobson, 28, Maple Grove, speeding, $121; Ken Huo, 54, Naperville, IL, no current medical certificate in possession, $181; Ny-Yisha S. Jackson, 33, New Braunfels, TX, speeding, $131; Lindsey A. Johnson, 32, Circle Pines, speeding, $131; Logan A. Johnson, 20, Owatonna, suspended license and seat belt, $306; Kristopher T. Karpen, 24, Minneapolis, revoked license and possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, $381; Brandi K. Kolbrek, 18, Hartford, SD, speeding, $141; Jenna L. Langstaff, 25, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Steven R. Martin, 61, Claremont, tail lights violation, $121; Laura J. Marty, 51, Lakefield, suspended license, $281; Nimo A. Omar, 33, Rochester, speeding, $141; Manuel Parra, 20, Donna, TX, speeding, $131; Emilia O. Piche, 46, Sioux Falls, SD, speeding, $221; Antonlina S. Pineda, 54, Wells, seat belt, $106; Colby J. Reich, 31, Owatonna, speeding, $381; Roberto F. Rocha, 26, Rose Creek, seat belt and tandem axle weight violation, $706; Ryan M. Rust, 23, Lyle, revoked license, $281; Marie E. Squires, 82, Mankato, driving wrong way on one way street, $181; Jeremy M. Theis, 27, Minnetonka, speeding and no insurance, $341; Sara C. Ullman, 31, Hastings, speeding, $121; Felipe D. Villeda-Galvez, 58, Wells, seat belt, $106; Hugh J. Wildish, 58, Slinger, WI, speeding and falsified entries in log book, $431; Tommy Yang, 21, Brooklyn Park, revoked license, $281.

Owatonna Police Department

Jared L. Aas, 42, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, $481; Cody J. Altepeter, 23, Owatonna, revoked license, $281; Jacob A. Bangs, 16, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Gattiek T. Chol, 27, Mankato, open bottle, $181; Sandra J. Christensen, 59, Owatonna, failure to yield, $121; Robert L. Dodge, 34, LeSeuer, controlled substance crime, $81, 30 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 5 years of supervised probation; Sara A. Jensen, 39, Faribault, shoplifting, $131, 2 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Vincent Johnny, 26, Austin, disorderly conduct and revoked license, $412, 2 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Desiree N. Klemp, 21, Owatonna, no license, $181; Manuel D. Lara Dominguez, 28, Faribault, expired license, $181; Rachel A. Madson, 40, Owatonna, revoked license, $281; Brandon J. Marquardt, 31, Omaha, NE, give peace officer false information, $214.54 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Maria D. Martinez, 32, Claremont, no child passenger restraint system, $131; Daniel W. Miller, 54, Owatonna, expired tabs and no insurance, $311; Richard A. Miller, 39, Owatonna, no license, $181; Richard M. Olson, 54, Ellendale, speeding, $131; Heather M. Saurer, 33, Zimmerman, theft, 6 days in county jail; Tyler R. Schiller, 32, Owatonna, seat belt and improper information on license, $126; Brandy G. Schmitt, 19, Owatonna, suspended registration and no insurance, $581; Benjamin L. Stockwell, 31, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Sahra M. Sugal, 46, Owatonna, no license in possession, $101.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Khadar M. Abdullahi, 23, Faribault, speeding, $141; Khaled A. Almazro, 21, La Crosse, WI, speeding, $141; Levi A. Anderson, 20, Waltham, speeding, $141; Jody A. Arndt, 55, Waseca, speeding, $121; Crysannia M. Baumer, 28, Shakopee, speeding, $121; Tiffany J. Bobo, 25, New Ulm, speeding, $141; Peter M. Dumas, 32, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Brody A. Ernewein, 23, Janesville, expired tabs, $111; Mohamed H. Hassannuur, 18, Faribault, invalid license, $131; Daniel P. Hein, 53, Faribault, speeding, $121; Donald H. Hoerle, 53, Oronoco, speeding, $121; Tangelia P. Jones, 32, Austin, speeding, $131; Jamie I. Jordan, 25, Charlotte, NC, speeding, $141; Caleb K. Korpi, 40, Claremont, speeding, $121; Anthony M. Lance, 27, Claremont, speeding, $141; Jason S. Marik, 28, Faribault, revoked license and speeding, $341; Daniel W. Miller, 54, Owatonna, no insurance, $281; Chas D. Nelson, 23, Ellendale, suspended registration, no insurance and speeding, $641; Cheven J. Paul, 22, Bismarck, ND, passing parked emergency vehicle, $131; Corlyn J. Peters, 71, Owatonna, failure to stop for accident, $181 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Matthew J. Peters, 29, revoked license, $281; Diana Sahagun, 21, West Concord, speeding, $121; Alan R. Schaefer, 55, Blooming Prairie, speeding, $121; Brianna M. Sheehan, 27, S Abington Township, PA, passing parked emergency vehicle, $131; Christopher M. Slater, 43, Owatonna, burning prohibited materials, $281; Igor L. Soares, 22, Austin, speeding, $121; Kevin D. Springborg, 59, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Thomas A. Swift, 43, Farmington, speeding, $121; Gage M. Thomas, 21, Bloomington, speeding, $100; Robert H. Tronnier, 19, Mankato, speeding, $121; Corey J. Vanthomme, 35, Waterville, revoked license.

Police blotter
Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office handled 191 complaints during the week of Sept. 21 – 27. Some of them include:

Sept. 21

Tampering. At 7:01 a.m., a citizen reported that two locked vehicles had been pried open and rummaged through in the 200 block of Central Ave. N. in Dodge Center.

Larceny. A bike was reported stolen from the 800 block of Hwy. St. W. in Dodge Center at 2:52 p.m.

Civil. Deputy assisted with a civil matter in the 200 block of Oak St. N. in Claremont at 6:37 p.m.

Sept. 22

Sexual Assault. Deputies began an investigation of a sexual assault in the county at 10:57 a.m.

Animal. A Hayfield citizen reported that her neighbor's dog was on her property in the 71600 block of 210th Ave. at 4:41 p.m.

Carbon Monoxide. Deputies responded to a carbon monoxide alarm in the 16800 block of 739th St. in Hayfield at 11:12 p.m.

Sept. 24

Noise. At 9:30 p.m., deputies received a noise complaint from the 71400 block of 130th Ave. in Blooming Prairie.

Sept. 25

Suspicion. At 12:24 a.m., the shed door was open at the wind farm in the 65700 block of State Hwy. 56 in Dodge Center.

Suspicion. Deputies responded to suspicious activity at 1st St. SE and 4th Ave. SE in Hayfield at 1:03 a.m.

Larceny. At 4:35 p.m., campaign signs were stolen from the 1300 block of 5th St. NW in Dodge Center.

Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance regarding a female who wouldn't leave a property in the 200 block of Main St. E. in Dodge Center at 5:33 p.m.

Sept. 26

Burglary. At 11:24 a.m., deputies responded to a burglary in the 57700 block of State Hwy. 57 in Mantorville. Roughly $1,000 worth of tools were taken from a shed.

Sept. 27

Vandalism. Deputy took a report of a mailbox pulled out of the ground in the 74900 block of 270th Ave. in Hayfield at 6:06 a.m.

Intoxication. At 5:25 p.m., deputies responded to an incident regarding an intoxicated individual in the 400 block of East St. N. in Claremont.

Court news
Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Sept. 19 – 26:

Dodge County Sheriff's Office

Jose E. Arreguin Tapia, 19, Kasson, suspended license, $280; James J. Breeden, 56, Winnebago, cancelled license, $280; Jesus A. Davila, 30, Dodge Center, domestic assault, $380, domestic abuse evaluation, no contact with victim and 1 year of supervised probation; Lois K. Dixon, 70, Johnston, IA, speeding, $140; Brice R. Gilbertson, 27, Elkton, speeding, $280; Robert W. Gillies, 51, West Concord, possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, $180; Molly B. Jensen, 29, Kasson, speeding, $120; Matthew D. Kaehler, 45, Kasson, parking violation, $32; Rigo E. Lopez-Macias, 23, West Concord, invalid license and failure to drive in single lane, $230; Sergio Maya Rueda, 17, Owatonna, speeding, $220; Joseph M. McCaffrey, 32, Rochester, speeding, $140; Joshua M. Momany, 17, Rochester, speeding, $120; Javier S. Ortiz, 21, Rochester, invalid license and stop sign, $230; Dennis J. Posey, 50, Hartland, DWI, $685, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, 50 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Francisque C. Tate, 44, Rochester, speeding, $140; Nicholas J. Tindal, 27, Waltham, suspended license, $280; Erik F. Torres-Amacende, 25, Dodge Center, no license in possession, no insurance and failure to yield, $350.

Kasson Police Department

Peter M. Alsleben, 37, Hayfield, seat belt, $105; Brandon M. Mendoza, 25, Dodge Center,

The following individuals as they have active warrants in Steele County.
The sheriff makes this information available as a public service.

ACTIVE WARRANTS
Disclosing active warrants promotes public safety and aids in the identification & apprehension of those individuals wanted on a warrant.

- Lance Evan – DWI - $12,000 bail
- Travis Farris – theft – no bail
- Stephen Fehring – theft - $500 bail
- Romero Fernandez – criminal sexual conduct - $200,000 bail
- Oscar Ferrera – DWI – no bail
- Terry Fink – disorderly conduct – no bail
- Raymond Fleming – DWI – no bail
- Luis Flores – traffic - $100 ba
- Rogelio Flores – DWI, revoked license - $12,000 bail
- Jose Flores Redondo – domestic assault - $500 bail
- Daniel Freese – traffic - $500 ba
- Melinda Fuentes – no insurance - $1,000 bail
- Jeremy Gabby – revoked license - $500 bail
- Albino Gallegos-Garza – false name - $6,000 bail
- Anthony Galloway – DWI – no bail
- Reginaldo Galvan – DWI - $12,000 bail
- Raymond Garavito – DWI - $1,000 bail
- Arthur Garcia – theft - $500 bail
- Ezequiel Garcia – failure to register as sex offender – no bai
- Zalvador Garcia – burglary – no bail

PUBLIC SAFETY

Continued from page 6B

no insurance, $280; Melinda K. Mergen, 42, Dodge Center, texting while driving, $130; Joshua T. Schroeder, 32, Rochester, seat belt, $105.

MN State Patrol
Rochester

Said B. Ali, 27, New Brighton, speeding, stay of adjudication, $120 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Adam J. Ayotte, 23, St. Paul, speeding, $120; Jeremiah A. Benson, 17, Zumbrota, speeding, $220; Leah S. Jones, 26, White Bear Lake, revoked license, $280; Richard E. Moen, 71, Winger, seat belt, $105; Byram J. Nash, 27, Rochester, speeding, $130; Juan A. Ochoa, 40, Claremont, speeding and suspended license, $330; Kourtney C. Terrell, 33, Maplewood, possession of paraphernalia, $130.

Arrest
Steele County

Owatonna Police

Chris Anthony Vruno, 29, arrested at 4:15 p.m. Sept. 26, violation of order for protection warrant arrest, $10,000 bail.

Ryan Andrew Boston, 31, arrested at 7:50 p.m. Sept. 26, false name and order for protection violation, held for court.

Justin Lee Himle, 21, arrested at 11:45 a.m. Sept. 27, domestic assault/assault, held for court.

Faithful Ruth Hill, 37, arrested at 11 p.m. Sept. 27, warrant arrest, $500 bail.

Steele County

Caly Marie Stockwell, 26, arrested at 4 p.m. Sept. 26, warrant arrest, $2,000 bail.

Zachary Michael Wellentin, 29, already in custody, warrant arrest, $50,000 bail.

Terrance Mersheak Harris, 23, arrested at 4:37 p.m. Sept. 29, theft warrant arrest, $500 bail.

Mark Andrew Halberg, 49, arrested at 8:12 p.m. Sept. 29, probation warrant arrest, held for court.

Owatonna Fire

Sept. 23

Burning. Fire fighters responded to an unauthorized burning in the 300 block of Park St. SE at 8:11 a.m.

Sept. 24

Burning. At 2 p.m., an unauthorized burning occurred in the 400 block of Kelly St. NW.

Spill. Fire personnel responded to a gasoline or other flammable liquid spill in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 4:31 p.m.

Sept. 27

Crash. Fire rescue responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on 13th St. at 6:54 p.m.

Sept. 28

Gas Leak. At 4:08 p.m., a natural gas leak occurred in the 400 block of 16th St. NE.

Blooming Prairie dugouts get upgrade



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie Elementary School principal Chris Staloch works on the blooming prairie baseball field dugouts. He s helping construct the cement walls that will giev the dugouts a much appreciated facelift.



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

The Owatonna Art Center is expanding its current display of Pat Cox quilts to inculde several more. The newest additions were waiting on the arrival of a new display structure that came last week. The quilts should be avsilsble for viewing later this week.

Pat Cox quilt exhibit expanded

Road closure in Owatonna

BY EMILY SHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Beginning on Oct. 3, Freemont Street in Owatonna will be closed for repairs. Maintenance is needed on the railroad bridge.

Traffic detour signs are being posted to assist residents in finding alternative routes. .

The maintenance is estimated to last about 10 days, and the road will remained closed throughout the repairs.



Submitted photo

An aerial view of Freemont Street's railroad bridge. The repairs shoudl take about 10 days.

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ANTIQUES
3-pc. bedroom set with double bed and chest of drawers, kneehole dresser w/mirror – Cedar chest – Walnut square dining table w/5 chairs, 1 captain and matching buffet (nice) – Gateleg table – (4) Round-back chairs – Telephone stand – Cup and saucer rack – Oil lamp – Christmas plates – Old radios – Beveled wall mirror – Doilies – (6) Green depression glass – Ruby glass goblets – Bubble glass – Vaseline bowl – Bavaria egg plate – Misc. stone bowls – Chenille bedspread – 1947 Wm. Roger silver set – Small oak desk – (2) Large trunks – Pens and pencils – Wrought iron floor lamp – Small Wainscot cabinet – Metal kitchen cabinet – 3-pc. Envoy luggage set – (3) Oriental rugs, (1) 2'x4', (1) 4'x6', (1) 9'x12', all good – Golf clubs and bag – Set of (8) Spode Jewel dishes – Framed Manolita Puyet painting "oil painting" (on board) – J.L. Foster fl wer picture (oil painting) framed – Walnut chair and matching footstool – Many other great items by auction day.

AUCTIONEER'S COMMENT: Dorothy liked to knit and sew. She has many nice items to sell. Don't miss out on this auction. Thanks, Dennis.

TERMS: Cash or good check with proper ID, and major credit cards with 4% processing fee. Everything must be paid for on auction day. Not responsible for accidents. Verbal announcements take precedence over all printed material. All items sell as-is.

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Steele County Times
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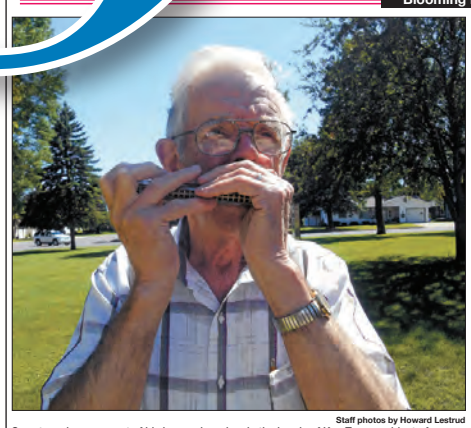
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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWS JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER!

6 National journalistic awards of excellence

Congratulations to the Steele County Times on capturing 6 NATIONAL journalistic awards of excellence at last week's National Newspaper Association convention in Tennessee.

HOMETOWN**EXTRA**
Blooming Prairie



Staff photos by Howard Lestrud

Sweet music comes out of his harmonica when in the hands of Ken Trom, resident of Udolpho Township. He played the harmonica for his fellow soldiers when he served in the U.S. Army in Korea in 1954-55.

His harmonica is a part of his daily life



By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

In a cavern, In a canyon,
Excavating for a mine,
Dwelt a miner forty-niner,
And his daughter Clementine.

Chorus:
Oh my darling, Oh my darling,
Oh my darling Clementine,
You are lost and gone forever,
Dreadful sorry Clementine.

