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STEELE COUNTY Times

SPECIAL SOUVENIR SECTION:
EIGHT PAGES DEDICATED TO THE
HUSKIES IN TODAY'S PAPER **D1**



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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017

Bloomington, Minnesota

SWEET REVENGE



STAFF PHOTO: RICK BUSSLER

It was a night of celebration Saturday at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis where the Owatonna Huskies captured the Class 5A High School Football Championship. The Huskies knocked off the defending champ Elk River 63-26. Players celebrate around Zach Mensink (covered up in this photo) who is holding the championship trophy. Brady Schuster (81) and Terrell Conner (73) pump their arms up in the air, as Andy Jensen (66) and Dawson Leer (20) give off priceless facial expressions.

Huskies snag state title from defending champ

It proved to be a case of sweet revenge for the Owatonna Huskies Saturday night at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

After being knocked out of the state tournament last year by Elk River, the Huskies (12-1) came back in dramatic fashion to dominate the Elks 63-26 and capture the State 5A football title.

It is the second time in five years that

Owatonna has snagged the championship crown. The last time was in 2013 when the Huskies shut out Brainerd 24-0.

"They're a great bunch of kids to work with," said an elated Huskies coach Jeff Williams of this year's championship team. "I'm really happy for them and what they have been able to accomplish. They have an awful lot to be proud of."

Star running back Jason Williamson

dominated the game once again for the Huskies. He tied the Prep Bowl record for the most combined touchdowns, six, in a single game. He delighted fans with a heads-up 67-yard kickoff return for a touchdown in the first half to snatch Elk River's only lead in the game.

Check out our souvenir edition inside this week's newspaper for all the game highlights and photos of the championship team.

CUPCAKE WARS IN BP

Bakers in creative foods class battle it out for top honors

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

"We're gonna win," confidently predicted Bloomington Prairie High School sophomore Jayde Wacek.

Wacek was correct in her comment as her kitchen, No. 5, took first place in Cupcake Wars, part of a classroom assignment in a creative foods class taught by Jennifer Flemming.

Team members of kitchen No. 5 were: Wacek, Amy Peterson, Matthew Wurst, Ryan Pena and Baylee Sorensen.

Cupcake Wars is an American reality competition series, which premiered on Dec. 27, 2009 on cable television's Food Network.

Flemming started the competition in her classroom three years ago. She said the competition gives the students an opportunity to take pride in their baking creativity. "The kids learn to work together as a team," she

SEE CUPCAKE, A3

STAFF PHOTO: HOWARD LESTRUD
Bloomington Prairie High School senior Brad Staska takes a bite of one of his creations in Cupcake Wars as part of the creative foods class taught by Jennifer Flemming.



BP Medallion hunt kicks off



The holiday season wouldn't be complete without a medallion hunt in Bloomington Prairie.

Beginning this week, the BP Chamber of Commerce is giving out weekly clues for young and old alike to head outdoors and find the medallion.

The lucky winner who returns the medallion to the chamber office in Bloomington Prairie will receive \$50 BP bucks.

The first clue:

Another year has come around.
There is a medallion to be found.
Walk around town.
Look up and look down.

Watch next week's edition for the second clue.

Man responsible for car death gets jail time

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

The man responsible for killing another man after a day of heavy drinking has received jail time.

Steele County Judge Joseph Bueltel has sentenced Peter Escobar, 25, of Albert Lea to at least 120 days in jail. He pleaded

guilty to criminal vehicular homicide in April.

Escobar's sentence has been staggered into three 120-day terms once a year for the next three years. The judge will allow him to file a motion to have the second and third jail terms waived if



Escobar

he shows that he is sober and compliant with probation.

As part of the sentence, Escobar will spend 90 days on electronic home monitoring at his expense following each term.

Besides jail time, the judge ordered Escobar to comply with the Ignition Interlock program and to not use alcohol or controlled substances. He must

SEE JAIL, A3

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Cheryl Kruckeberg, 64
Franklin E. Prokopec, 83

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OUR VIEW



STAFF PHOTO: RICK BUSSLER

Caption caption caption.

Sweet revenge lifts Huskies to state championship title

The Owatonna Huskies capped off a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend for area residents by bringing home a state championship title—the second in five years.

There was no doubt a feeling of sweet revenge in the air at U.S. Bank Stadium Saturday night from players, parents and fans alike as the Huskies blasted Elk River 63-26 in the championship game. After all, it was Elk River who dashed the hopes of a state title for Owatonna last year by knocking off the Huskies in the semifinals.

The Huskies came up short from being perfect this season as they dropped a tough one in Northfield during the regular season. But it likely proved to be a defining and humbling moment in Owatonna's season, reenergizing and giving team members the motivation and stamina in their quest for a state title.

It has been an incredible season watching the success of the Huskies. Who will ever forget the arm of quarterback Abe Havelka tossing touchdown after touchdown? Or how about running back Jason Williamson being a lighting rod and carrying the ball across the field, many times at large distances?

Owatonna has achieved the pinnacle of success in the high school sports world with an amazing 12-1 season and title trophies to proudly display for years to come. It's sweet success that not many schools are able to bask in even once, let alone twice within five years like the Huskies have accomplished. It doesn't get any better than winning state championships.

Pride is swelling at an all-time high in the wonderful community of Owatonna as folks love a winning team. And who wouldn't love the Huskies who have been tearing up the field for several years with quality teams.

We want to extend special congratulations to the Huskies football team for its superior achievements this year. Each of these fine athletes has brought incredible energy and pride into the community. All team members have worked incredibly hard for the team's success.

A special salute to head coach Jeff Williams and his assistants for their outstanding work in guiding and coaching the football players to a state title. The coaches are all partially responsible for the awesome performances of our Huskie players.