Put a harmonica in his hands and the old western folk ballad, "Oh My Darling, Clementine" comes to life. "That doggone music is something you can use all your life," says Udolpho Township resident Ken Trom, 80.

Trom has been accused of hiding his musical talent until just recently, when he was part of a musical group that performed at a Blooming Prairie flower show. Trom also brought out his harmonica and played at a Norwegian celebration this summer in Willmar.

Admitting to playing one or more of his seven harmonicas every day, Trom said "the music becomes part of you."

Trom learned to play the harmonica as a young lad growing up on a farm near Blooming Prairie. He learned his talent listening to music note by note and "putting them all together."

He also packed a harmonica in his bags when he left for the Korean War in 1954 to serve the U.S. Army. It was during times in a tent that he entertained some of his fellow Army troops. "There were about nine of us who would sing and make music," Trom recalls.

Three of Trom's brothers, Ralph, Charles and Richard, served in World War II. Trom and brother Lloyd served in the Korean War. Trom has two other brothers, Gene and Lowell.

Trom's first exposure to the harmonica came when he was about 10 years old. He recalls his brother Charles sending a box of souvenirs from Germany. The box contained three harmonicas. Trom said he commandeered one, a Hohner chromatic push-button harmonica.

"I just kept playing one tune at a time until it sounded good," Trom said. He taped his harmonica music and has continued to do that to the present day. "I never learned to read notes," Trom confessed.

Trom bought his first harmonica, a Hohner Echo Harp, at Kopet Music in Austin in 1948. He paid $7.95 for the 48-hole instrument. His last harmonica, a carbon copy of his first, was purchased this year and cost $168. One side contained the key of A and the other the key of D.

During his teenage years, Trom became more proficient at playing the harmonica. There was no way he was going to be separated from his eight-inch mouth organ when he enlisted in the Army. "That old draft board was closing in on me in 1954, and I decided to enlist in the Army," Trom related.

Trom and six of his Blooming Prairie friends enlisted with him. His fellow enlistees were: Dale Hanson, Bob Kruger, Jack Prokopec, Joe Prokopec, Vernon Strand and Eugene Lysne. Trom took basic training at Fort Riley, Kansas, and followed with advanced training at Fort Lee, Virginia. He then went directly to Inchon, South Korea.

Trom was eventually assigned to a supply company near Seoul, Korea. He spent nearly 18 months distributing cold weather gear to the troops. The fighting in the war actually ended in August of 1953, and Trom continued to serve during a time called the Korean Conflict (police action.) More than 300,000 American troops were deployed in Korea during the war, Trom said.

"We were so cotton-picking busy at the supply depot, and I believe this was as hard as I worked my entire life," Trom says. He reported for work early in the morning and did not return to his tent until midnight.

> "We needed lighter moments from the drudgery of our daily lives."
>
> *Ken Trom*
> *Local musician*

While on duty at the supply location, Trom remembers his unit battling pilferage from the Koreans. "We caught a lot of them breaking into our buildings," he said. "They were our friends, even though we were strangers in their land. They had nothing and got desperate."



To break the monotony of work at the supply camp, Trom would bring out his trusted harmonica, "the dented one," he said. He would play some folk ballads including "Clementine," "You Are My Sunshine," "Strawberry Roan" and "Red River Valley." He also would play some old-time polkas and waltzes, Trom said.

"It would get pretty noisy in our tent and I'm surprised we didn't catch heck from the guards," Trom laughs.

"We needed lighter moments from the drudgery of our daily lives," he said. He said his unit was lucky to have a Zenith trans-oceanic radio. "We could pick up the states," Trom said. That's when he picked up some other musical favorites, including "This Land is Your Land."

Trom's song list has grown over the years as he added some gospel tunes including "Just as I Am," "Shall We Gather at the River" and "My God and I." He has also added several patriotic tunes including the "Army Marching Song" and the "Marine Hymn." He said he has three more to learn, Air Force, Coast Guard and Navy. His Christmas tunes include "Joy to the World" and "Silent Night." Another favorite tune of his is "May I Sleep in Your Barn Tonight, Mister."

Last month, Trom played in a group at the Norwegian Hallinglag celebration in Willmar. His sister Darlene played the guitar, Gilmore Lee played guitar and violin and Ardis Knutson played the piano. Trom took his newest harmonica for this performance. "My old harmonica went flat on me," he revealed.

"It was all done in fun, and if you can't have fun, you might as well stay home," said Trom, a man not known to mince words.

Asked what his wife Gloria thinks of his musical talent, Trom replies quickly, "She thinks it's okay." The Troms were married in 1962. They live on 152 acres in the woods near the Cedar River.

Trom is a veteran of 42 years in farm credit and banking. He said some of his Korean friends were ones who urged him to go on to school when he was discharged from the Army. He remembers with fondness, a ceremonial rice bowl given to him by his Korean friends. It was decorated with artillery shell casings. Trom followed his friends' advice and went on to school, studying at Mankato State.

Trom is retired but stays active in business consulting, dedicating time to SCORE, an organization providing free and confidential business counseling tailored to meet the needs of small business and personal objectives.

Trom has also been involved in Vision 2020, a grassroots movement in Austin. Hundreds of volunteers are engaged with a variety of community organizations including government, business, non-profit and education to improve the quality of life by the year 2020.

When not active in business efforts, Trom picks up a harmonica and relaxes with some favorite tunes. Trom jokingly calls himself a "starving artist."



Ken Trom, 80, of Udolpho Township, loves to play the harmonica. He practices on his instrument almost daily and just recently has made a few public appearances. He owns seven harmonicas, his first one was purchased in 1948.



Staff photos by Rick Bussler

After fire ripped through Steve Jensen's home in Hope on March 2, his life partner, Chelsea, took off and was on the run across the county. The two were reunited three days later.

se funds for Big Brothers/Sisters

N cipient of one of the Gold Standard Awards r given out nationally. Fewer than 20 of the teenagers with an adult mentor.

Each of the honored "bigs" spoke briefly



Staff photos by Rick Bussler

Dana Standke has been coping with the loss of her right arm after an auger accident last November on her family's farm near Ellendale. She has had to learn how to do simple tasks like using her cell phone with just one hand since losing her arm. She will receive a prosthesis soon.



LIKE FATHER, LIKE DAUGHTER

Girl recovers from farm accident similar to her dad's years ago

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

The Ellendale girl is recovering at home after losing her right arm in a farm accident last fall.

Opinion

Our view

Police officers need body cams

A badge, uniform, weapon, Taser, handcuffs and radio have long been standard issued items for police officers. It's time to add body cams to the arsenal of police.

Body cameras are exactly what they sound like—camera devices mounted to the bodies of police officers. They are most often worn

of college at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

I should be prepared for this as I sent my daughter off to college two years ago. But guess what? I, admittedly, don't do well with these types of things. I quickly become an emotional puddle. Unprepared is probably the best way to describe this father.

I don't know why it should be so hard, but once again, just like it was with my daughter, I struggled to cope with the loss of a child officially escaping into adulthood. It's a bittersweet moment for a father like me who has shared a special bond with his children. Sweet, in the sense that Caleb is heading off to a great school to pursue a business degree. It's something that I have worked hard at for years to ensure for him. I feel a sense of accomplishment to see him breeze into this new chapter of his life.

But then, there's the bitter part. It's hard to let go after 18 plus years of being side-by-side supporting and nurturing my son in everything he's done. For the past several years, my son has been extremely independent and capable of handling himself in

versity, and it has helped shape him into the wonderful young adult he has become.

As a parent, it has been difficult to watch all of this unfold. However, the adversities have been defining moments in my son's life, and he has risen to the challenge of coping with them and turning life's darkest moments into a solid foundation for what's ahead.

Though he's not always the most talkative, at least when it comes to me, my son is one of the sweetest and most caring people I know. I have been going through some personal struggles recently, and Caleb has been the one to keep me well grounded in who I am and what I'm all about. It's certainly not an easy task for a teenager.

A few months ago I found a handwritten note scrolled on a bright yellow piece of paper from Caleb. It had been stuffed in my briefcase. I didn't find it until I got to work. It read: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Don't forget this. Hope





ESCAPING DOMESTIC ABUSE

Victim finds hope after learning how to become a butterfly

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

She's had her life threatened, she's suffered physical abuse and she's lost two human beings prematurely.

Herminia Becker of Owatonna has endured years of domestic violence at the hands of two different husbands. During a recent interview that at times became emotionally charged, Becker shared how domestic abuse has impacted her life.

"I was like a caterpillar that was never able to fly," Becker said in describing her marriages that were often times abusive. "No one knew what was going on in the inside."

Becker admits she did her best to try and hide the abuse that she was experiencing over the years. She often put on a front making it seem as if everything was fine. "Nobody knew anything was wrong," she said. "They thought I was this perfect person. I knew how to keep things covered up."

The cover-up included hiding the behavior of her abusive husband. But inside the abuse was taking an emotional toll on her. And soon the physical abuse be-

> "I was like a caterpillar that was never able to fl . No one knew what was going on in the inside."
>
> *Herminia Becker*
> *Domestic abuse victim*

dumb and acted like she didn't know where it came from. "I denied it. I wouldn't say how I got it," she said, adding her husband had caused it by throwing her down during a physical altercation.

After dating her husband for only two months, the two were married in Texas before moving to Minnesota a few months later. "He insisted that we get married," Becker recalls. "I never knew the red flags back then."

The marriage was blessed with five



Top right, then clockwise:

Honorable Mention
Best Feature Story - *Howard Lestrud's September 2015 feature story on Kenny Trom showcasing a love for playing the harmonica.*

Honorable Mention
Best Breaking News Story - *Rick Bussler's March 2015 story on a man from Hope who survived a house fi e and was reunited with his dog after it fled f om the blaze.*

3rd Place
Best Feature Story - *Rick Bussler's February 2015 story on a Steele County girl dealing with the loss of an arm from a farm accident.*

3rd Place
Best Editorial - *A March 2015 editorial pushing local police agencies to get body cameras for officer*

2nd Place
Community Service Award - *Last fall's series on domestic violence in Steele County.*

3rd Place
Best Serious Column - *Rick Bussler's September 2015 Hot Pursuit Column on the emotional ambush he suffe ed with his son going off to college for the first time*

The real winners are our readers who benefit from award-winning hometown news every week!

Steele County Times
Always local, all the time.

Hometown Living
C Section www.steeledodgenews.com Tuesday, October 4, 2016

County board talks buildings and budget

BY EMILY SHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

On Sept. 27 the Steele County Board meeting convened.

The board first considered approving a two different permits from the Department of planning and zoning. The first was having the Holland gravel pit permit re-approved. The original agreement was 240 acres. 80 acres have since been transferred to a different owner, but 160 acres now remaining needed to have its permit updated. The pit moves an average of 5,000 yards of gravel a year. There were no public comments on it at the public hearing, and it was approved with a few new conditions including limiting its daily hours and placing it on a five-year rotation for examination, so its permit can be regularly reapproved.

The second permit was to approve the building of a swine barn by Hazel Creek Ag in the county. No environmental issues were found in an environmental report done on the site. A public hearing did raise concerns of smell and odor, but the permit was approved on the particular condition that a hedge of arborvitae be planted on the west side of barn.

The levy recommendations for 2017 were approved. Once the recommendations are approved the board may lower them for the actual levy numbers, but they cannot raise them above the accepted recommendations.

The contract for the demolition of 1903 SE 44Ave for right of way purpose was approved.

The council approved a new electrical drive for the local detention center with the hopes of being more energy efficient.

Funds to improve The Bohemian Cemetery with driveway repairs were approved. The cost of repairs is $18,500, but it will have zero budget impact, as the council is just authorizing the cemetery to use funds they were already holding for them.

The preliminary budget discussion began. The budget highlights include increasing out of home placements and drug treatment, slowing down and stopping unsustainable trends, increasing the number of full time equivalents (FTE) by 10, and reclassifying the four seasons from an enterprise fund to a general government fund. Health premiums will increase by 12.5 percent, but this is considered an improvement against non-co-opt prices that increased closer to 25 percent.

The budget adopted in 2016 equaled $22,439,153. The 2017 preliminary budget is $22,908,881. The resolution passed, so Dec. 13 at 6:00 p.m. a public hearing will be held for residences' comments and concerns. The county meeting to adopt the 2017 budget will immediately follow the hearing. Nina Huntington requested that every committee board make a presentation before the county board prior to the hearing, if they are requesting new FTE's for the coming budget. James A. Brady concurred saying he would actually like to see the current number of FTE's cut by three.

The floor was then opened to public comment. One agitated man expressed his concern over the continual spending by the board. He said, "This crap of giving everybody everything they want has to stop."

A man concerned about the flooding in the Hope Township followed him. He said the county's poor water engineering causes Hope's water problems, and the county needs to address it. "The county should be prioritizing this," the man said. Commissioner Corky said the issue had been addressed at a Monday meeting.

The board reported absentee voting has started for the November elections, and a steady flow of people are coming to vote.

Tobbacco troubles youth



JANE NYQUIST

Tobacco is still a problem in Minnesota, especially for young people. Two actions that would significantly help protect youth from the harms of tobacco include raising the minimum age to purchase tobacco to 21 and increasing the price of cheap, flavored tobacco products that are easily accessible and appealing to youth.

Two states – Hawaii and California – and almost 200 cities and counties across the country have raised the age to purchase tobacco to 21. Last month, Ann Arbor, Mich., raised the minimum age, becoming one of the first cities in the Midwest to do so.

The main reasoning behind establishing 21 as a minimum age to purchase tobacco is this startling statistic: 95 percent of current adult smokers started before age 21. If people don't start smoking when they are young, they will likely never pick up this deadly habit. Raising the minimum age separates younger teens from high school students over the age of 18 who can currently legally purchase tobacco.

Researchers say there would be a 25 percent reduction in smoking among 15-17 year-olds if the age is raised to 21 nationally. Raising the age to 21 nationwide could save 240,000 young people from premature deaths due to tobacco use, according to an Institute of Medicine report.

Flavored tobacco products have become more prolific in the past five or six years because of a 2009 prohibition on flavored cigarettes by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). While the sale of flavored cigarettes were prohibited, other tobacco products, such as cigars, chewing tobacco, blunt wraps and shisha, the tobacco used in hookah, can still be sold in a variety of flavors, such as chocolate, piña colada, apple, grape, berry, cotton candy, bubble gum and menthol.

Flavoring in these products makes it easier for new, young users to try tobacco, because the flavoring masks the harshness of the tobacco and enhances the user's experience. The low cost and attractive packaging makes these items attractive to youth.

The 2014 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS) found that among current tobacco users, 73 percent of high school students and 56 percent of middle school students had used a flavored tobacco product in the past month.

Studies show that young people perceive flavored tobacco products as tasting better and being safer than unflavored products, even though they are just as dangerous and addictive as cigarettes.

Documents from the tobacco settlement in 1998 revealed the "Graduation Theory" employed by the tobacco industry. Their approach is based on getting new users hooked with milder tasting, flavored products and transitioning them to more full-bodied, less-flavored items with more nicotine in them and creating a lifelong, deadly addiction.

The tobacco industry spends $153.6 million annually in Minnesota promoting these products to youth. It's time we take bold action to protect our youth from the harms of tobacco and the aggressive marketing tactics of the tobacco industry. Raising the minimum age to purchase tobacco to 21 and increasing the price of cheap, flavored cigars are two strong ways we can help the next generation of Minnesotans be tobacco-free.

Fall into the colors



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie is changing colors. With the first day of autum past, the weather is starting to cool and turn the leaves into their yearly color spectacular.



Staff photo by Kylie Rice

7th hour eighth graders work to complete art on the sidewalks of the Blooming Prairie High School.

Chalk it up to kindness

By KYLIE RICE
Staff intern

The eighth graders of Blooming Prairie had a rather colorful trick up their sleeve on September 30.

In honor of October being National Stop Bullying month, Michelle Southworth, who teaches Social Studies at Blooming Prairie High School, decided to have a more hands on approach with her students. This idea would also impact the community in a positive way.

Meet project #kindnessinchalk.

"One of my former students who now teaches in the Twin Cities was doing this last year, and I thought it was an awesome idea." Southward said. "So we did it last year with whatever bits of sidewalk chalk we could find. This year I was more prepared and bought out Amazon!"