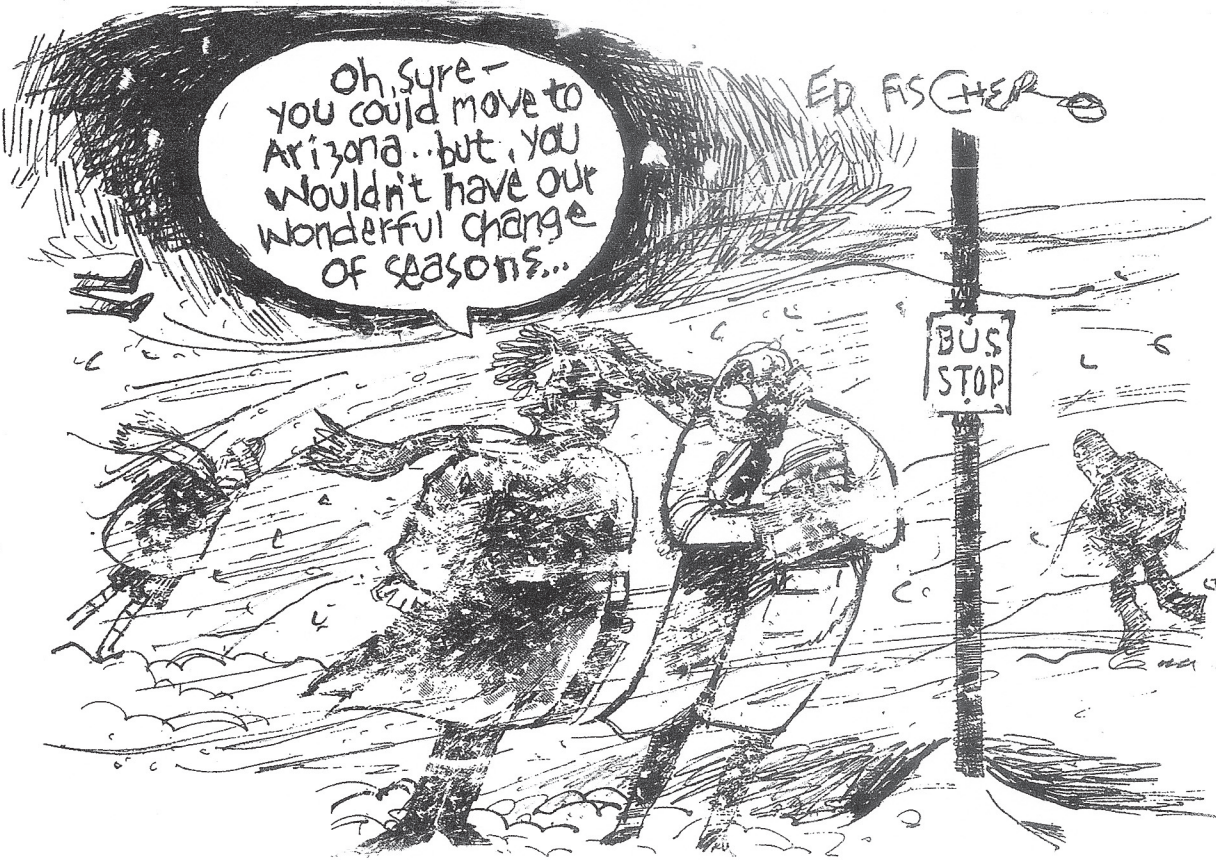
And we also can't forget about the parents who have been committed to getting their boys to the practices, games and tournaments and supporting them throughout the entire season and for many years prior to this season.

It takes lots of athletic talent to pull off a state championship, but it couldn't have been done without the support of the entire school and community.

It has been phenomenal work by the Huskie football players and coaches to produce an amazing season. You have made us proud!

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.



Twins to return back to radio home

One of my cherished memories of growing up was listening to Minnesota Twins baseball games on the radio.

No matter where I was whether it was in the house, in the yard or tooling down the road in the car, our radio was always tuned to WCCO Radio so I could take in the Twins games.

I often utilized a little transistor radio that brought in crackly sounds from the airwaves to hear at least parts of the Twins games.

I still get a little ribbing now and then about how I used to mimic the likes of Halsey Hall and Herb Carneal, two of the best loved play-by-play announcers in the history of baseball. They have been inducted into the Minnesota Broadcast Hall of Fame. I'd grab the seat belt buckle in the back seat and use it as a microphone to provide my own commentary out loud of the Twins games.

Who will ever forget how Halsey's home run calls of "Holy cow" would electrify the radio broadcasts. He was the first broadcaster to use that expression on a baseball broadcast. Or how about Herb's trademark greeting, "Hi everybody" being reminiscent of his folksy down-home style.

It seemed like something was lost in 2006 when Herb signed off the air for the last time before retiring. His retirement also marked the last time the Twins games were on WCCO.

For the past 11 seasons, it has been a nightmare trying to find the Twins on the radio dial as they have jumped around to various stations. And once you found them there certainly was no guarantee that you'd be able to tune it in for an extended period of time. Depending on the time of the day, it was anybody's guess whether you would be able to listen to the game or not. More often than not, listeners in the outstate areas were out of luck.

GUEST COLUMN

State offers help on winter propane, heating needs

The weather has certainly reminded us that winter in Minnesota has arrived, whether the calendar agrees or not. If you are worried about paying for heating bills this winter, I encourage you to look into Minnesota's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

This year, Minnesota received \$102 million from the federal government to fund this program.

Minnesota recognizes the Cold Weather Rule from Oct. 15 through April 15, which prevents heating disconnection for lower-income families during the brutal winter months. Under the rule, customers with a combined household income at or below 50 percent of the state median income -- \$48,077 for a family of four -- may qualify to receive grant money to help pay their heating bills.

The size of the grants is based on household income, size, fuel type and energy usage. Households with the lowest income and highest fuel cost receive the highest grants. Homeowners as well as renters may qualify for the assistance, which also may include support services such as emergency heating system repair or replacement, advocate services with utility companies, and crisis help for utility disconnections.

The program served more than 126,000 Minnesota households last year, but grants are provided on a first-come, first-served basis so those who believe they may need help should apply soon. More



DAN SPARKS



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

As I go on in life, I often find that what goes around comes around. Such is the case with the Twins.

In a stunning announcement, the Twins will be returning to WCCO, the 50,000-watt station that blankets Minnesota and other portions of the Midwest beginning next season. The station's clear-channel status helped build the team's fan base across the Upper Midwest.

As the announcement came earlier this month, Twins president Dave St. Peter says the team is "beyond pleased" to return to its radio home for more than four decades. St. Peter said it's a multiyear agreement that he expects will be long-term.

Thank goodness. Finally the Twins organization has come to its senses and will be offering something that should have never been taken away.

While it may not be Halsey or Herb in the broadcast booth like those earlier years, as they have since passed away, the current team of Cory Provus and Dan Gladden will continue to call the games for the Twins following the switch.

This is pretty special to have the Twins coming back home to WCCO. With promising things happening on the field this past season and hopefully next, it will be even greater to have the Twins where they belong on WCCO Radio.

Let's play ball and go in hot pursuit of enjoying the Twins once again on the radio home that helped build their destiny in Minnesota.

information may be found by contacting Semcac, our local county agency. The 2018 Energy Assistance Program application is on their website at www.semcac.org.

In other energy-related news, Minnesota is currently experiencing a propane and diesel fuel shortage. This is having a particular effect on our farm community because of the wet, late harvest, which is requiring more resources to dry crops coming in. Governor Mark Dayton issued an emergency executive order on Nov. 1, which delivers relief from regulations pertaining to hours of service for motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance in emergency relief efforts.

This is helpful because in addition to the late harvest, there is a driver shortage in Minnesota, and pulling drivers who transport diesel fuel to instead deliver propane could exacerbate the anticipated diesel fuel-related issues. The Governor's order notes that long lines at terminals and drivers traveling longer distances to acquire product has depleted the available on-duty hours capped by current regulations. Hopefully these actions will address the current shortage and prevent a more pressing shortage later this winter.

If you have any questions or concerns, my contact information is sen.dan.sparks@senate.mn or 651-296-9248. You also can keep track of what the legislature is doing on the website, www.senate.mn, where you can sign up to follow committees of interest or receive other notifications.

Dan Sparks is the Minnesota senator for District 27, which includes Freeborn and Mower counties as well as Blooming Prairie and southern Dodge County. He resides in Austin.

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.

DEADLINES
News: Noon Fridays.
Web: 11 p.m. (Daily)
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7 State Awards
2014 - 3 National Awards,
3 State Awards
2013 - 2 National Awards,
7 State Awards
2012 - 2 State Awards
2011 - 4 National Award

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



REMOTE PHOTO: HOWARD LESTRUD

This is history. Photo was taken 24 years ago in Dallas, Texas, the principals being Dallas Detective James R. Leavelle, left, and Howard Lestrud, visiting journalist at right. Leavelle is one of two Dallas police detectives from the 1963 era who are still alive. He was handcuffed to President Kennedy murder suspect Lee Harvey Oswald when Oswald was shot by Jack Ruby.



SUBMITTED PHOTO: BOB JACKSON

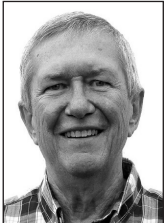
This iconic photograph is one of the more identifiable parts of history surrounding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963. Bob Jackson, photographer for the Dallas Times Herald took this Pulitzer Prize winning photo of accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald being shot by Jack Ruby.

JFK assassination anniversary

Touching history with Dallas police detective

"What were you doing 54 years ago on Nov. 22, 1963?" That question is readily answered by those of us who were around on that date. It was the day that our 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, was assassinated on the streets of Dallas, Texas. I remember that day as if it were yesterday. I had just completed a college exam at Austin Junior College and was shooting pool with a friend at what was then called the Crest Recreation Center in Austin. I remember the radio getting louder and louder. The time was 12:30 p.m. I asked a worker what was going on and he somberly replied that the President had been shot. Just last Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017, I had a memorable experience. I had been trying to reach a Dallas friend of mine during the last two weeks and tried again on Nov. 22. My friend is James R. Leavelle, a retired Dallas police detective. Leavelle, 97, is most well known for being handcuffed to accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald as he was being led to a vehicle to be taken to another jail facility. The rest is history. Oswald was shot by Dallas night club owner Jack Ruby. This moment of history was caught on video and also in a still photograph that helped Dallas Times Herald photographer Bob Jackson win a Pulitzer Prize. Leavelle is shown in his white Texas suit

and white hat, recoiling with the shot fired from Ruby's gun. Being a curious follower of the assassination events, I contacted Leavelle by telephone in the early 1990s, interviewing him for a story for a weekly newspaper I was working for in Forest Lake. I actually met Leavelle in person over dinner when I took a trip to Dallas on the 30th anniversary of the assassination. I also spent a day sitting next to Leavelle and his wife at a Reporters Remember symposium at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. I have kept contact with Leavelle over the years, doing countless stories on his recollections of those Four Days in history. My granddaughter Kaley and I visited Leavelle at his home four years ago when we visited Dallas for the observance of the 50th anniversary of the Kennedy Assassination. Fast forward to Nov. 22, 2017, I tried to reach Leavelle and left a message on his answering machine. Twenty minutes later, the phone rang and it was Leavelle. We exchanged pleasantries and then talked about his whereabouts 54 years ago. Our conversation actually spanned the time of



Reflections ... and how
HOWARD LESTRUD

the assassination (12:30 p.m.) 54 years ago. Leavelle clearly remembers where he was and what he was doing at the time of the assassination. He was supposed to have a day off on Friday, Nov. 22, 1963. Leavelle said he was on an elevator at the Dallas Police Department with a man he had arrested and charged with armed robbery. "I remember listening to a dispatcher on the radio, saying the Kennedy motorcade was approaching Houston St. Moments later, someone told me the President had been shot. I said, 'yah, yah' and thought he was pulling my leg. "I didn't have an assignment that day and was told to stick around and take care of calls coming in. My lieutenant then called me and asked me to check out what was happening at the Texas School Book Depository building." Leavelle and another officer then went to the scene of the shooting. It was before the advent of the cell phone, thus Leavelle and his fellow officer walked to the Depository building after not being able to traverse through blocked traffic. Leavelle was then assigned the task of interviewing about 18 witnesses at the scene. He was assisted by the local sheriff's department. While at the Depository, Leavelle was told that a police officer had been shot in Oak Cliff. Leavelle located his patrol car and motored to the scene of the police shooting. "I had four eyeball witnesses who gave me a good case," Leavelle recalls.