The project was started in 2014 by a Minneapolis mom. From there, it bloomed into a state wide project to promote kindness and high self- esteem. It was made as a way to spread kindness without causing shame or blame, and it seems to be working. Just walking by and seeing the colorful script and drawings makes your heart happy, and that's the whole goal of the project. This year, approximately 75 Blooming Prairie students participated in this endeavor.

"We're just sketching out uplifting inspirational quotes on the sidewalks." Halle Strunk, 13, said. "It's a lot of fun."

"Kind of seeing how people react to out drawings and writings is the best part of this. We get to see what other kids are writing out, and we get to see it effect people and make them smile." stated Maggie Bruns, also 13.

The kids were armed with sheets of paper that has quotes on it, just in case they drew a blank, and lots of chalk. Three eighth grade classes were sent out into Blooming, and were assigned different spots to decorate to share the joy. The locations where you can see their fine artwork are the city park, the sidewalks around the high school, and the sidewalks around the elementary school.

"Some of the juniors were telling me they wished they could draw with chalk as part of their Social Studies class!" Southworth says, laughing. "If we did that, I think every street in Blooming Prairie would be covered!"

Schools all over the state of Minnesota, and the United States, have joined in and become artists in their own towns. This kind of graffiti is a welcomed and rarely seen type. Bullying is a large pandemic in the American public education system, as more than 3.2 million students are the victims of bullying each year, and 160,000 teens skip school every day because of bullying.

To find out more about the #kindnesswithchalk project, visit http://www.minnemamaadventures.com/kindness-chalk/ or search #kindnesswithchalk on Facebook.



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

One of a dozen postive messages left by the high schoolers in central park.

BP Education Foundation will be held on
THE 2016 BLOOMING PRAIRIE
Education Foundation Banquet
Saturday, October 8th
AT THE BLOOMING PRAIRIE SERVICEMEN'S CLUB
Save The Date
The Honorees:
Linda Christianson - DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
Dr. Les Hansen - DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
Lisa Missy (Avery) Ahrens - ATHLETE
1966 Boys Basketball Team, Coaches, Manager - ATHLETES
& Charlie Elinger - STAFF MEMBER
TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE NEW YORK LIFE OFFICE, JULIE NOBLE, OR A BPEF BOARD MEMBER.

Blooming PrairieLiving

Fifth annual veterans feed scheduled

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Lovers of oyster stew or chili or both will enjoy the 5th Annual oyster stew and chili feed which will be held this year on Saturday, Oct.15 at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club. This annual event is sponsored by the local Sons of the American Legion No.52 and costs only a free will donation.

Besides the main dishes, corn bread, fresh bread, dessert, milk, and coffee will be on the menu, and serving hours are from 5 to 7 p.m.. Everyone is welcome to attend, and as mentioned, a free will donation will be the only cost.

Sons of the American legion spokesman Tom Peterson reported at the organization's monthly meeting that total contributions for the Blooming Prairie Veterans' Memorial have reached $70, 016.12, which is about 28 percent of the goal of $250,000.

As Peterson remarked after the monthly meeting, "I am humbled by the response from our Posts in providing workers for the recent pancake breakfast. Twenty-six volunteers worked at the breakfast, and it was truly a community effort. Along with 284 tickets sold, many contributed extra funds for the benefit of the Memorial."

The campaign for the Memorial will continue, with other fund-raising projects in the planning stage. Pavers for the Memorial can still be purchased for the Memorial. Inquire for details at the Servicemen's club. It is a most worthy project.

Mayor honors Minnesota manufacturers

BY EMILY SHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Mayor Harold Peterson has released an official city proclamation declaring the week of Oct. 2 to Oct. 8, 2016 Minnesota Manufacturing Week in Blooming Prairie.

Manufacturers have the second largest payroll in Minnesota and provide $20 billion in wages. They contributed almost $48.2 billion to the Minnesota economy in 2015 as our second largest industry making up 16 percent of our GDP.

The manufacturing industry provides over 317,200 skilled jobs to the state. $18.9 billion from exports was brought into the state in 2015. It has become a large contributor to Minnesota's economic vitality.

Several manufacturers support Blooming Prairie's economy. They include Tandem, Smooth Moves Seats, Easton Products, Heavy Metal, Metal Services, Minimizer, Bio Plastic Solutions, National Coating and Restoration, Todd Manufacturing, Extreme Powder Coating, and Arkema.

The manufacturers will be honored at a luncheon this week.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Mayor Peterson signs the proclamation declaring manufacturers week.





Class of '47 reunites

Submitted photo

Back Row: Bob Hansen, Dean Lindquist, John Peterson, Roger Erikson, Don Blockhus.
Front Row:Ray Cochin,Eleanor Kubista Franke, Till (VanHal) Kraay, Ardis Elinger Krejci, Delores Johnson Morrison, Arlen Holm Helleck, Eileen Hunter Lindquist, Marian Lewis Hensrud.
Photo was taken at their 69th Class Reunion held at the Pizza Cellar on August 13, 2016.



Apples and fall colors warm the heart



The fall season is maybe my most favorite of the four seasons of the year.

Fall brings cooler temperatures, fall colors and lots of juicy and delicious apples. Temps have definitely cooled, especially in the early morning hours. Fall colors have finally added some gold and rust-colored punch.

In Blooming Prairie, many residents can step outside their front door or out their deck and see some beautiful colors on trees in their yards or in neighbors' yards.

The fall season, of course, also signals the beginning of the crop harvest. The harvest was slowed down somewhat recently because of some torrential rains.

Farmers are a patient group, however, and waited until field conditions improved and allowed them in the fields to begin the harvest. The soybean harvest started first but some farmers reportedly had started on the corn, too.

Judy and I decided to venture into Wisconsin last week to chase the fall colors and to head to one of our favorite destinations, Bayfield. The small city of 530 is located on Lake Superior and is a haven for tourists and very much resembles the scenery on the East Coast including Maine and Massachusetts.

Bayfield is considered the main gateway to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, a world-famous freshwater sailing, boating and kayaking destination on Lake Superior. Madeline Island, the largest of the Apostle Islands and the only one with private residences, is another popular destination near Bayfield. The ferry to Madeline Island links Bayfield with La Pointe, Wisconsin, a town on the island.

Judy and I first began our nearly annual trek several years ago to celebrate our wedding anniversary. We hadn't made the trip the past five years and decided to return on our 49th wedding anniversary. WOW! Judy needs a medal for being with this guy that long.

The drive to Bayfield which was mainly on Wisconsin roads introduced us to some neat little towns, each with their own personalities.

Once in Bayfield, we settled in at the Seagull Bay Motel overlooking Lake Superior. We were lucky to find accommodations, thanks to a late cancellation. It is serenely perched on the sloping shore of Lake Superior in a quiet residential neighborhood just a few blocks from the heart of downtown and the main city dock.

After checking into the motel, we then headed to more than 12 of Bayfield's succulent apple orchards.

One of our favorite ones is located on a hill and appropriately called Apple Hill Orchard. It is a favorite of mine because I enjoy gourmet caramel apples. Orchard owner Claudia is a pro at making more than a dozen flavors. I purchased a coconut one, one with fudge swirls and another topped with some tasty pecans.

With the annual Apple Festival right around the corner, Claudia said she was preparing to make 8,000 caramel apples for the festival. The festival routinely draws more than 50,000 people to its turf during a busy weekend.

Claudia sells the candied apples at $4 each, thus quick mathematics indicates a sales total of $32,000. She has a team of 12 volunteers helping her with the apple creations.

Another orchard stop brought us to Erickson's Orchard and Country Store. Jim and Muriel Erickson have owned the orchard for 62 years, also the number of years they have been married. Son David now runs the business, ably assisted by his parents. The store always features fresh apple donuts, pie sticks, applesauce raisin cookies and newly made apple pies.

All orchard owners agreed that this year's apple crops were outstanding. "We got just the right mix of rainfall and sunshine," said an orchard owner. The ideal growing conditions also put the crop maturity ahead of schedule and helped grow the applies larger.

When we weren't visiting apple orchards, we were intent on stopping at many of the downtown merchants. My wife substantially added to her jewelry collection.

Oh yeah, we also tried out some of the popular eating spots in Bayfield. One of our favorite breakfast spots was The Egg Toss Restaurant. I had the best biscuits and gravy meal I have ever enjoyed.

It was called Half a Southern biscuits and gravy with a bit of spice to it and was served on a large dinner plate. "If this is the Half a Southern, what's the Full Southern look like?" I asked the waitress. "It's twice as big," she replied.

In addition to enjoying Bayfield's amenities, we also saw some wildlife on this trip. A large buck deer crossed a back road in front of us. On the way home between Bayfield and Superior, we spotted a timber wolf on the side of the main highway "Look, a coyote," my wife said. "That's no coyote, it's a wolf," I told her. That's the first time I had seen a timber wolf in the wild. How majestic!

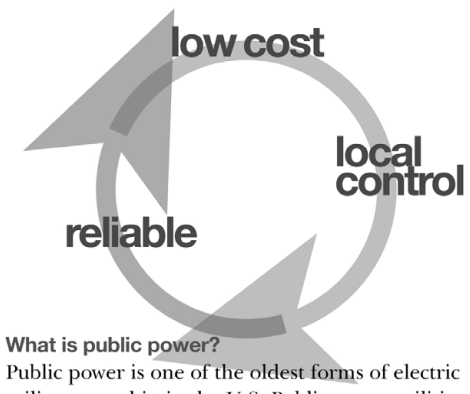
If looking for a fun couple of days, journey to Bayfield or to Door County. I have not been to Door County but it's on my bucket list.

Blooming Prairie Public Utilities

Celebrates

Public Power Week Oct 3 -7

A Few Public Power Facts



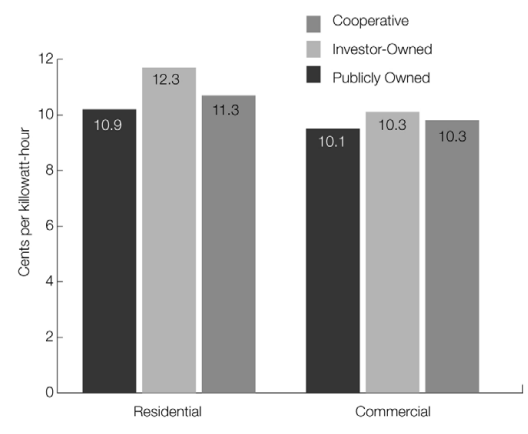
What is public power?
Public power is one of the oldest forms of electric utility ownership in the U.S. Public power utilities are not-for-profit local institutions that provide electricity as an essential public service at a reasonable cost. Public power utilities are supported by customer revenues, not taxes. In fact, public power utilities provide substantial payments in lieu of taxes to state and local governments.

Who does public power serve?
- Over 2,000 community-owned electric utilities serve 47 million people.
- Public power utilities serve small communities as well as large cities such as Los Angeles, San Antonio and Memphis.
- Every state except for Hawaii has a public power utility.
- Three million businesses receive their power from a publicly-owned electric utility.

So who is in charge of public power utilities?
- Public power utilities are owned and accountable to the people they serve.
- The governance structure for each utility varies. Some are governed by the city council and others are controlled by a utility board whose members may be elected or appointed by the city council or mayor.

What are public power's unique benefits?
- **Public power is customer-focused.** Public power means that customers have a voice in decisions made by their utility.
- **Public power costs less.** On a national basis, private power residential customers pay average electricity rates that are about 1.4 cents more per kilowatt hour.
- **Public power is a good neighbor.** Consumer-owned electric utilities are committed to conservation, environmental stewardship, and safety. Public power utilities work to meet the needs of long-term community goals.
- **Public power is reliable.** Consumer-owned utilities' rates pay for maintenance and reinvestments in important infrastructure needs.

Retail Electric Rates, 2012



www.publicpower.org

Blooming Prairie Public Utilities will be providing FREE LED lightbulbs from 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily during the week of Oct. 3rd through 7th

Ellendale Living

Elementary playground complete

By KYLIE RICE
Staff intern

The NRHEG Elementary School in Ellendale received a new playground this past summer. Thanks to the NRHEG Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), the project was started. Due to the number of students now attending the elementary school, the PTO felt that the school needed a larger playground to accommodate the number of children. Also working with the PTO, Kim Routh, paraprofessional, and Beckie Johnson, custodian, continued the fund raising efforts and sponsored a spring Garden Bingo event that brought in thousands of dollars, which were supported by grants that were awarded that evening. The equipment was purchased from Play and Park structures and our committee worked with an individual out of Blooming Prairie.

The local communities came around the project, supporting it 100%. The installation of the first set of equipment took place in June and the second set was installed early August. Both sets were installed with the assistance of Sequoia Landscape and volunteers, which included parents, staff and community members.

A letter from Principal Doug Anderson stated: "Together, we have made a difference! Due to the generosity of local businesses, families and individuals, the NRHEG Elementary playground dream has become a reality. The NRHEG PTO and Playground Committee have successfully reached their goal of providing new playground equipment for the students of NRHEG Elementary."

Under the leadership of PTO member Allyson Hagen, and the other members of the PTO, the organization began meeting with companies that sell playground equipment to schools and communities. The PTO then began a fundraising campaign where all monies collected would go towards the installation of new playground equipment at the elementary school. Cookie Dough sales and a large Community Night Out event helped to boost the funds raised as well as the many, many donations by individuals and businesses.

Some of the many businesses that generously donated were the Hartland and Geneva Fire Departments, Cargill, SunOpta, Freeborn County Coop, and many, many more. Along with donations, grants were given by First National Bank, the New Richland Area Foundation, the Waseca Area Foundation, and the Paul & Sue Rosenau/Legacy of Angels Fund.



Submitted photo

One of the two newly constructed playground structures stands ready for children. Volunteers from around the community turned out to help put the plau units together.

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BANANA BREAD

RECIPE CORNER

2 Eggs	2 c. flour
1 c. Sugar	1 tsp. baking soda
4 T. shortening (butter)	1 c. mashed bananas
3 T. sour milk	1/2 c. chopped nuts (optional)

Mix together and bake using bread pan at 350˚ for 1 hour. Yield: 1 Loaf.

by Donna Maixner



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Panther pride picnic picks up

BY EMILY SHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

On Oct. 14, NRHEG elementary school will host its first ever Panther Pride Community Picnic. The picnic is part of this year's homecoming celebration and also marks the completion of the new playground at the school.

Kindergarten teacher Angie Talamantes and fourth grade teacher Jill Freeman helped organize the event as part of their role on the "pawsitivity" committee, a group committed to creating a bully-free zone a the school. They're a subset of the Panther pride campaign that works to promote positive and respectful behavior amongst students.

"This overall idea of Panther pride I've seen grow in my years here," Talamantes said, "I really see a difference."

Talamantes and Freeman see the picnic as an opportunity to create a positive bond amongst students, their families, and community members. While the event is geared toward families, anyone in the community is welcome to attend.

"We're excited to invite our community to come see," Freeman said speaking of the playground, which both teachers credit to the generosity of the community.

The picnic will serve as an opportunity for people to have lunch together from 10:30 a.m. to noon before the parade.

Tickets can be purchased until Oct. 6 for $4 for adults or $2.50 for children at the NRHEG elementary school office or Lerberg's in Ellendale. Tickets can also be purchased at NRHEG high school or Wagner's in New Richland, Farmer's Bank in Hartland, and Sorenson's Appliance in Geneva.

In case of rain, lunch will be served inside the school.