The threads of history continued as Leavelle was told that officers were bringing in a suspect. That suspect turned out to be Lee Harvey Oswald, someone who fit the description Leavelle had gotten from his eyeball witnesses. Leavelle began interrogating Oswald about the shooting of police officer J.D. Tippit but soon lost his prisoner when Dallas Police Captain Will Fritz took over, pointing to Oswald as a suspect in the shooting of President Kennedy. There's much more to Leavelle's story but he has maintained through time to this date that Oswald and Ruby both acted alone, mainly to gain attention and notoriety. Leavelle does not believe in conspiracy theories. Recently, thousands of pages of records surrounding the Kennedy Assassination were released. "There's nothing new," Leavelle said he has told the four major news networks. When the topic of the Kennedy Assassination comes up in Dallas, Leavelle is one of few major players on that day who are still alive. He also is linked to history through World War II and service as a sailor at Pearl Harbor. He served aboard the USS Whitney. His story is told in the December 2017 issue of The American Legion Magazine. I feel very fortunate that I have become a friend with someone who played some key roles in American history. Thanks Jim!



STAFF PHOTO: HOWARD LESTRUD

Kitchen No. 5 was the winning team in Cupcake Wars, part of a recent assignment in Jennifer Fleming's creative food class at Blooming Prairie High School. Team members from left to right are: Amy Peterson, Matthew Wurst, Ryan Pena, Jayde Wacek and Baylee Sorenson.

CUPCAKE: Bakers battle for top honors

FROM PAGE A1

continued. Showing off their cooking and baking skills in the classroom is a "big deal," believes Fleming. Brad Staska, a senior, said he enjoys the creative foods class "because we get to eat food almost every day." The decorating process for Staska was his favorite part of Cupcake Wars. "It was fun and they tasted good," remarked Sorensen, a member of the winning team. She took some of the cupcakes to lunch to share with friends. Twenty-four students in grades 10-12 are enrolled in Fleming's creative foods class. Students were divided into five kitchens, 1-5. Part of the assignment was to elect a theme and then plan a design for their cupcakes. Students also had to develop a recipe. The class voted on a Cupcake Wars theme with Sponge Bob Square Pants being selected. Other theme suggestions were: jungle, winter, summer and Candy Land. The students baked their cupcakes on

Nov. 14 and had them judged by high school staff members Ali Mach, Janet Luick and Jan Anderson. As the students watched the judges taste samples of the cupcakes, one judge commented: "They are all very nice and very good." Team members on the other four kitchens were:

- Kitchen No. 1: Staska, Kory Rafdal and Brandon Jimenez.
- Kitchen No. 2: Trent Swenson, Zach Haberman, Slava Kritzer, Emily Krampitz and Cassidy Borgen.
- Kitchen No. 3: Gemini Johnson, Ryan Weinberger, Lucas Noble and Isaac Ille.
- Kitchen No. 4: Gracie Rudlong, Alec Ille, Brett Motl, Heather Pirkel and Austin Behne.

Students of the creative food class will be designing and creating gingerbread houses in a few weeks. Fleming said her students also will be working on food trucks in January. The trucks are made out of cardboard. Students decide what they will sell from the trucks.

JAIL: Man gets time for car death

FROM PAGE A1

pay \$1,368 in restitution and complete 100 hours of community service. The judge gave Escobar an almost five-year prison sentence, which was stayed for five years. Escobar had been charged with second-degree manslaughter and criminal vehicular homicide after a two-month investigation determined he was responsible for the death of Herman Hernandez, 64, of Albert Lea on Oct. 23, 2016. Prosecutors suspected Escobar was drunk at the time he drove a vehicle into a soybean field before it went up in flames around 6:45 p.m, leaving Hernandez to die in the passenger's seat.

When emergency personnel responded to a vehicle fire along 52nd Avenue Northwest near Owatonna, they found a vehicle engulfed in flames on the edge of a harvested field surrounded by tall grass near a drainage ditch. In an interview with police, Escobar admitted he had been drinking at the Nasty Habit Bar in Albert Lea around 12:30 p.m. that day. He told investigators he drank a pitcher of beer, shots and a liter of Gin in the vehicle that "he and Hernandez were taking turns drinking from during their car ride to Owatonna. Escobar later said he blacked out and didn't remember what happened to his car or Hernandez. Autopsy reports showed Hernandez died from smoke inhalation and thermal injuries.

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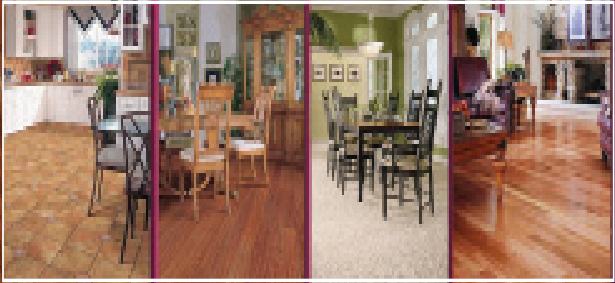
Noble RV of Owatonna was named among the 2017 Top 50 RV Dealers in North America by RVBusiness magazine. Accepting the award on behalf of Noble RV were (left to right): Court Fink, general sales manager at Owatonna; Mike Noble, president and co-owner; Blaine Stackhouse, general manager at Rochester; Pat Noble, co-owner; Kameron Gustafson, RVDA certified warranty administrator and service advisor; Trevor Blazek, service manager and RVDA certified service advisor and Lisa Fink, RV sales representative and inventory manager.



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Local RV dealership serving southern Minnesota wins top award

BY RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

If you're in the market for a recreational vehicle, you won't have to stray very far from home.

One of the top dealers in North America is based in Steele County and services outlets throughout southern Minnesota.

RVBusiness magazine recently named Noble RV of Owatonna among the 2017 Top 50 RV Dealers in North America along with only four other Minnesota RV dealers.

RVBusiness (RVB) asked recreation vehicle manufacturers to nominate dealers across the United States and Canada who exemplify best practices and excellence in their field. Nominees were invited to fill out comprehensive applications describing business aspects including customer service and satisfaction, employee training, financial planning, marketing and community involvement.

An independent panel of industry experts convened at the RV/MH Hall of Fame in Elkhart, Ind., the unofficial "RV Capital of the World," to select the RVB Top 50 from nominated dealers who submitted applications.

In addition to planning the relocation of the Rochester

“This achievement would not be possible without the hard work of our team, their dedication to the industry and our loyal customers they serve every day.”

Mike Noble
Noble RV Owner

dealership to a newly built Oronoco facility, another major focus for Noble RV this year has been on how to market to the millennial generation by using digital media and new sales and service techniques.

"Bringing our employees to the RVDA convention in Las Vegas is critical to keeping up with the rapidly changing RV industry," said Mike Noble, president and co-owner.

"This achievement would not be possible without the hard work of our team, their dedication to the industry and our loyal customers they serve every day."

Program coordinators expanded the judges' panel this year, bringing perspectives from even more areas of RV-industry business specialization. The extra hands also helped make lighter work of the applications received, which were in greater number and detail than any previous year, according to Sherman Goldenberg, publisher of RVBusiness magazine and founder of the Top 50 program.

"As a whole, our applying dealers not only gave us more data this year, but they also went to great lengths to tell us their stories and let their personalities shine through," Goldenberg said. "It was a tough job for the judges to narrow it down. Those who made the cut should be very proud of that achievement."

The 2017 RVBusiness Top 50 Dealer recipients were honored at a Nov. 8 awards reception in front of an all-industry audience of about 400 during the 2017 RV Dealers Association (RVDA) International Convention/Expo at Bally's Las Vegas. The convention was presented in cooperation with the RVDA of both the United States and Canada, and underwritten by the program's sponsors: Ally Financial Inc., Cummins Power Generation, Dacor Corp., Dometic Corp., Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp., Lippert Components Inc., NTP-STAG, Protective Asset Protection and Wells Fargo CDF.

Noble RV, an exclusive RV Warranty Forever dealer, has four dealerships located in Owatonna, Minneapolis, Madelia and Rochester. Each facility is equipped with sales, parts, service and warranty departments to serve clients throughout southern Minnesota and neighboring states.

For more information about the Noble RV dealership locations and the exclusive RV Warranty Forever program, visit www.noblerv.com or call 507-444-0004.

Business Briefs



Turtle Creek Nursery of Owatonna is getting into the holiday spirit by donating a portion of its Christmas tree sales to the Owatonna Foundation. Making the announcement were first row (left to right): trustees—Ray Stawarz, Dave Einhaus and Julie Rethemeier, Patty Cornell, Nick Poehler, and Turtle Creek owner Eric Cornell; back row: trustees—Bob Heers, Betsy Lindgren, Bill Beer, Todd Hale, Matt Kottke, and Bob Jungbluth.

Turtle Creek Nursery Christmas tree sales to benefit Owatonna Foundation

Turtle Creek Nursery is pleased to announce that it will be supporting the Owatonna Foundation this Christmas season.

For each Christmas tree sold, three dollars of the sale will be donated to the Foundation.

"We are extremely grateful to Turtle Creek for sponsoring this promotion that benefits the Foundation," said Betsy Lindgren, Foundation president. "The holiday season is such a festive and reflective time when we see the best of ourselves and our communities come forward to make a better place for all us. This donation will go far in continuing our mission which is; improving the quality of life for present and future generations by supporting Owatonna projects that focus on community, arts, recreation, and education."

The Owatonna Foundation, now in its 59th year of serving the Owatonna community, provides capital grants in Owatonna and its environs.

Turtle Creek Nursery owner Eric Cornell said he is excited to be doing this promotion to benefit the Foundation.

"They have truly touched the lives of everyone that lives in Owatonna by financially supporting the many projects they have been involved with," he said. "As a business owner and resident, we value these amenities that make our community a wonderful place to live and work."

The Foundation was established in 1957 with the goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations of Owatonna residents. Since then, the Owatonna Foundation has committed more than \$11.75 million dollars in grants to Owatonna projects and annually awards \$30,000 in scholarships for both traditional and non-traditional students.

For more information about the Owatonna Foundation, please visit our website at: www.owatonnafoundation.org, or call the office at 507-455-2995.

Minimizer seat targets female truck drivers

The Minimizer Long Haul Series Seat is designed with a truck driver's health and safety in mind, no matter their gender.

"Minimizer seats are not only comfortable for men, we need to remember there are women drivers, too," Minimizer CEO and Chief Visionary Craig Kruckeberg said. "Unfortunately, due to their body type, certain things don't always fit them correctly, like their seat. It's one of the reasons we came out with the Minimizer Seat. It will fit anyone perfectly!"

Minimizer met with numerous truck drivers, medical professionals and ergonomic specialists when designing the Long Haul Series Seat. It comes with 14 standard features, all of which are used when adjusting the seat to fit any body type.

"Consider a six-four, 280-pound male truck driver in the same seat as a five-six, 120-pound female truck driver," Dr. Joseph Sweere of Northwestern Health and Sciences University said. "This is why adjustability is so important. It's a critical component, and it's one of the reasons I have so much admiration for the Minimizer Long Haul Series Seat."

"There are nearly 250,000 female truckers on the road today, and they need equipment that's going to keep them safe and comfortable," Kruckeberg said. "I'm happy to say the Minimizer Long Haul Series Seat fits the bill. I guarantee it!"

Minimizer is a leading manufacturer nationwide in poly semi truck fenders. The company is based in Blooming Prairie.



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All in the FAMILY

Employees drive Hodgman Drainage success

RICHARD JOHNSON
Managing Editor

Don Hodgman was lead foreman for a drainage contractor in West Concord when he set out on his own in 1982.

Thirty-five years later, his business dream has expanded into a large, thriving venture in Dodge Center.