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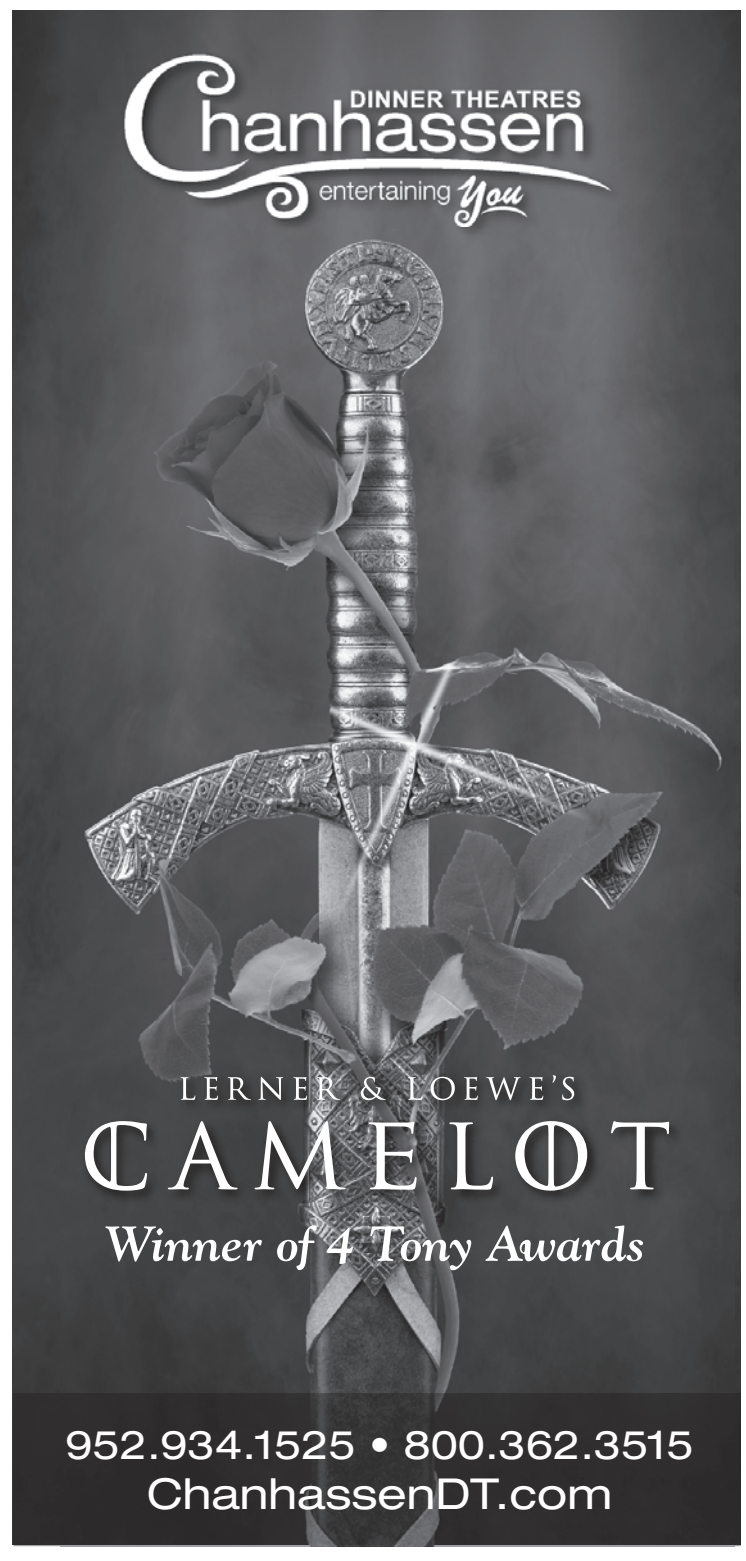








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OwatonnaLiving

Center opens arms to hometown artist



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Artist Greg Lipelt chats with several residents who attended his show. This is Greg's first exhibit in Owatonna, and according to him, might be his last ever.

BY EMILY SHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

The Owatonna Art Center welcomed a hometown artist when they opened Greg Lipelt's exhibit on Oct. 2. The show, which will run through the month of October, is Lipelt's first exhibit in Owatonna.

Lipelt is a painter who works in oil, acrylics, and watercolors. All of his paintings are en plein aire, done on site if their landscapes or in front of a live subject if a portrait. He paints outdoors for three hours sessions at a time and gets as much as he can done before the lighting shifts. Some of his larger pieces can take six sessions, as he returns to a place when the lighting is similar. Lipelt calls this "painting from life." He dislikes working from photographs because of the distortion they cause to the foreground versus the background. His paintings are impressionist not photorealistic.

"You've got to get the essence of it really quickly," Lipelt says. He doesn't worry about capturing a location in exact details, as that's not the point to him. "The art," he says, "is in you."

While Lipelt lives in the cities now, he was born and raised in Owatonna, and residents who attend his show will see a few of the local haunts have found their way into his works. Lipelt speaks about how places from your childhood become almost sacred. Hanging on the walls were painting of the town's historic bank and the dam on Straight river that's a popular fishing spot.

Lipelt believes you can find art anywhere, and an artist's geographic location shouldn't prevent them from creating art. That being said, Lipelt admits he still has "woebegone in my blood." His paintings reveal a definite midwestern influence.

He was glad to show his work in his hometown where he first learned to paint, but Lipelt admits to some frustration as art moves into the 21st century. In the post-9/11 economy, art sales are down as people feel less inclined to spend money. This is strangling the artistic profession, as few can make a living of their studio work and have to turn to commercial work to make ends meet. This in turn cuts down on the time they can spend on their art.

"You've got support artists," Lipelt says, "It's gonna disappear if you don't support it."

Silvan Durben, the center's artistic director, was happy for the chance to showcase a hometown artist. It fits nicely he said with their focus on being a community art center. Durben says he wants to show that there are "really good artists in our own backyard."

Durben hopes residents will come out to see the show and reminds people it's not about just seeing a picture you do or don't like.

"You don't have to like it," Durben says. The goal is to "have an experience" and let seeing the paintings in real life "emotionally resonate."

The show runs from Oct. 2 through Oct. 30, and attendees can also view an expanded display of Pat Cox's quilt exhibit.

Promoting peace: conference addresses child abuse

BY KAREN DUNCAN
Contributing Writer

Some kids diagnosed with ADHD may actually have post traumatic stress syndrome? A baby in his crib in the next room can have his development stunted by hearing domestic abuse in the next room? Exposure to abuse stunts the growth of a child's brain? These were some of the shocking things we learned at the Promoting Peace Conference 2016.

Promoting Peace is a joint Steele Waseca initiative bringing together law enforcement, attorneys, advocates, service providers and caring citizens. The goals are to increase our understanding of violence in our community, and to build connections between people, agencies and systems to better work together to reduce violence and make our community safer. While we understandably worry about terrible and mindboggling things like school shootings and child abductions, sadly the most likely place where our children will be exposed to abuse is in their own homes. Domestic abuse not only includes exposure to physical assault of a family member, but it also includes other frightening behavior such as destruction of property, and psychological intimidation.

As Dorothy learns in the Wizard of Oz, there is no place like home. For many people, home is where they can go for respite from a sometimes harsh world, a place where love is unconditional, and a place that feels and actually is safe. But imagine if home was not a safe place. Imagine if the very people you love the most from time to time do things that terrify you. Imagine that you are a child in this situation with no control over the choices adults make in your home.

What exactly is childhood trauma? Trauma is a normal response to abnormal stress. Situations that cause a child to fear harm or death, and from which there appears no escape. Children exposed to domestic violence also tend to have a number of these adverse experiences, such as being exposed to behavior that made the child fear being hurt, seeing a caregiver often pushed, grabbed, slapped, hit or kicked. Experts now agree that prolonged exposure to abusive behaviors affects a child's brain development. The results may yield a traumatized brain that is 20 to 30% smaller than the brain of an untraumatized child. Children who have been exposed to repeated domestic violence often do not develop normal bonds with either their caregivers or other people. The reason is as excruciating as it is simple: they are too busy focusing on survival.

A Minnesota study that examined adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) confirmed once again that the number of ACEs a child experiences before age eighteen correlates to disrupted neurological development. This disrupted brain can manifest as a child whose social, emotional and cognitive functioning is impaired. From a law and order perspective, nine out of ten children who come into the court system have had at least one ACE, and most who are appearing on serious offenses have had many.

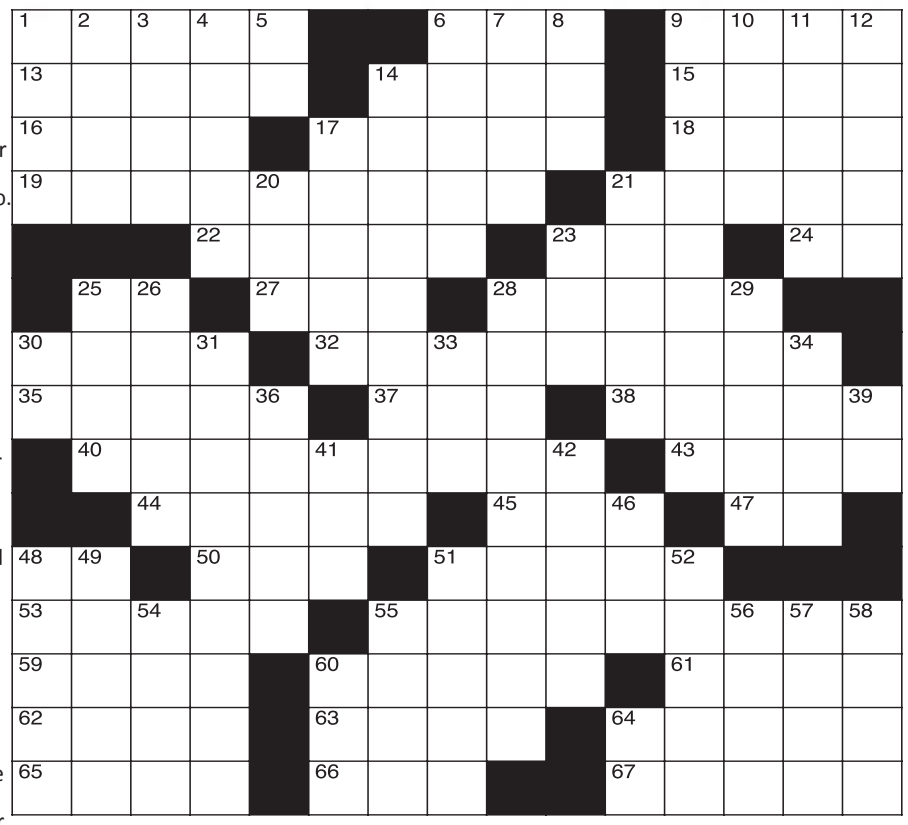
The behaviors that can help a child stay safe at home can be maladaptive in a school setting, whether on the playground where a child might act out the aggression the child has witnessed at home or whether in the classroom where being preoccupied with what might happen at home tonight may manifest in "bad" behavior such as not paying attention or being lazy.

The good news is that damaged children can be helped to heal in many ways. We can modeling healthy relationships. A relative, teacher, coach, volunteer or neighbor are some examples of different people who show they care and who can be a consistent source of positive support. We can teach a traumatized child that he or she is competent. We can help the child feel a part of something and provide a safe place where he or she feels they belong. The earlier the intervention, the greater the positive impact. Regular folks can make the difference as to whether a traumatized child ends up in delinquency court or not. As we better recognize and respond to childhood trauma caused by exposure to domestic abuse, we will see less crime from juveniles. The Promoting Peace 2016 theme sums it up best: when we know better, we do better.



WEEKLY CROSSWORD

SOLUTION ON PAGE 9C



CLUES ACROSS
1. Poets
6. Insecticide
9. Insect feeler
13. Intestinal
14. "Drum Boogie" singer
15. Region
16. Chinese automotive co.
17. Served before entree
18. Dwells
19. Boosted
21. Tells players what to do
22. Infections
23. Hoover is one
24. Expresses surprise
25. Basketball position (abbr.)
27. Fresh Prince of __ Air
28. Hindu queens
30. Easter marshmallow treat
32. Where coaches stand
35. Women
37. Thai province
38. Drenches
40. Matters that settle
43. Not wide
44. Elaborate garments
45. Swiss river
47. South Dakota
48. Instinctive part of the mind
50. Some put this in their hair
51. French young women
53. Two legged support
55. Stimulates the heart
59. Waste matter
60. Nocturnal rodents
61. The Who anthem "__ O'Riley"
62. Old age personified
63. Remnant
64. Disband
65. Nanosecond
66. Referee declares
67. A citizen of Iran

CLUES DOWN
1. "ER" actress Leslie
2. Wings
3. Power to direct and control
4. Small freshwater fishes of Eurasia
5. Scandium
6. Earnhardt and Hunter are two
7. Two-parted
8. Foul-mouthed bear from the movies
9. Tan horses
10. Song
11. Draw blood
12. High-ranking Turkish officer
14. Determine time
17. Begets
20. Watch chain
21. Constellation representing a dog
23. Indian dish
25. Legumes
26. Romanian river
28. An auto you don't keep
29. Signs, __, delivers
30. Police Department
31. Relating to teaching
33. Sportscaster Patrick
34. A way to glide
36. Fathered
39. Statute mile (abbr.)
41. One-thousandth of an inch
42. Discounts
46. Rockers from Georgia
48. Norwegian playwright
49. Herbs
51. S. China seaport
52. Stout sword
54. Pasty
55. Fill a suitcase
56. Japanese weapon
57. Dark brown or black
58. Grain crop
60. Time used in far western states
64. Drill instructor

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GRIEF RELIEF



What is grief like? Grief is like a series of waves that come and go, feelings that vary in intensity over a long period of time as we are constantly reminded of changes that result from the death of our loved one. We need to take time to face our emotions and feelings. Then make careful plans for our new lives without the deceased. Our feelings and grief may seem unpredictable and confused at times, but that is perfectly normal.

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Owatonna Homecoming



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna high school seniors Etham DeKam and Katie Belina were crowned king and queen Monday night at the Owatonna High School auditorium. Other king candidates included Jay Sullivan, Jacob Gauthier, Windham Anez, and Cade Brede. Other queen canidates were Grace Valen, Anna Weisenburger, Louisa Deetz, and Jenna McMains.

DeKam and Belina crowned

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Editor

The theme for Owatonna's homecoming week this year may have been "Lights, Camera, OHS!" However, at Monday's homecoming coronation at the Owatonna High School auditorium, there were more than just the flashes of the numerous cameras lighting up the room.

Owatonna high school students Ethan DeKam and Katie Belina were crowned as the homecoming king and queen.

"It's a great honor," added DeKam.

Tori Urch and Logan Ringhofer hosted the ceremony and prior to the intro of the finalist for king and queen, the duo announced the semifinalists. One by one, the semifinalist for homecoming court walked onto the stage accompanied by their parents.

King candidates Mitchell Mayer, Aiden Buryska, Jaden Dowhaniuk, Josh Burns, Khor Wal, Logan Ringhofer and Darik Elstad entered from the audiences left of the stage.

The Queen candidates of Sydney Bartz, Braxten Blood, Toria Koch, Danika Brown, Page Cocciarella, Riley Birk and Tori Urch entered from the audience's right.

After the semifinalists and their parents cleared the stage, the lights shifted to the center aisle that was straddled by a row of five chairs on each side. One by one, the homecoming king and queen Finalists of Katie Belina and Jay Sullivan, Louisa Deetz and Jacob Gauthier, Jenna McMains and Windham Anez, Grace Valen and Ethan DeKam, and Anna Weisenburger and Cade Brede made their way to the front of the stage.

Once the introductions were done, Urch and Ringhofer invited the captains of Girls Swimming and Diving, Boys Cross Country, Girls Soccer and football to come up one by one to get a quick update on each of the respective teams.

While each of the captains for the respective teams nervously explained their seasons, senior linebacker Ben Staska provided the comedic relief.

"We had a bit of a hiccup against Faribault… but we won't talk about that" he said.

In what was a very school-spirited speech, head football coach Jeff Williams took over for his senior captain.

Williams first started out explaining that as a football coach, he is always a tad nervous throughout the week because of all the distractions for his players.

He immediately stated after that initial statement that he loves homecoming week.

Not to be outdone by his own player, Coach Williams had a few jokes of his own.

"There's always a sense I think of us watching too many teenage movies when we were growing up that it's always the shallow, popular, ditzy cheerleader and dumb quarterback" he said.

And as he walked over to king candidate Jacob Gauthier-who is a quarterback for the Huskies- Williams threw his arm around him and smiling said "And sometimes that true."

Getting back to his speech, Williams explained to the crowd that he's had the honor is addressing the homecoming court for 21 years. He went on to add that 82 percent of all students at Owatonna High School compete in some sort of school related activity.

As the final speakers of the evening, 2014 OHS royalty Abby Bendorf and Dexter Leer were back in the hallowed halls to give the candidates a glimpse into the future.