Hodgman Drainage Co., Inc., supplies commercial and agricultural drainage, earth-moving work, directional drilling (trench-less utility work), and site preparation for municipal water and sewer projects in Dodge County and the region.

The company provided services this fall on the new Meadow View housing subdivision in Dodge Center, and delivers sand and gravel to the Al-Corn Clean Fuel site, undergoing expansion in Claremont.

“He took a leap of faith and went out on his own, and it’s continued to grow from there,” said owner and company president Dan Hodgman, Don’s son. “It takes a lot of work to keep everybody going. We’ve got a lot of great people.”

Dan and his brother, the late Scott Hodgman, bought Don out in the early 2000s.

Dan and his wife, Lori, Hodgman’s vice president, moved the company from West Concord about four years ago and developed their current headquarters, off Highway 14 between Dodge Center and Claremont.

They built a large, comfortable building on about 45 acres in the summer of 2013 and moved in during January, 2014.

The Hodgmans have about 35 employees, including their sons Taylor (a project manager) and Tanner (the company’s business manager); their nephew, Nick Hodgman (a project manager); and Dan’s cousin, Frank Hodgman, senior project manager.

“The biggest assets we have are the people,” Lori Hodgman said. “Our employees are great. We’ve had a lot of guys here for many, many years, and they’re knowledgeable. They go hard and they care, and we’re out there to make sure our customers are well taken care of.”

“They get up every morning



Lori and Dan Hodgman pause for a photo at their Dodge Center business, Hodgman Drainage Co., Inc. The company offers excavation, drainage and septic system services.

“The greatest assets are our employees, and that’s heartfelt.”

**- Dan Hodgman, president
Hodgman Drainage Co., Inc.**

going, ‘OK, we’re going to improve the land, we’re going to improve people’s lives, we’re going to make our customers happy,’” she said. “We’re very family-oriented here. We like to take care of our people, and they have a lot of loyalty back. That’s just been the key to our success, really.”

Said Dan: “We’ve got a lot of loyal employees, we’ve got a lot of loyal customers. Great relationships over the years. The greatest assets are our employees, and that’s heartfelt.”

Hodgman also provides trucking, excavation, drain tile repair, and aggregate materials for solar and wind farm projects.

Lori said those employees work in a diligent, respectful manner.

“Sometimes it’s cold and harsh working conditions,”

Area students showed their appreciation for Hodgman Drainage.

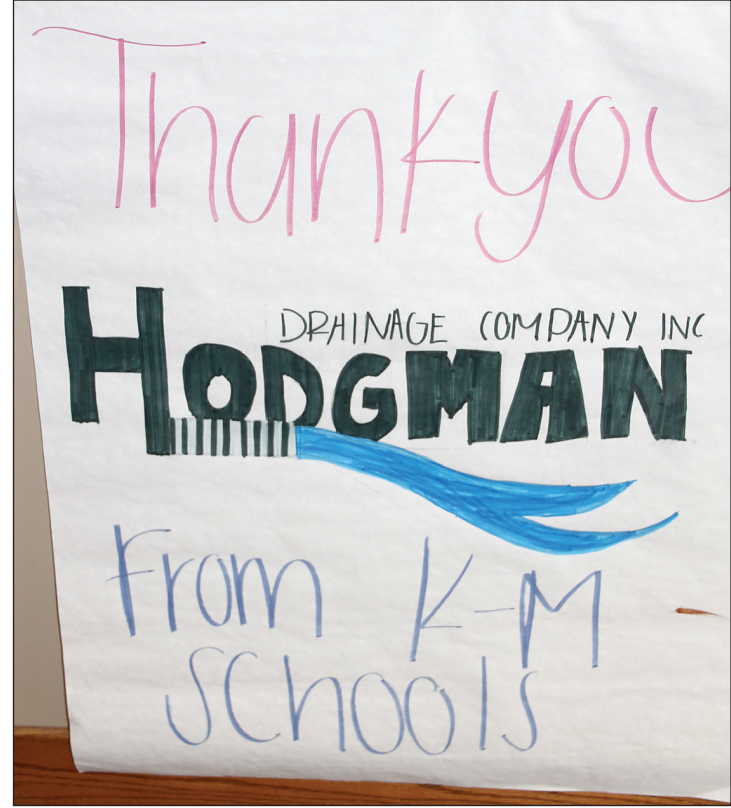
she said, “but we’re out there improving the land for farmers, so their yields are increased. They’re producing more food for feeding the world, basically. Yields go up, and that’s due in large part to improvement of the land.”

All that work has been rewarded with many repeat customers, and a wall stocked with ‘thank-yous’ and certificates of appreciation.

Hodgman supports the Triton, Kasson-Mantorville and Hayfield school districts, several local organizations, including 4-H and FFA, Toys for Tots, and other local charities, teams, and organizations.

“They give to us, and we give back,” Dan said. “It’s a win-win situation.”

“And we really like to be a positive part of our community,” Lori said. “We support the local schools and the local communities. The farmers around here are great, and the businesspeople are great. We grew up in this county, and this is where our home is. And it’s all turned out very well. So we’ve been blessed.”



Business Briefs

Thronson Joins Ameriprise Financial Serving Local Residents

Eric Thronson, has joined the Austin office of Wealth Management Solutions, a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. as a Financial Advisor. Wealth Management Solutions is made up of 34 advisors and staff across six Minnesota locations.

Thronson has nine years of experience in the financial industry and an additional 8 years of experience as a regional retirement plan and pension consultant designing plans for corporations all over the upper Midwest. His practice is highly focused on financial planning and business retirement plans.

Thronson and his wife and four children reside in Kasson.

As a financial advisory practice, Wealth Management Solutions provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations, and provided in one-on-one relationships with their clients.

For more information, please contact the office at 507-437-3523 or by cell at 507-358-8532 or visit the Ameriprise office at 329 N Main St Suite 201. Austin.



Thronson

Broadband Grant for rural Kasson

Lt. Governor Tina Smith and the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) today announced the 2017 Border-to-Border Broadband Grant recipients. The grants total \$26 million for 39 broadband infrastructure projects that will provide 9,973 households, 2,169 businesses, and 60 community institutions across Minnesota access to reliable, affordable high-speed internet.

KMTelecom has been awarded \$606,108 for a rural Kasson Fiber Build. This last mile project will serve 149 unserved households and 9 unserved businesses in the rural Canisteo and Ashland Townships located south of Kasson in Dodge County. In a funding partnership

with the State of Minnesota, KMTelecom will provide broadband speeds up to 1 Gig. The KMTelecom project will improve access to education, health care and provide advanced broadband service to residences in the area. The total eligible project cost is \$1.55 million with KMTelecom investing \$948,000 in the fiber build.

This grant is great news for KMTelecom and many other broadband providers in Minnesota. The Broadband Grant Program helps to level the playing field for households and businesses in Greater Minnesota by providing them access to the same opportunities available to urban area residents.

Thank you to the MN Office of Broadband Development and all who support us!

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OBITUARIES

Cheryl “Sherry” Kruckeberg, 64



Cheryl “Sherry” Kruckeberg, 64, of Blooming Prairie, died Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017 after a courageous battle with cancer. Cheryl was born March 6, 1953 in New Prague to Virgil and Evelyn (Kriha) Beinhorn. At age 10, her family moved to Blooming Prairie. Cheryl graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1971. On Nov. 20, 1971, Cheryl married her high school sweetheart, Kevin Kruckeberg. They built a life together on a farm north of Blooming Prairie and raised two kids, crops, elk, deer, various exotic birds and animals. Throughout her lifetime, she also worked at her parent’s bakery in Blooming Prairie, Equity Bank in Claremont and Steele County Recorder’s Office in Owatonna. Above all things, Cheryl valued faith, family and friends. She gave the best hugs and was always there for us. Her greatest treasures were her grandkids: Fisher and Bennett Kruckeberg and Josie and Allie Finne. She left us with strong values and many wonderful memories. Survivors include her son Kasey and Marsha Kruckeberg of Rochester; daughter Kerry and Chris Finne of Welch; sister Ginny and Bill Burgart of Minnetonka; brother Roger and Cindy Beinhorn of Blooming Prairie; sister Lynn and Duane Hanson of Blooming Prairie; four grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and friends whom she held dear. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, grandson Jacob Finne, sisters-in-law Marcia Camerer and Carol Kruckeberg and brothers-in-law Tom Camerer and Ralph Kruckeberg. A memorial service was held Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017 at Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church with Pastor Lindsey Stolen officiating. Memorials are preferred to Homestead Hospice in Owatonna and Blooming Prairie Cancer Group. Condolences may be left online at www.mayerfh.com

Franklin “Bud” E. Prokopec, 83



Franklin “Bud” E. Prokopec, 83, of Blooming Prairie, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2017 at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie. Franklin was born to Frank and Alice (Kavansnicka) Prokopec on May 8, 1934 in Blooming Prairie at Goetsch Maternity Home. He was raised and attended school in Blooming Prairie. He graduated from Blooming Prairie High School with a GED certificate while in the service. On Dec. 27, 1953, Bud married Elrose Glock at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Claremont. He worked for the Owatonna Canning Company before beginning a career in construction. Franklin worked for Carlson Construction, Blooming Prairie, Ray Erickson Construction and Wicks Building Center. In October 1981, Franklin and Elrose moved to Cody, Wyoming, where he worked construction with his brother Jim. Bud also worked as a janitor in Cody. After retirement, he worked part-time as a Walmart greeter in Cody, before moving back to Blooming Prairie in 2009. He was a member of the V.F.W. and St. John’s Lutheran Church in Claremont. Bud enjoyed snowmobiling, motorcycle trips, boating down the Mississippi River and camping in Wyoming and Minnesota. Survivors include his wife Elrose Prokopec of Blooming Prairie; stepbrother Dean (Connie) Svenby of Fargo, North Dakota; stepsisters Delores Courtier of Owatonna, and Verona Gay of Florida; nieces and nephews; and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Frank and Alice Prokopec; and two brothers Don and James Prokopec. Memorial services were held on Friday, Nov. 24, 2017 at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Claremont with Rev. Alan Broadwell officiating. Interment will be in Cody, Wyoming. Military Honors performed by Blooming Prairie V.F.W. Post 878. Services prearranged and performed by Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

Rochester senator honored with top legislator award

The National Alliance on Mental Illness presented Minnesota District 26 Senator Carla Nelson of Rochester with a Legislator of the Year Award at its annual conference held in St. Paul on Nov. 4. The award recognizes a legislator who has been an outspoken advocate for children and adults with mental illness and their families. “Senator Nelson has been a strong supporter of improving our mental health system. She has supported loan forgiveness programs for mental health professionals, including authoring NAMI’s bill to expand the program to people who work for providers that serve a high percentage of people on Medicaid but are located in cities,” said NAMI’s executive director Sue Abderholden. In making the selection, Abderholden said Nelson was the chief author of NAMI’s bill that expanded ACT teams and first episode programs. Nelson championed and authored the bill to ensure that drug formularies can’t change in the middle of a plan year. “And finally she passed a bill to pilot a program to make sure that children in foster care can stay in their same school so that the relationships that they have with other students and adults are not disrupted,” Abderholden said. “Senator Nelson is a champion for children and adults who live with a mental illness and is



very deserving of this award.” Nelson is a candidate for the U.S. Congress seat currently held by Tim Walz.

BANANA BREAD

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

RECIPE CORNER

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RECIPES FROM THE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COOKBOOK 2006 ED.

LIBRARY BOOK NOOK

Share a library gift with the community



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

Now that Thanksgiving is over, Christmas is just around the corner! Please consider sharing a gift with the community by purchasing a book or DVD from our Friends of the Library Christmas Tree at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library. The prices of the items range from \$5 to \$20, so you can choose the price you would like.

Many families make this an annual tradition of giving back to others. Just come in and choose a package from under the tree. Prices are on the back. Then open the package to see what you have chosen! If you would like, you can be the first person to check the book out when it is ready. And don't forget that the library is a great place to help you get ready for the holidays. We have cookbooks, decorating ideas, lovely Christmas stories, and holiday movies. That's just for the adults! For the kids we have carts full of storybooks, craft books, and more movies. We'll see you at the library!