Leer and Bendorf both explained that coming back to OHS brought back a flood of memories. They also explained however, that the person that left OHS and have experience the rigors of college have changed. Before turning it back over to the evening's host in Urch and Ringhofer, the queen from 2014 turned to the court and gave them a parting message.

"Don't dwell on the past because you're already moving forward," she explained.

As the lights began to spot each candidate, the suspense in the room was starting to mount. 2016 Junior Royalty prince Brian Arevalo walked over to Ethan DeKam and handed him the crown. For the queen, 2016 Junior royalty princess Layla Melhouse walked over to Katie Belina and gave her the crown as well.







Staff photos by Emily Schoenbeck



Top left corner: Sandy Boss serves as this year's parade grand marshall.
Top middile: A student flag gua d opens the parade.
Top right corner: Two members of the parade crew patrol.
Left side: The Owatonna marching band shows of their synchronization.
Right side: Junior royalty Layla and Brian wave to the crowd.
Bottom left corner: The Husky shakes hands with children in the crowd.
Bottom middle: In one of the most inventive floats, the obotics club Star Wars themed theirs, lightsaber fights and all
Bottom right corner: One float encouraged the c owd that if they couldn't decided between Clinton or Trump, they could at least vote to have school lunch.









MedfordLiving

Mayor addresses flood and municipals



LOIS M. NELSON

The Straight River waters had our community's attention on September 22!! During the night, members of our fire department were out checking the rising waters and the trouble spots around town. Our Department of Public Works staff was monitoring the waste-water plant. By daylight, an emergency response was out, and sandbagging began around 7:30am.

Thanks to all the families, school staff, teachers, Steele County Blades and many others that came to town to work the sand bag assembly. Also, to the individuals who had their trailers on the ready for moving sandbags. The forklift operators who kept moving the pallets of filled bags and keeping up with all the volunteer effort throughout the day deserve special acknowledgment. The whole response to the rising water was capably managed by our emergency response team. Great effort and a great job by all those involved—thank you!

Cleanup will continue in the coming weeks as Straight River Park was completely covered in water. Picnic tables are somewhere downstream and will be retrieved. Sugar sand at the volley ball courts, mulch from the playground and lime will have to be added to the ball diamond. A process this city has become all too familiar with as this is the third time we have had to respond to the river's rising in the past six years.

The flooding also interfered with the postponement of the scheduled open house of our maintenance shop, fire hall and city hall as we have worked for years on the proposed municipal building. Land was purchased in 2009 and paid for with the final balloon payment in 2014.

The proposal is to be able to move public works vehicles into the current fire/city hall and building a new 19,100 square foot facility to house the fire equipment, their training space, storage space and offices with a city hall area and designated council chambers/public meeting area. The public spaces are something we have not had since the destruction of the park chalet with the flood of 2010 and the sale of the former KC Hall.

This municipal building has a construction budget price of $175 square foot and the mezzanine storage area of $100 square foot. (This coincides with the cost of the newly awarded Fire Hall in Kenyon.) City leadership supports the building to include the Fire Department, City Hall and public space as the most cost-effective solution to today's and our future requirements-the next 50-60 years, Building any one of these three areas separately or in the future means a cost of at least three times more than the budget prices used today.

A brochure with the history and building proposal has been delivered to every household in the city. The scheduled open houses are Thursday, October 6, 1:00-3:00 p.m. with an additional evening session of 6:30-8:30 p.m. now added and Wednesday, October 12, 7:30-9:00 p.m. We invite all residents, businesses and interested area individuals to tour the current buildings and visit city staff and members of the fire department on the proposed, municipal building.

The high waters are receding and now, we must consider the rest of our city properties and buildings for the future. Look forward to seeing you on the 6th and 12th.

Governor answers speaker on special session

Dear Speaker Daudt:

Thank you for your letter dated September 22, 2016 regarding the possibility of holding a Special Session this year. You are correct that I told you at our breakfast two weeks ago that I believe it would be best for Minnesota to pass a corrected tax bill and a bonding bill this year.

However, that was also my expressed view four months ago, and I have been doing my best since then to negotiate an agreement that all four Caucus Leaders and I could support. Despite sincere efforts by all of us, we have not yet been able to reach that agreement. And now we are only 46 days from a very heated election, in which all Legislators seeking reelection are heavily engaged.

I received your letter yesterday just minutes before my staff entered a meeting with staffs of the four Caucus Leaders. This meeting was finally occurring thirteen days after our breakfast, where I understood we had agreed that such a meeting would be the next step toward resolving our remaining differences. While I understand the pressures on everyone's schedules, the fact that it took almost two weeks just to get our staffs together for a meeting, underscores the difficulties in our reaching an agreement. Furthermore, that meeting was unable to produce a reconciliation of any of the remaining differences, which you cited in your letter.

Following that unsuccessful meeting, I held a conference call with Senate Majority Leader Tom Bakk and House Minority Leader Paul Thissen. Your proposal that we all agree to the Senate transportation language in its Bonding Bill remains unacceptable. That language is changed only to say that the appropriated funds "may be used by thee commissioner (but) only for purposes specified in this section." The bill then earmarks the particular projects for which the funds may be used.

This earmarking of specific projects prioritizes them ahead of other much needed transportation improvements elsewhere in our state, many of which have been ranked higher in MNDOT's objective evaluations. The Department's long-established protocol, employed by previous Republican and Democratic administrations, is designed to insulate those critically important decisions from elected officials, especially governors and legislators.

Eleven present and former Chairs of the House and Senate transportation committees, eight DFLers and three Republicans, have stated publicly that the House bill's earmarking of legislators' favored project sets a very bad and dangerous precedent. They wrote in the attached letter:

"We have deep concerns with the transportation provisions proposed at the very end of the 2016 session, as contained in the bonding bill. "

Earmarking almost $300 million in funds for specified roads and bridges would be unprecedented in legislative practice in recent memory and would be a historic mistake.

"It reverses decades of bipartisan consensus on the appropriate manner to fund transportation projects from both a policy and political perspective."

Given the facts that these negotiations have taken place over the past four months without reconciliation, and that only 46 days now remain until the upcoming election, I have reluctantly concluded that the time for agreement on a Special Session has expired.

Sincerely

Mark Dayton
Governor

Mall gets makeover

By KYLIE RICE
Staff intern

The Medford Outlet mall is going through big changes. After coming under new leadership this past year, the mall is looking to improve itself and expand its customer database in a giant way.

Already some of the changes implemented have been in the new parking lot. New pavement and roads to get across the mall quicker have been installed. Alongside that, new paint colors and a new pylon sign will be put into play in the new phase of the Mall. There will also be a newer family friendly facet to the space as well. There are plans for a green area for families to stop and relax while shopping. The businesses are already known for being family friendly, with their Trick-or-Treat programs, and various activities taking place during the duration of the year.

"We would just like the new mall to be user and family friendly." General Manager Sharon Paulson said. The new owners have also coined a new name for the mall, as Ultra Outlets of Medford. "We are wanting investors to come in and see the value we have here in Southern Minnesota." Paulson said. Paulson has been with the mall since 2009, and is very happy with the changes taking place. The outlet mall is going to be part of a new chain of malls called the Ultra Outlets. It will be connected to the Ultra Outlets of Minnesota and the Ultra Outlets of America.

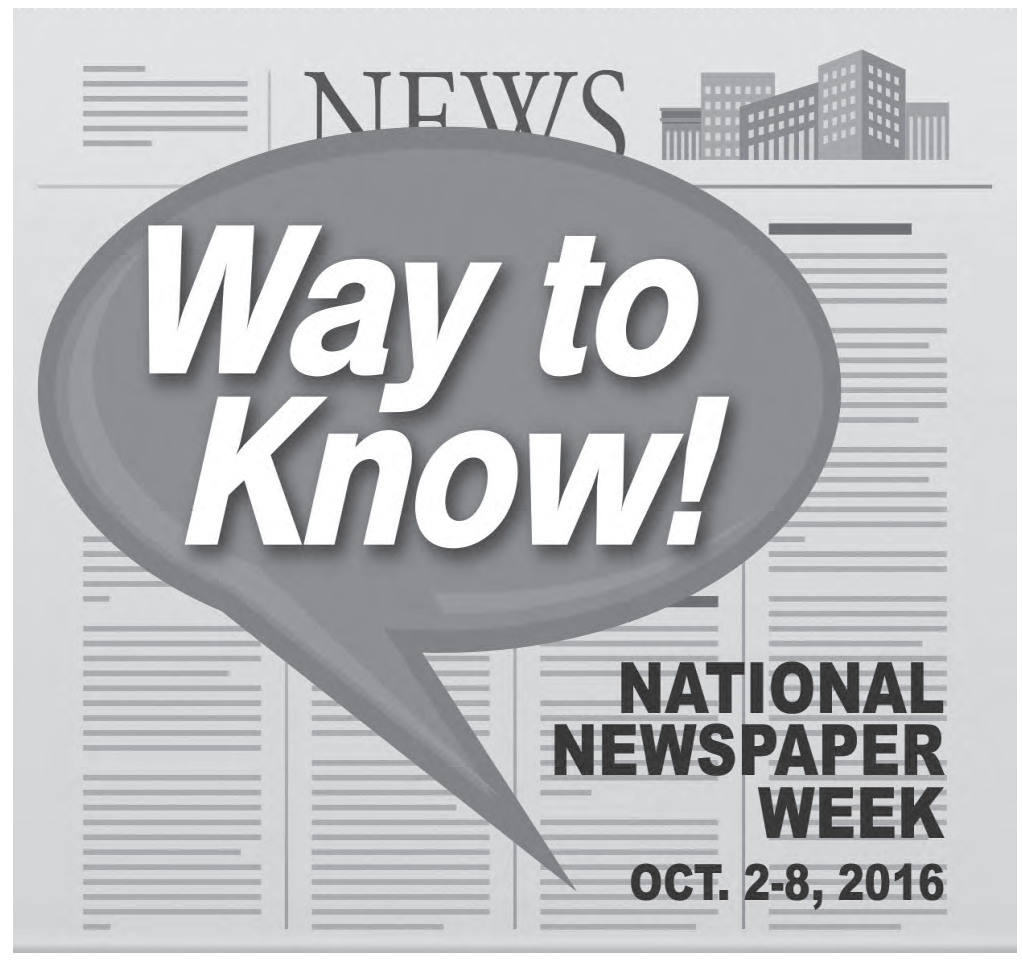
New stores are also going to be coming soon, as a new shop is in the process of being built into the mall's current lineup. "This area is in need of some more entertainment and dining venues," Paulson said. "I'm hoping that we will be able to provide those places for this community. Our new owner has connections in Europe and all over the world; hopefully we can get some international stores to be a part of this facility as well."

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Turn-key operations. The City of Vesta is accepting proposals for the purchase of the **Vesta Municipal Liquor Store**. It is an on and off sale facility. Proposals will be accepted until October 10, 2016 by email, phone, or mail at the City Clerk's Office:
150 Front Street West, PO Box 214, Vesta MN 56292
For more information call: Kimberly at the Vesta City Clerk's Office
507-762-3140 or **cityofvesta@mvtvwireless.com**
The Vesta City Council retains the right to refuse any and all proposals.



BEV CASHMAN
For STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
MORTGAGOR(S): Joel C. Menden, a single person and Bonita R. Menden, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $157,560.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 24, 2011
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 1, 2011 as Document Number A000376889 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $147,558.83
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Tract I:
The South 83.39 feet of Lot One (1) in the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section Sixteen (16) Township One Hundred and Seven (107) North, of Range Twenty (20) West, Steele County, Minnesota
AND
Tract II:
The South Half of Lot 2 in the Northeast Quarter of Section 16-107-20; Except the North Quarter of South Half of West Half of Lot 2, Steele County, Minnesota
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 522 S CEDAR AVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060-3202
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-016-1104 and 17-016-1114
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None
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: November 1, 2016 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 May 1, 2017.
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: September 2, 2016
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee
THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By:/s/Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(16-1206-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11

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:
MORTGAGOR(S): Alan P. Christenson and Ronda K. Christenson f/k/a Ronda Kaplan, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc., a California corporation n/k/a Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $263,200.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: November 21, 2003
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on November 26, 2003 as Document Number A317433 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $226,938.07
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 1, Block 1, Fretham Addition, Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1901 N CEDAR AVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060-1234
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc., a California corporation n/k/a Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-339-0101
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None
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: November 1, 2016 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 May 1, 2017.
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: September 6, 2016
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee
THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.
By:/s/Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(16-1286-FC01)
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18

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:
MORTGAGOR(S): Daniel A. Crow, a single person and Shiann M. Heise, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $147,073.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 30, 2008
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on May 7, 2008 as Document Number A000357058 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $138,052.48
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Commencing at a point on the North line of Sub-lot 10, 98 1/2 feet West of the Northeast corner of said Sub-lot 10 in East Half of NW 1/4 of Section 15, Township 107 North, Range 20 West; running thence South 58 feet along the center of the Street thence West and parallel with the North line of said Sub-lot 10, 165 feet; thence North 58 feet to the North line of said Sub-lot 10, thence East along the North line of said Sub-lot 10, 165 feet to point of beginning, Steele County, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 812 HARRIET AVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060-3404
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-015-4212
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None
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: November 15, 2016 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 May 15, 2017.
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: Daniel A. Crow, Shiann M. Crow

Dated: September 14, 2016

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.
By: /s/ Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(16-1316-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25

Amended Order to Show Cause

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE
DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
In the Matter of the Petition of
CHRISTINA L. SUNDA
For a New Certificate of Title After Tax Forfeiture
Court File Number: 74-CV-16-1723
AMENDED
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
TO: JUANITA M. HOFF, DECISION ONE LOAN COMPANY OF MINNESOTA, DLJ MORTGAGE CAPITAL, INC. AND SKYVIEW TOWNHOUSE ASSOCIATION

Upon receiving and filing the Report of Examiner of Titles in the above entitled matter, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that you and all persons interested, appear before this Court on the 4th day of November, 2016 at 11:00 a.m., at the Steele County Courthouse, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, and then, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be heard, show cause, if any there may be, why this Court should not enter an Order as follows:
That the Registrar of Titles, upon the filing with him of a certified copy of this Order cancel Certificate of Title No. 16932 and enter a new Certificates of Title for Lot 6, Block 1, Skyview Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota in favor of Christina L. Sunda free of the memorial of the following documents:
#T000060244; #T000056634; #T000056635; #T000060245; #T000060246; #T000060291; #T000060485; #T000068635; #T000072981; and #T000073115; and free of the memorial of this Order, but subject to all other memorials and recitals appearing on Certificate of Title No. 16932
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that this Order be served:
(a) at least 10 days prior to such hearing upon the above named parties residing in this State in the manner provided by law for the service of Summons in a civil action;
(b) it shall be served at least 14 days prior to such hearing upon any of the above named non-residents by sending a copy of this Order to such non-residents their post offic address, by registered or certified mail, with a return receipt requested;
(c) it shall be served upon any party who cannot be found by two weeks published notice and by sending a copy of this Order at least 14 days prior to the hearing by first class mail to their address as stated on the Certificate of Title if an address is so stated.
(d) upon a dissolved, withdrawn or revoked business entity governed by Minn. Stat., Chp. 302A, 303, 317A, 322A, 322B or 323 in the manner provided by Minn. Stat. 5.25. (Note: return date on the Order to Show Cause must be at least 30 days after the date of mailing by the Secretary of State.)
YOU NEED NOT APPEAR IF YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED.

BY THE COURT,
/s/ Karen R. Duncan
09/15/2016
Judge of District Court
Attorney for Petitioner:
Mark J. Rahrick
Smith, Tollefson, Rahrick & Cass
108 West Park Square, Suite A
P.O. Box 271
Owatonna, Minnesota 55060
Approved as to form:
By: /s/ David L. Einhaus
David L Einhaus
Steele County Examiner of Titles
9/27, 10/4

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE
IN DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 74-PR-16-1906
Judge: Joseph A. Bueltel

In Re: Estate of
MARIE JOHNSON,
ALSO KNOWN AS
MARIE L. JOHNSON,
Deceased

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 1st day of November, 2016 at 10:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for a formal probate of the instrument purporting to be the will of the above named decedent, dated Nobember 29, 2013, and for the appointment of Barbara Draheim, whose address is 904 - 9th Avenue S.E., Waseca, Minnesota 56093, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in unsupervised administration, and that any objection thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, a personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate.
Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.
.

Dated: 9.20.16
Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court

Karen Duncan,
Court Administrator

John A. Edman
Attorney at Law
53 Downtown Plaza
PO Box 318
Fairmont, MN 56031
(507) 238-4333
Atty. Reg. No. 25719
e-mail:
john_edmanlaw@frontiernet.net
9/27, 10/4

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:
MORTGAGOR(S): Bonnie L. Petersen, an unmarried person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $330,000.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 23, 2009
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 27, 2009 as Document Number 362972 in the Offic of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $193,677.19
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 28, Township 108 North Range 20 West, Change North 1312.97 feet along the East line of Section 28 to the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter of said Section; thence West at right angles 50.0 feet to the West right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1 and the point of beginning; thence West along the South line of the Northeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter, a distance of 205.75 feet; thence North 190.0 feet, thence East 205.75 feet to the right of way line of State Aid road No. 1; thence South 190.0 feet to the point of beginning. And
Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 28, Township 108 North, Range 20 West, thence North 1502.97 feet along the East line of Section 28, thence West at right angles 50.0 feet to the West right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1 and the point of beginning; thence continuing West 205.75 feet; thence North 214.35 feet, thence East 205.75 feet to the right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1, thence South 214.35 feet to the point of beginning, Steele County, Minnesota
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 3890 N CEDAR AVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 12-028-2106 and 12-028-2105
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None
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: November 22, 2016 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 twelve (12) 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 November 22, 2017.
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: September 23, 2016
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee
THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.
By:/s/Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(16-1087-FC01)
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1

Foreclosure

15-101568

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: December 21, 2006
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $125,200.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Joseph L. Erler and Barbara R. Erler, Husband and Wife; Jeremy J. Erler and Brittany L. Erler, Husband and Wife and Jeff T. Evans, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100021278104668426
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Rochester Mortgage Company
SERVICER: Caliber Home Loans, Inc.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed December 22, 2006, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000346605, thereafter re-recorded March 28, 2007 as document number A000348664; thereafter validated by an Order dated April 25, 2016 recorded May 3, 2016 as document number A000407382
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association; Dated: July 29, 2015 filed: August 5, 2015, recorded as document number A000403486; Thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
The West Half of the following described property, to-wit: Commencing at the Northwest Corner of the South 242 1/2 feet of Lot 23 in NE1/4 of Section 16, Township 107 North, Range 20 West (said point being in the center of Oak Street); running thence East 329.5 feet, more or less, to a point 20 rods West of the East line of said Lot, thence South 60 feet, thence West 329.5 feet to the center of Oak Street, thence North to the place of beginning.
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1039-1041 S Oak Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-016-1260
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $120,211.22
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: November 15, 2016, 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 May 15, 2017, or the next business day if May 15, 2017 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: September 23, 2016
U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust
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
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1



Foreclosure

15-101570

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: December 21, 2006

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $116,000.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Joseph L. Erler and Barbara R. Erler, Husband and Wife; Jeremy J. Erler and Brittany L. Erler, Husband and Wife and Jeff T. Evans, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

MIN#: 100021278104668400

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Rochester Mortgage Company

SERVICER: Caliber Home Loans, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed December 22, 2006, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000346604, thereafter re-recorded March 28, 2007 as document number A000348663 to add additional mortgagors

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association; Dated: July 27, 2015 filed: August 3, 2015, recorded as document number A000403434; Thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust dated March 21, 2016 and recorded May 18, 2016 as document number A000407640.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

Lot 9 and the East 6 feet of Lot 8 in Block 23 of the Original Town (now City) of Owatonna, Minnesota; Excepting the South 55 feet to the above described premises.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 404 Elm Ave S, Owatonna, MN 55060

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-100-2310

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $112,504.93

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: November 15, 2016, 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 May 15, 2017, or the next business day if May 15, 2017 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: September 23, 2016
U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust
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
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8

City of Blooming Prairie

Proposed
City of Blooming Prairie
City Council
Meeting Agenda
October 10, 2016
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes of September Regular City Council Meeting
Financial Report
Committee/Commission Reports
1. B.P. Public Utilities
2. E.D.A.
3. B.P. Planning & Zoning
   a) Public Hearing – Review & Revise Zoning Map
   b) Public Hearing – Temporary Family Health Care Dwellings
4. B.P. Fire Commission
5. B.P. Ambulance Commission
6. B.P. Police Commission

Business
1. Ordinance Opting-Out of Minnesota Statutes, Section 462.3593
2. Award Contract – 2017 Street Rehabilitation Improvements Project
3. Request for Temporary Liquor License-B.P. Servicemen's Club
4. Rural Electric Supply Company (RESCO) Cooperative membership
5. Request for an Exempt Gambling Permit- Blooming Prairie Recreation Association
6. Request for an Exempt Gambling Permit-Blooming Prairie Cancer Group

City Administrator's Report
1. Welcome Signs
2. Rain Event issues
3. Zoning Map Updated

City Attorney's Report
Council Members' Reports
Adjourn
This Agenda is Subject to Change

BP ISD#756 Oct. Agenda

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #756
BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA 55917
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CNTR
PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGENDA

6:00 a.m. Thursday, October 13,'16 Regular School Board Work Session–High School Board Room
7:00 p.m. Monday, October 17, 2016 Open Public Forum–High School Media Center
7:15 p.m. Monday, October 19, '16 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
  A. Testing Results
VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED
  A. Consent Agenda
    Minutes
    Bills
    Treasurer's Report
    Resignations
    Employment
    Donations
  B. Final FY 16 Audit
  C. GASB 45 Valuation
  D. MASA Resolution
  E. Skid Loader
  F. Driver Education
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
*Agenda may be subject to changes
10/4

Steele County - Synopsis 8.23.16

Steele County Commissioner's Synopsis for 8/23/2016
Complete minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website.
Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
1. Glynn/Brady to approve the agenda. Ayes all.
2. Glynn/Huntington to approve the consent agenda items. Ayes all.
   A. Approve the Minutes of August 2, 2016.
   B. Approve the Listing of Bills.
   C. Approve Out of State travel request for two correctional staff to Zuecher training in South Dakota.
   D. Approve annual service agreement between Motorola and the Sheriff s offic
   E. Accept preliminary plat for Opportunity Addition-Old Highway site.
   F. Accept the Land Use and Records Minutes.
   G. Accept the Public Works Minutes.
   H. Accept Internal Central Services Minutes for August 3rd and August 17th.
   I. Accept Public Safety Minutes.
   J. Accept Probation Officer job descriptions classificati request.
1. Glynn/Schultz to approve the Personnel Report.
2. Brady/Huntington to approve replacing the full-time Program Assistant Coordinator position at the Detention Center and allow part-time CARE Case Manager, Jovae Priebe to work additional hours until new full-time Program Asst. Coordinator is in place. Ayes all.
3. Schultz/Glynn to approve hiring a student GIS intern to be funded by the compliance fund. Ayes all.
4. Huntington/Glynn to approve the addition of a VS32 Paging Module for the Courthouse complex. Ayes all.
5. Glynn/Brady to approve the Jail Commissary agreement and contract extension with TurnKey Corrections. Ayes all.
6. Schultz/Glynn to approve the finance p ocedures for the Detention Center using TEAM software. Ayes all.
7. Brady/Schultz to approve Change Order No. 1 to Greystone contract in the amount of minus $2,200. Ayes all.
8. Huntington/Glynn to approve of Award Option A bid for the sale of property at 1123 SE 44th Ave. with house for high bid amount of $123,850 to Dalton Wanous. Ayes all.
9. Brady/Huntington to approve the Evergreen Land Services agreement to assist with the closing of the 44th Avenue property. Ayes all.
10. Huntington/Schultz Resolution approve the final payment to Doyle Connor Company in the amount of $4,518.10 for CP 74-016-03. Upon the vote being taken, five Commissioners voted in favor thereof, none absent and not voting. A copy of the Resolution is on file in the Auditor s offic
11. Glynn/Huntington Resolution approve the final payment to R.A.W. Construction in the amount of $3,243.49 for SAP 74-645-35. Upon the vote being taken, five Commissioners voted in favor thereof, none absent and not voting. A copy of the Resolution is on file in the Auditor s offic
12. Schultz/Brady Resolution by Steele County that the County

BLOOMING PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP LANDOWNERS

The deadline for mowing Road Ditches in the Township is October 15, 2016

If the road ditches on your land are not mowed by this date and have to be mowed for you by the township we will bill you a fee for the service.

Signed Blooming Prairie Township Board
Jerry Wencl- Chairman
Missy Anderson- Clerk

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- Positive, energetic, self-motivator
- Detail oriented

PLEASE APPLY ONLINE TO: sales@polypakplastics.com

Steele County - Synopsis 8.23.16 continued

enter into a Grant Agreement with the MN Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct the County eterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant ogram. Upon the vote being taken, five Commissioners voted in favor the eof, none absent and not voting. A copy of the Resolution is on file in the Auditor s offi

13. Public Hearing on amending the Steele County Water plan was open at 5:54 p.m.
14. The meeting was then open to comments from those in attendance.
15. Schultz/Glynn closed Public Hearing.
16. Glynn/Huntington set a second Public Hearing date for October 11, 2016 at 5:45 p.m., which will be after a 30-day state agency review period. Ayes all.
17. Commissioners Reports:
    Commissioner Glynn reported on his attendance at the MNPrairie Board meeting and the Canvassing Board.
    Commissioner Huntington reported on her attendance at the MNPrairie Board meeting, South Country Health Alliance Joint Powers Board meeting, Mets Work Group (Software), MNPrairie Finance Committee, City/County Joint Transportation meeting and AMC Strategic Planning.
    Commissioner Brady reported on his attendance at South Central Human Relations and Canvassing Board.
    Commissioner Schultz reported on his attendance at the Fair Board, SEMCAC meeting and City/County Joint Transportation meeting and South Central Human Relations Center.
    Commissioner Ebeling reported on his attendance at Emergency Communication Board and Law Library meeting.
18. Glynn/Huntington to approve the following listing of bills:

LISTING OF BILLS
8/23/2016

30th Place LLC	17,674.75
A'viands, LLC	20,186.89
Advanced Correctional Healthcare Inc	9,343.48
AGI Electric LLC	2,375.00
All Systems Installation Inc	77,006.00
AMCON	15,357.00
APG Media of Southern Minnesota LLC	2,068.43
Asbestrol Inc	3,800.00
Aug's All Home Services	2,135.00
Borneke Construction, Inc.	21,277.30
Bushey/Jodi L	8,175.00
Businessware Solutions Corporation	2,027.04
Carlson McCain Inc	2,100.00
Chosen Valley Testing Inc.	2,500.00
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP	2,500.00
Computer Professionals Unlimited Inc	4,219.72
Continental Research Corp	2,179.56
Corporate Recognition Inc	2,173.98
Crane Creek Asphalt	7,703.70
Custom Communications, Inc.	3,103.54
Dakota County Financial, Svc.	2,617.54
Einhaus Mattison Carver & Haberman PA	2,269.00
Fidlar Technologies Inc.	2,500.00
Flooring Frenzy & More	4,757.10
Harlands Tire & Auto Center	3,192.50
Hillyard-Hutchinson	3,275.09
Honeywell Inc	5,671.62
Hyatt Regency	2,109.92
Jones Haugh & Smith, Inc.	3,118.40
Loken Excavating & Drainage	2,378.05
MACO	3,000.00
Malo Roofing, Inc.	2,436.00
Mn Dept of Natural Resources	2,250.00
Napa Auto Parts	2,088.43
Oertel Architects	32,153.29
Owatonna Motor Company	7,481.52
RDO Equipment Co, Inc	7,284.55
Reliance Telephone Inc.	2,500.00
Riverland Comm College Austin	2,000.00
Schindler Elevator Corp Inc	2,640.84
Steele County Treasurer	9,323.49
Steele County Treasurer - PCP	13,432.36
Steele-Waseca Drug Court	2,000.00
Thompson Reuters – West	4,584.60
Trane U.S. Inc.	19,735.22
Turnkey Corrections	15,749.78
Univ of MN Regents	3,486.22
Zuercher Technologies LLC	18,064.46
201Warrants under $2,000	65,503.25
Total:	**$455,509.62**

Glynn/Huntington to adjourn to the Call of the Chair at 6:25 p.m. Ayes all.

10/4


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PUZZLE ON PAGE 4C

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

B	A	R	D	S	■	■	D	D	T	■	P	A	L	P
I	L	E	A	C	■	D	A	Y	E	■	A	R	E	A
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B	E	N	E	F	I	T	E	D	■	C	O	A	C	H
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N	S	E	C	■	T	K	O	■	■	I	R	A	N	I

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HOMECOMING

GOOD LUCK!



Homecoming 2016

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Dress up days for homecoming

(school dress code will be followed; hats may only be worn if they are part of the outfit

Monday, October 3rd –
Pajama Day

Tuesday, October 4th –
Character Day

Wednesday, October 5th –
Decade Day

Thursday, October 6th –
Hillbilly Day

Friday, October 7th -
BP Spirit Day

EVENTS FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

9 a.m. – Candidates hand out candy to elementary school and nursing home.

LUNCH –
Make your own sundaes

PEP-FEST –
2:00 p.m. (7th hour)

PARADE / FLOATS –
Parade starts at 4:15 p.m.
1st Place - $200
2nd Place - $150
*3rd Place - $100

*There will be a 3rd place prize given if we have more than 4 floats entered. No prize money will be awarded if quality of floats is not deeming merit.

FOOTBALL GAME

BP vs. Medford 7 p.m.

Admission to game is $1.00
less if wearing a Homecoming Button

DANCE

Following game for 7-12 HS Gym.
Sr. Advisors are chaperones.
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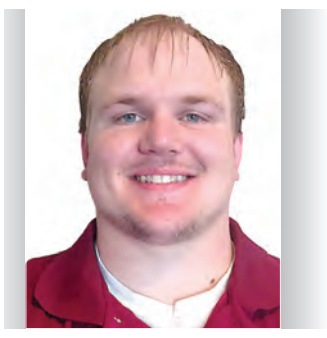
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NRHEG	38	Owatonna	49	Blooming Prairie	2	Medford	0
Sibley East	29	Austin	18	Mankato-Loyola	0	Kenyon-Wanamingo	47
Page 5D		Pages 2D & 3D		*BP won by forfiet		Page 4D	

FOUR-POINT STANCE



JOSH ZIMMER

Why Lamar Jackson will win the Heisman

We just finished week five of the college football season. With that, I feel the need to address the Heisman trophy situation, as we are now just one month away of crowning this year's winner.

This year's talent across the college football landscape feature some of the most dynamic players in the country and barring any significant life events, are also sure-fire NFL talents.

While there are numerous media outlets that you can use to find out who currently leads the race, why not get it from someone who's A) local and b) carries a vote?

I can tell you all now that there is certainly a bevy of names that could easily covet the top spot right now. However, this is one man's race to lose. That man is sophomore quarterback Lamar Jackson of Louisville.

The real deal

After having a solid freshman season, the sophomore from Florida has been electrifying defenses all season.

In five games this season, Jackson has thrown for 1,625 yards while posting a touchdown to interception ratio of 14:4. However, he isn't a one trick pony. A running style similar to Michael Vick, Jackson has gashed defenses for 688 yards and 14 scores.

The Louisville Cardinals suffered their first loss on Saturday to Clemson and quarterback Deshuan Watson-a game where Jackson had a prime position for a "Heisman moment," but his receiver stepped out of bounds just a yard away from a first down.

Despite the loss, the Louisville signal caller is starting to put himself in very good company.

Out of the last seven quarterbacks to win the Heisman, five were considered dual-threats.

In fact, through five games, Jackson's 688 yards rushing is closly approaching the season totals for Marcus Mariota (770), Tim Tebow (895), and Robert Griffen III (699) the year they each respectively won the Heisman.

The loss to Clemson may not be the end of Jackson's Heisman campaign. In fact, it could only be heating up. Out of seven remaining games, just one is against a Top 5 opponent.

Can't fail twice

Nov. 17 will be the next big test if Louisville manages to escape any trap games prior to.

In Houston, the Cardinals will be in natinal spotlight once again for a primetime match up against the Cougars.

More importantly, it will be a chance for Jackson to out-duel another Heisman favorite in Greg Ward Jr, who is currently in third for my list.

We have a ton of football left to be played, so lets bask in the glory the football gods have blessed us with this season.

To interact with Josh, follow him on Twitter: @JZimmer_Sports

Runnin' wild



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Huskies running back Jason Williamson (22) bursts into the second level of the Packers' defense on Friday night. In the 49-18 win, the sophomore rushed for more than 100 yards and a score. To see complete results, turn to pages 2D and 3D.



Staff photo by Kylie Rice

Panthers running back eludes a Sibley East defender during the second half of NRHEG's 38-29 win on Friday. The junior contiues his hot start to the season, adding 176 yards and a touchdown to his seaosn totals.

Owatonna

Huskies pummel Packers 49-18



Staff photos by Josh Zimmer

Top: Huskies junior quarterback Abe Havelka (3) drops back into the pocket late in the first half against Austin riday. Havelka tossed four touchdown passes in Owatonna's 49-18 rout of Austin. Bottom left: Junior wide receiver Alex Raichle (4) celebrates his third touchdown of the night with Dalton Kubista (88). Bottom right: Running back Jason Williamson (22) celebrates his 35-yard touchdown run with teammates Noah Budach (1) and Terrell Conner (73).

Havelka tosses four scores in first career start

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

What a better time to have a career performance in your first career start than on homecoming.

That was the case for junior quarterback Abe Havelka Friday, as the junior made his first career start. Behind his four first-half touchdowns passes, the Owatonna Huskies soared to a 49-18 win over section foe Austin.

Head coach Jeff Williams said that he was pleased by his quarterback's performance.

"He did a pretty good job of pulling things down and running with it when there weren't things open for him, and he saw a crease. What I was really impressed by is he would miss a guy, we'd dial up another pass a play or two later, and he was right on the money. He doesn't get down on himself. He's got a really short memory," he added.

The scoring started early as rather than opting for a punt, Williams kept the offense on the field for a fourth down conversion attempt. With a clean pocket, Havelka hit fellow junior Alex Raichle for a 37-yard catch-and-run to give the Huskies a quick 7-0 lead.

Following a stalled Packers drive, the Huskies started at their own 15-yard line. A healthy mix of Havelka's arm and sophomore running back Jason Williamson's legs managed to put the Huskies in another premier scoring position.

After Williamson was dropped for a one-yard loss, junior wide receiver Noah Budach took the hand off on the fly sweep and raced 37 yards down the Austin sideline to extend the Huskies lead to 14-0 late in the first quarter.

However, the Packers weren't going to go out without a fight. Just before the end of the first quarter, quarterback Tate Hebrink connected on a 64 catch-and-run with wide receiver Trent Brown-who was left open after a miscommunication in the secondary-to bring cut the deficit to seven.

Havelka and the Huskies offense would answer right back, putting together a five play, 53-yard drive that was capped off with by a 2-yard Raichle touchdown catch. The speedy junior would finish with 3 receptions for 87 yards and three scores on the night.

Just two series' later, Jay Sullivan looked like he was about to break the game open with a long punt return but slipped trying to make a cut deep in the Huskies own territory. After the Packers defense was lulled to sleep by three straight Williamson runs, Havelka connected with Brett Solie for a 44-yard strike to give the senior his first offensive touchdown of the season and extending the lead to 28-7. Friday was the first offensive action the senior captain has seen for the year. He would finish with one catch on two targets for 44 yards.

With time winding down, the Packers went back to the passing concept that registered Austin's first score of the night. On a second and five with under a minute left in the game, Hebrink connected with Jany Gash for a quick 60-yard strike to slow the bleeding just before half. Gash finished the evening with five catches for 91 yards and two touchdowns. Williams added that the concept was really the only thing Austin was able to run effectively.

"They do some nice things with the rub post. That was their two touchdowns, but he (Gash) is a nice receiver and they do some things in their scheme to get him open," he added.

With momentum possibly shifting toward Austin after the late first half score, Owatonna wide receiver Jay Sullivan ended any thoughts of Austin getting back into the game. The senior returned the opening kickoff of the second half 84 yards to open up the scoring.

Late in the third, the Huskies started to feed Williamson, looking to chew the clock and wear down the Packers front seven. After five straight carries, Bryce Goodwin spelled the sophomore at running back and continued where Williamson left off. Unfortunately, after three strong runs, the senior fumbled deep in the Packers red zone. Fortunately for the Huskies, the Packers were unable to generate a drive and were forced to punt.

A poor punt put the Huskies on the cusp of entering Packers territory. After Noah Budach hauled in a 20-yard catch-and-run from Havelka, the Huskies turned back to Williamson. On his lone carry of the drive, he broke through the Packers front and raced down the Huskies sideline for a 35-yard touchdown run.

Aside from the few miscommunications in the passing game, the Huskies played lights out defense, allowing just 18 total point and five different Packers ball carriers to a total of 89 yards rushing while also forcing two fumbles.

The win brings the Huskies win streak to two and this week will host Rochester Mayo. Williams said that they have to be focused to top the section foe.

"Mayo's a good football team and its going to take a good effort on our part to get those guys," he said.

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. at OHS Stadium.

Scoring summary

Owatonna 49, Austin 18
FIRST QUARTER
O—Alex Raichle 37 pass from Abe Havelka (Aidan Buryska kick), 8:58
O—Noah Budach 32 run (Buryska kick), 2:09
A—Trent Brown 64 pass from Tate Hebrink (kick fail), 0:39
SECOND QUARTER
O—Raichle 2 pass from Havelka (Buryska kick), 8:48
O—Brett Solie 44 pass from Havelka (Buryska kick), 4:06
O—Raichle 48 pass from Havelka (Buryska kick), 2:01
A—Jany Gash 60 pass from Hebrink (kick fail), 0:44
THIRD QUARTER
O—Jay Sullivan 84 kick return (Buryska kick), 11:45
O—Jason Williamson 29 run (Buryska kick), 2:06
FOURTH QUARTER
A—Gash 17 pass from Hebrink (pass fail), 8:43

Team Stats

Passing: A 286, O 214
Rushing: A 89, O 260
Total Offense: A 375, O 474
Turnovers: A 1, O 4

Huskies stats leaders

Passing: Havelka- 9 for 15, 204, yards, 4 TD's; Jacob Gauthier- 0 for 2; Tucker Alstead- 1 for 3, 10 yards.
Rushing: Williamson- 18 carries, 104 yards, TD; Bryce Goodwin- 5 carries, 24 yards (fumble); Havelka- 2 carries, 31 yards; Zach Mensink- 2 carries, 14 yards (fumble); Budach- carry, 37 yards, TD; Jay Schuster-carry, -1 yards; Griffin Thorn- 4 carries, 51 yards (two fumbles).
Receving-Mitch Wiese- reception, no gain; Brett Solie- reception, 44 yards, TD; Raichle- 3 receptions, 87 yards, 3 TD's; Budach- 3 receptions; 40 yards; Dalton Kubista-reception, 33 yards; Jacob McMains- reception, 10 yards.





Owatonna



Staff photos by Josh Zimmer

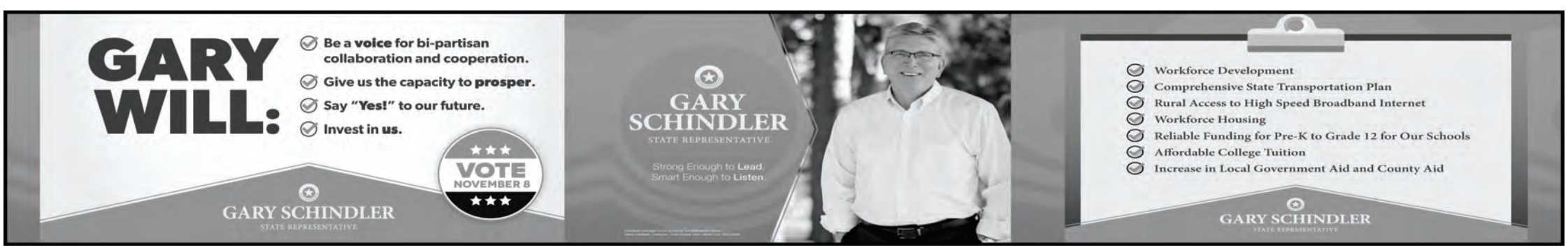
Top: Kadyn Mulert (78) bear hugs Packers running back Jakob Crouch (12) as Huskies linebacker Ben Staska (51) breaks into the backfield early in the first quarter in Owatonn s 49-18 win over Austin. Middle left: Huskies outside linebacker Mitch Wiese (26) wraps up a Packers ball carrier as Goy Tut (74) dives for his legs and Ben Staska (51) pursues. Middle right: Homecoming Quenn Katie Belina smiles to the crowd as he holds a cut out of Homecoming king and Huskies tight end Ethan DeKam during halftime. Bottom left: Running back Jason Williamson (22) is wrapped up by a Packers defensive lineman early in the first quarter of action. Bottom r ght: Defenisve Coordinator Marc Achterkirch stands with one of his linebackers as he awaits the kickoff ollowing a Huskies touchdown.











Medford

Knights slay Tigers 47-0



Staff photos by Emily Schoenbeck

Top: Tigers right tackle Josh Schauer (51) awaits the snap as he eyes his oppostion during last Friday's contest against Kenyon-Wanamingo. The Knights defeated the Tigers 47-0 on homecoming. Bottom left: Marcus DeLeon (25) and javis VonRuden (17) tackles a Knights' ballcarrier after an interception. Bottom right: Defenisve back Tye DeVoe (85) attempts to tackle a Knights ball carrier on Friday.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

Homecoming is the one time during the season that it's a must win, no matter the cost. Unfortunately, Kenyon Wanamingo's stifling defense had something else in mind.

Forcing four total turnovers and allowing just 255 yards of total offense, the Knights pummeled Medford 47-0. Head coach Jerome Johannes said that the Knights appear to be on their way to another District title and capitalized on the minor mistakes.

"We just didn't play very well. They (Kenyon-Wanamingo) are a very good team, and they are going to give a lot of teams a run for their money," he added.

It was an off night offensively for the Tigers. They couldn't establish a running game with star running back and homecoming king Marcus DeLeon. Friday's contest was the first time this season that the senior running back was held to under 30 carries, 150 yards rushing, and a score. DeLeon finished with 20 carries for 76 yards rushing and a costly fumble.

While the Tigers struggled on the ground, it was a battle trying to get the passing game going as well. Javis VonRuden was efficient throwing, completing 10 of his 19 attempts for 112 yards. Despite stretching the field and completing the majority of his attempts, the signal caller couldn't protect the football. Three of his missed attempts found its way into the arms of a ball-hawking secondary. The lone long completion was on a DeLeon pass. The running back received the pitch and heaved a 50-yard bomb to Tye Devoe, being the only completion over 30 yards.

Defensively Medford was led by Bo Noble's nine tackles, However, the Tigers continued their struggle of stuffing the run. Knights running back Calvin Steberg had a big night for the Kenyon-Wanamingo offense, recording three scores. To add to his 100-yard performance on the ground, he also returned a VonRuden pass for a touchdown.

Through the air it was no different as Jack Beulke went 7 for 8 for 179 yards and three scores. The high-powered offense and the stifling defense led the Knights to its third shutout. In fact, only one team (St. Clair) has scored in the last 16 quarters.

Heading into next week, Johannes said that they have to work on the little things.

"We didn't do any major things wrong. We just have to fix the little mistakes," he added.

Medford plays Blooming Prairie for a section match up Friday.

Scoring summary

K-W 47
Medofrd 0
First quarter
K-W—Roosen 24 pass from Beulke (Beulke kick), 7:10
K-W—Steberg 17 run (Beulke kick), 2:45
Second quarter
K-W—Steberg 3 pass from Beulke (Beulke kick), 8:23

Team stats

Passing- K-W:179, M 164
Rushing- K-W: 284, M 91
Turnovers: K-W 1, M 4

Tigers stats leaders

Passing: VonRuden- 10 for 19, 112, 3 INT's; DeLeon- 1 for 1, 52 yards.
Rushing: DeLeon- 20 carries, 76 yards; Nate Meixner- 5 carries, 9 yards; Javis VonRuden- 2 carries, 6 yards
Receiving: DeVoe- 3 receptions, 76 yards; Meixner- 4 receptions, 35 yards; Alex Gengler- 3 receptions, 39 yards; DeLeon-1 reception, 14 yards.
Defense
Noble-9 tackles, DeVoe-8 tackles, Nick Masso- 7 tackles; Greg Larson-fumble recovery; Josh Schauer-sack; Bud Haefs-sack.





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NRHEG

Panthers win fourth straight



Staff photos by Kylie Rice

Top: Pannthers quarterback Sam Prigge (3) leaps as he attempts to haul in a Perry Peterson pass attempt during NRHEG's home game against Sibley East on Friday. The pass would be dropped but the Panthers went on the win 38-29 to secure their fourth striaght win. Bottom left: Running back Perry Peterson (22) attempts to break through the Sibley East defense. Bottom right: Wide receiver Brady Agrimson (27) looks to get upfield after hauling in a Prigge pass Friday.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

The big guns for the NRHEG football team struck again last Friday, Sept. 30, and earned the Panthers their fourth victory in a row. The game on the home field saw the panthers outscore Sibley East 38-29 and left the team 4-1 for the season. A trip to LeSeuer-Henderson this coming Friday poses the next obstacle for the team.

NRHEG struck first against the Wolverines on a Sam Prigge pass to Brady Agrimson-good for 21 yards-with just four minutes left in the first quarter. The two-point conversion gave the Panthers an 8-0 lead. With just one minute left in the period, Kevin Durham ran one yard for a touchdown, and NRHEG led by a point after the first break.

The Panthers counted two touchdowns in the second quarter, and Sibley East notched one touchdown. Prigge found Cole Staloch over the middle for 28 yards just into the quarter, but Brody Bates ran 14 yards for another wolverine score. The Panthers took a 24-15 lead into the half, after Prigge connected again, this time to Noah Sletten for 21 yards, with just 32 seconds left in the half.

As Coach Dan Stork remarked, "Prigge had a huge night in this game. The offensive line did a good job of protection, and Prigge was right on target all night. Staloch, Agrimson, and Sletten all had great games catching the ball, and Perry Peterson had another great game in rushing yardage. This was a great win, as Sibley East is a very good football team."

Sibley East scored first in the second half on a Durham run of 23 yards to cut the margin to a single point with four minutes gone in the third quarter. No more scoring came in the third quarter, but Perry Peterson restored the Panther six-point lead with a 7-yard run at the nine-minute mark of the final quarter.

The Wolverines again narrowed the game to a one-point deficit on a Gavin Bates pass to Scott Holmquist-good for 68 yards-just 15 seconds after the Panther kickoff. NRHEG scored an insurance touchdown with five minutes left in the game when Prigge passed to Staloch for 14 yards and then ran the two-point conversion. Neither team could score in the last five minutes, and the winners had the nine-point victory. Prgge finished the game with four touchdown passes in his best effort of the season.

Team stats

Passing: SE 120, NRHEG 220
Rushing: SE 228, NRHEG 192
Total offense: SE 349, NRHEG 412
Turnovers: SE 2, NRHEG 1

Panthers stats leaders

Passing: Prigge- 12 for 16, 220 yards, 4 TD's, INT.
Rushing: Peterson- 30 carries, 176 yards, TD; Noah Sletton- 7 carries, 28 yards; Sawyer Vanmaldegham- 7 carries, 4 yards; Prigge- 6 carries, -16 yards.
Receiving: Cole Staloch- 4 receptions, 94 yards, 2 TD's; Brady Agrimson- 3 receptions, 48 yards, TD, Noah Sletton- 3 receptions, 41 yards, TD; Sawyer Vanmaldegham- 2 receptions, 37 yards.





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-Rick Wooden

A man of many hats



Photo courtesy of Kathy Piller

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

In a high school the size of Blooming Prairie, there exist many opportunities, and sometimes obligations, to serve the school in several capacities. Nate Piller is one of those staff members. As the classroom art instructor, Piller also coaches the varsity basketball team, but also handles the junior varsity football team as an assistant to Coach Chad Gimbel. It certainly doesn't leave a lot of spare time in his day.

In the classroom he has guided students into producing fine works of arts in several mediums, from oil paintings to pen and ink or pencil shadings. The students have earned many compliments at the annual displays sponsored by the ZED district. But it is outside the classroom that most people recognize him and where his responsibilities to others have the most effect.

Piller has been a member of the BPHS staff going on 17 years, moving to this community in 2000. He grew up in Nashua, Iowa, and earned his teaching degree at Wartburg College. He taught art in Iowa for four years and coached junior high teams in both football and basketball. After making the move to Minnesota, he spent several years as the junior high basketball and football coach before moving up to an assistant football position. Last year he also took over as the varsity basketball coach and will begin his second season in that capacity in a little over a month.

Right now, of course, football dominates his time. When asked to assess the season so far, he replied, "I think we are just about where we expect to be. We have been a little inconsistent, but we have some skill players who can star at any time. The defense has been strong, and I think a couple of the victories can be attributed directly to the defensive effort exerted by the boys."

Although his spare time is somewhat limited, Piller finds time to be active in his church activities. The father of Zach (a senior) and Alec (8th grade), he and his wife volunteer in many capacities. Nate's wife Kathy, is presently teaching in the Southland school district and is an EMT in the BP ambulance group. With all that going on, family time is at a premium, although such time is important to the family.

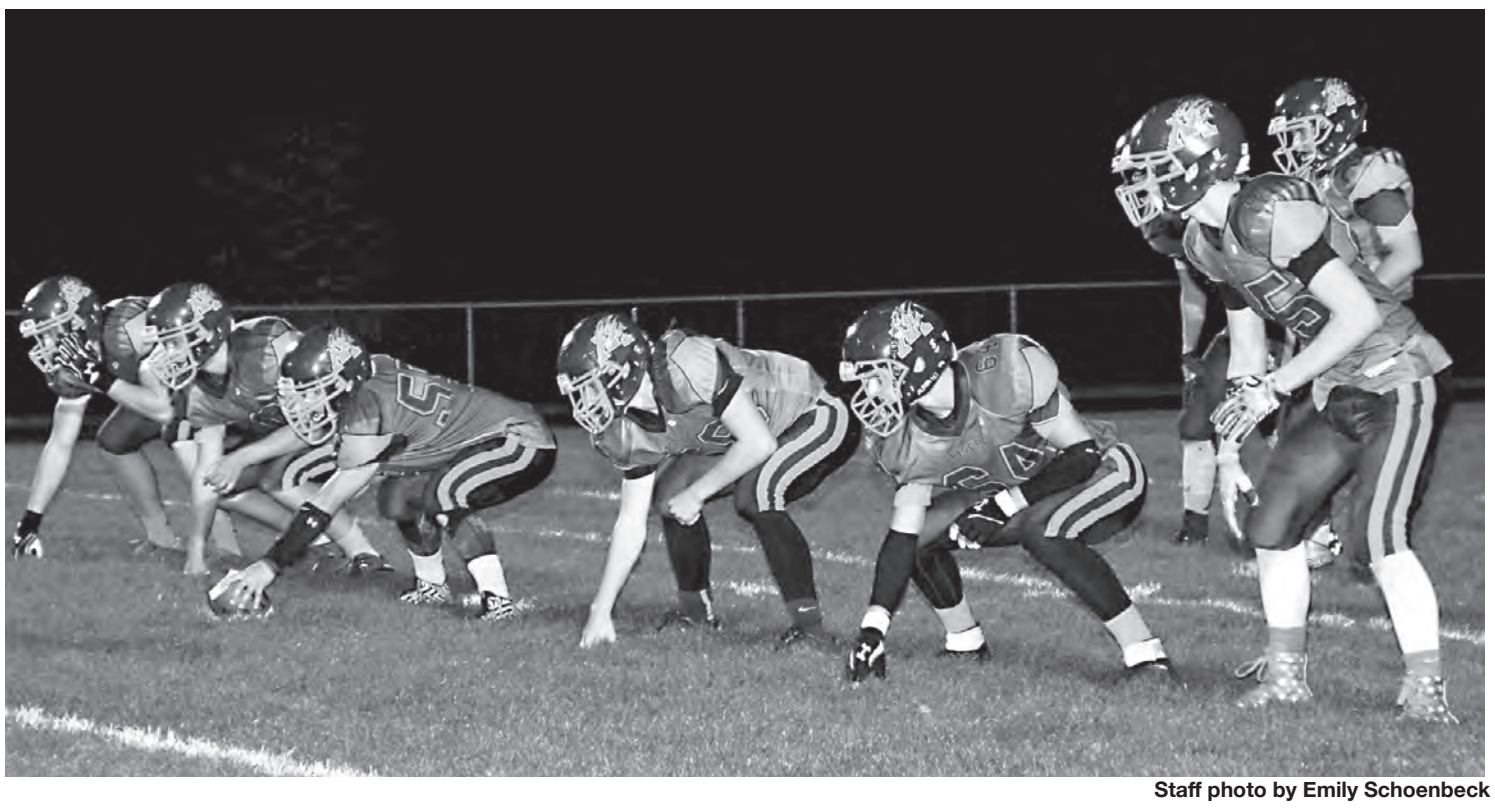
Now that basketball is around the corner, what does Piller feel about the upcoming season. "Primarily," he remarked, "the object of any sport is to have fun, and that is something I think critically important in coaching. My hardest task, usually, is how to prioritize things and put everything in its proper perspective. I always tell the boys to appreciate the experience of being part of a team and to focus on getting the most out of the experience that they can.

I want the kids to work for daily improvement and try to stay in the present at all times. It does no one any good to dwell in the past or worry about the future, if one does his best in the here and now, Again, having fun, working hard, and striving to demonstrate daily improvement. These are the goals uppermost in my thinking, and, I hope, in the minds of the boys I coach."

Piller is fortunate that he is well respected by his peers on the staff. They admire his even temperament and his willingness to help in any capacity where help is needed. As the head basketball coach, he admits that one big problem is dealing with a team member when that individual is your own son. He tries hard to be impartial in that regard, and he thinks that so far any criticism he has received has been respectful.

There will be many times during the season when problems or poor play creeps into the team mentality, but Piller is hopeful those times will be infrequent. He will try very hard to avoid them.

The stride of a champion



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Watch the Medford line-up closely this year, and you might notice No. 75 lining up with a different stride. Despite a medical condition that has weakened his legs, sophomore Luke Johnston is still a fighting tige .

This defensive end, and sometimes offensive tackle, is used to rolling with the punches. Diagnosed with a brain tumor when he was eleven, Johnston's health made a career in sports unlikely. While the tumor was removed, it left his legs in a condition that makes walking, let alone running, challenging.

Johnston has been playing football since the seventh grade. When all of his friends went out for the team, he was motivated to do likewise.

"I was afraid," Johnston recalls, but he continued, "I wanted to try." His guts paid off, and he's now regularly on the field for his fourth season.

He hasn't stopped working to improve his health either. His family supports him in at home therapy, and they're trying new methods that will hopefully have him walking even easier.

Outside of football season, Johnston is also a member of the track and field team. Putting his muscles to use, he competes in shot put and disc. He's even got his eye on going out for the basketball team if he can improve the condition of his legs.

When he's not on the field, he's hard at work in school like any other student. His school year is going well, and he's taken an interest in story writing since he's started taking a creative writing class.

Johnston doesn't plan to pursue a football career past high school, but his love of the game will keep him close, as he considers careers in sports medicine, or possibly broadcast journalism.

Addressing other aspiring young athletes with medical conditions, Johnston says, "They have to keep fighting.

Prep Preview



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna defensive end Cole Bergeman (52) barrels down on Austin quarterback Tate Hebrink (2) last Friday.

This week, the Blossoms will celebrate their homecoming with a match up with conference foe Medford.

Owatonna

After a 49-18 rout of Austin, the Huskies move into second place in the Big Southeast-Red division.

This week the Huskies have a chance to move into the top spot with a win against Rochester Mayo.

The Spartans (4-1, 2-0) are coming off a loss to No. 5 Mankato West 34-7.

NRHEG

The Panthers look to with their fifth-straight game as they travel to LeSuer-Henderson.

The Giants (1-4, 1-3) are coming off their first win of the season- a 54-6 thunping of Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop.

Medford at BP

The match up of the week will be the Blossoms playing host to the Tigers on homecoming.

BP is looking forward to play after receiving a forfeit victory from Mankato-Loyola.

The Tigers are looking to get back on track after dropping their second contest in a row- a 47-0 rout by Kenyon-Wanamingo.

Mid Southwest-West

	Div.	Overall
Blooming Prairie	4-0-0	4-1 -0
Kenyon-Wanamingo	4-0-0	4-1-0
Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton	3-1-0	2-2-0
Bethlehem Academy	2-2-0	2-3-0
United South Central	1-3-0	2-3-0
Medford	1-3-0	1-4-0
St. Clair	1-3-0	1-4-0
Mankato Loyola	0-4-0	0-5-0

South Central-Blue

	Div.	Overall
Maple River	4-0-0	4-1-0
Mayer Lutheran	4-1-0	4-1-0
NRHEG	4-1-0	4-1-0
Lester Prairie/Holy Trinity	2-2-0	3-2-0
Norwood-Young America	2-2-0	2-3-0
Sibley East	1-2-0	2-3-0
Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial	1-2-0	2-3-0
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	1-3-0	2-3-0
LeSeur-Henderson	1-3-0	1-4-0
Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop	0-4-0	0-5-0

Big Southeast-Red

	Div.	Overall
Rochester Mayo	2-0-0	4-1-0
Owatonna	2-0-0	3-2-0
Northfield	1-1-0	3-2-0
Rochester John Marshall	1-1-0	2-3-0
New Prague	0-2-0	1-4-0
Rochester Century	0-2-0	1-4-0

Football State Rankings

Class 1A
1. Minneota
2. Minneapolis North
3. Rushford-Peterson
4. BOLD
5. Wabasso

*Receiving votes: Fillmore Central Dawson-Boyd

Class 2A
1. Caledonia
2. Barnesville
3. Redwood Valley
4. Evelth-Gilbert
5. Pilager

*Receiving votes: Maple Lake Eden Valley-Watkins

Class 5A
1. Elk River
2. Spring Lake Park
3. Mahtomedi
4.Chanhassen
5. Mankato West

*Receiving votes: Alexandria, St. Michael-Alb.

Source: Northstarfootball.com

Steele County Football Schedule

Blooming Prairie
Sept. 2... at Rushford-Peterson L 26-6
Sept. 9... vs. Bethlehem Academy W 32-0
Sept. 16... at St. Clair W 34-16
Sept. 23... vs. J-W-P W 12-8
Sept. 30... at Mankato Loyola W 2-0 (*Won by forfeit)
Oct. 7... vs. Medford
Oct. 14... at United South Central
Oct. 19... vs.Kenyon Wanamingo

Medford
Sept. 2… at Lewiston-Altura L 41-0
Sept. 9... at JWP L 32-25
Sept. 16…vs. Mankato Loyola W 44-0
Sept. 23… vs. Bethlehem Academy L 24-21
Sept. 30… vs. Kenyon Wanamingo L 47-0
Oct. 7... at Blooming Prairie
Oct. 14... vs. St. Clair
Oct. 19... vs. United South Central

NRHEG
Sept. 2… vs. Mayer Lutheran L 36-13
Sept. 9... at Lester Prairie W 39-31
Sept. 16… vs. WEM W 30-22
Sept. 23… at G-F-W W 58-8
Sept. 30… vs. Sibley East W 38-29
Oct. 7... at LeSueur-Henderson
Oct. 14…. vs Lake Crystal-WM
Oct. 19... at Maple River

Owatonna
Sept. 2... vs. Mankato West L 34-19
Sept. 9... vs. Rochester JM W 26-7
Sept. 16... at Fairbault L 21-10
Sept. 23... at Northfield W 21-3
Sept. 30... vs. Austin W 49-18
Oct. 7... Rochester Mayo
Oct. 14... at New Prague
Oct. 19... at Rochester Century

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What you win: The Times will award a $10 gift car to the Kernal Restaurant, in Owatonna to the person correctly predicting the most winners from the games listed. The person with the most correct games throughout the 12 week contest will be awarded a subscription to the Steele County Times ($38 value) and a Chanhassen Dinner Theatre ticket for two ($175 value). An additional prize will be awarded if the winner correctly picks the outcome of all 30 games. Ties will be broken by the score of the Tie-Breaker game. All decisions by the judges are final. The contest is open to anyone age 14 and above, excluding staff and family members of Bussler Publishing, Inc. or Dodge Media, Inc.

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3	_____	8	_____
4	_____	19	_____
5	_____	20	_____
6	_____	21	_____
7	_____	22	_____
8	_____	23	_____
9	_____	24	_____
10	_____	25	_____
11	_____	26	_____
12	_____	27	_____
13	_____	28	_____
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29 - San Diego @ Oakland

30 - Tennessee @ Miami (*Tiebreaker)

MEDFORD HOMECOMING

School crowns queen and king



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

The homecoming court with their attendants and junior court pose after the coronation of the king and queen. Many of the king and queen canidates are the captains of the school's footbal and volleyball teams.

BY EMILY SHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

September 26 Medford High School kicked off their 2016 homecoming with "The Greatest Show on Turf." where they crowned their homecoming royalty.

Before the coronation got underway, the high school theater class put on a series of comedic sketches, including clown gang fights and the tale of Momeo and Juliet, a tragedy of warring clown and mime families. Royalty candidate Jon O'Daffer was part of the show as a magician entertaining the crowd with lackluster magic tricks.

Once the show concluded, the MCs, Alex Gengler and Isabel Brady, reminded students that the themes of homecoming dress-up days were mime Monday, topcoat Tuesday, wild animal print Wednesday, clown day Thursday, and festive Friday for school colors.

Kicking off the royalty introductions were the first grade attendants. James and Madden enthusiastically escorted Taylor and Maria. The high school royalty candidates for queen were Sydney Langeslag, Callie Nagel, Rebecca Edel, Rachel Bluhm, and Haileigh Benton. Candidates for king were Marcus Deleon, Justice Roehrick, Josh Shauer, Tye Devoe, and Jon O'Daffer.

Once the candidates were introduced, the volleyball, cross-country, and football captains were asked to come onstage and give an update on their season. The volleyball captains were hopeful their season would improve and felt that their games so far didn't reflect the hard work they've been doing in practice. Cross-country captains were happy to get their season started and encourage any sixth graders who are interested to sign-up. The football captains are just hoping to make their school proud and grateful for the support they've been getting.

The candidates were then invited to play a girls versus boys games of trivia about who knew Medford best. They were asked about everything from the population to how many stores were in the mall. The queen candidates won handily.

As the evening drew to a close, it was time to announce who had been voted homecoming king and queen. All of the king candidates kneeled in front of the queen candidates, who held balloons over their heads. One balloon contained glitter, and when the balloons were popped, the glitter drifted onto running back Marcus Deleon signaling him as his classmate's choice for homecoming king.

Once Marcus was crowned, it was the queen candidates' turn. This time the glitter fell on Rachel Bluhm, and she was crowned homecoming queen.

The crowning concluded the coronation, and family and friends joined the court onstage to congratulate them.

"It hasn't really hit me," King Marcus said when asked about his victory. It came as less of a surprise to his teammate and fellow king candidate, Jon O'Daffer. The two had a bet going since seventh grade that the other one would be crowned homecoming king. Before the crown was even placed on his head, Marcus could be seen handing his friend five dollars after the announcement.

"I was really surprised," Queen Rachel also shared, "It was just an honor to be on the court."

Emily Steffen, student council president and the event organizer, gave her high opinion of the court saying they were "really good community members."

The evening was a crowning moment to kick-off homecoming.





Staff photos by Emily Schoenbeck

Top left: The high school band plays at the homecoming game against the knights. They kept the atmosphere upbeat despite a rough time for the tigers on the field
Top right: A student submits a song request to the DJ at the homecoming dance. The tiger's loss didn't stop the good time students had after the game.
Bottom left: Students perform a clown themed sketch onstage as part of the pre-coronation show. The bits were performed by the Medford high school theater class.
Bottom right: A student helps a younger child off the bouncy ob tacle course. In addition to the dance, the high school also had a carnival after the game complete with cotton candy and picture cut outs to pose in.