Spaghetti benefits local youth club

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

If a spaghetti supper sounds like delicious meal, the local Knights of Columbus- sponsored annual event would have been to your liking. Approximately 130 residents enjoyed a great evening of conversation, spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread, ice cream, and a complimentary glass of wine. This is the fourth year that the organization has sponsored this supper for the benefit of the Blooming Prairie Youth

Club and other youth in the community. Besides the food and conversation, the Lights of Litomysl, which is a group of folk music artists from the Litomysl parish, entertained the diners with their own version of folk music. The past fundraisers have raised several thousand dollars for the youth cause, and it is an affair that the KC members and the general public both seem to embrace with pleasure and enjoyment. It is an annual event that is welcomed by all, and it is hoped that this worthy effort will continue in the future.

SEMCAC Senior Menu

Wednesday, Nov. 29
Sea Shore Tuna Casserole, Mar. Green Bean Salad, Tomato Wedge, Dinner Roll, Coconut Crumb Delight

Thursday, Nov. 30
Bake Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Parslied Carrots, Coleslaw, Mixed Fruit Cup

CONGRATULATIONS!

The following people have won a Turkey from

Vandal's FAMILY MARKET

237 Hwy. Ave. S, Blooming Prairie

Julie Peterson	Jackie Olson
Diane Nelson	Steve Behne
Gary Berg	Richard Hanson
Barb Blome	Nick Whiteaker
Imo Symes	Amy Trotman
Sandra Christianson	Sandy Brase
Carol Kirkebon	Allan Benson

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES
Dec. 1 Kelly Lamotte Andy Krebs Marilyn Meshke Stephanie Emanuel	Carter Sorensen Carl Peterson Dick Hoveland Trent Swenson Nora Gardner	Dec. 1 Jeff & Andrea Butler Luke & Anna Miller
Dec. 2 Fran Coughlin Nicole Leigh Greene	Dec. 4 Judy Johnson Diane Nelson James Jerdet	Dec. 2 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Trotman Greg & Courtney Hackensmith
Dec. 3 Jessica Ressler Aurora Musel Ryan Weinberger Dennis Schaefer	Dec. 5 Pat Smith Brandy Holmberg Scott Anderson	Dec. 3 Brad & Wendy Hines
	Dec. 6 Harriet Severson	Dec. 5 Joe & Sheena Marie Prizler

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Wednesday - Turkey	Friday - Beef

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Black Friday at 218

STAFF PHOTO: HOWARD LESTRUUD

Black Friday isn't something that just happens in the bigger cities. Highway 218 Liquor in Blooming Prairie celebrated a special Black Friday on the day after Thanksgiving with treats and prizes given out to all customers. Steve Glenn chats with store owners Miranda and Tom Camery, who were recently married on Sept. 22. Black Friday is the official kick off to the holiday shopping season. Small businesses like Highway 218 Liquor hope shoppers will remember them as they are busy purchasing gifts this holiday season.

Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney

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Aquafina .5 liter 24-pack \$3.99	lams Dog Food 15 lbs. \$2 off w/20 points
Lipton Iced Tea .5 liter 12-pack \$5.99	Mt. Dew, Sierra Mist, Squirt, Canada Dry 2 liter \$0.99
Pure Lear Iced Tea 18.5 oz. 6-pack \$5.99	Old Dutch Potato Chips 9.5 oz. family pack 2/\$5
Sensodyne Toothpaste 4 oz. \$1.45 off w/20 points	

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PASTOR
STEPHANIE WOOD
AURORA AND TRINITY LUTHERAN
OWATONNA
AND BLOOMING PRAIRIE

As the days have become shorter and shorter, I began to notice folks putting up their outside lights for Christmas. Slowly, one by one, each house began to illuminate the street. There's the house with icicles, the other with red and green lights followed by mine a blank canvas waiting to shine like the others. When I come home, I feel as though my street and town has been transformed into a Hallmark Movie. The glow of the lights provides a charm and a sense of warmth even in the midst of freezing temps. Suddenly, the darkness that has begun to

consume the day is thwarted by the brightness we create together. These bright lights are in contrast to the dark and grey days of winter. It can seem relentless at times. For many, one's motivation or drive seems to wane as our bodies put us into hibernation mode. The darkness can devour our days and our spirits. This lack of light also makes us appreciate the rare moments in which the sun breaks through. Throughout our lives we will experience seasons that are darker or more difficult than others. It can feel as though the darkness will win. The bills begin to stack up, it seems as

though you keep going to one funeral after another or you might feel alone, as though no one knows or cares for you. In those times, look for the light. Even in the smallest flicker of grace, kindness and love. In those shimmers of hope, we can witness God shining through into our lives. A reminder that we are not alone and all seasons change, even the darkest ones come to an end. God promises that despite our circumstances, ultimately, the darkness will not and cannot overcome the light. When the sun sets, the moon and stars come out reflecting the light of the sun. Similarly, we are sent

out to illumine the world reflecting God's love and compassion to all those we encounter. From the smallest act of a smile to the gift of listening, forgiveness and support. The way we shine will be as varied as the houses on our streets. Throughout November many of us have reflected on what we are thankful for, perhaps in December we can begin to consider how we may be the blessing, the light of God for which others give God thanks. United together, we brighten the world by reflecting God's love and warmth just as we brighten our streets with our Christmas lights.

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN AURORA LUTHERAN 6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna Pastor Stephanie Wood 507-676-5696 Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. COMMUNITY LUTHERAN – ELCA 106 Third St. SE., Geneva Pastor Kristen Venne 507-256-4288 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. FIRST LUTHERAN – AFLC 503 Radel Ct., Ellendale Pastor Richard Sliper 507-684-2451 Saturday: 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship; 10:15 a.m. Sunday School/ Confirmation Tues.: 7 p.m. Call to Prayer, open to all churches Wed.: 9:30 a.m. BibleStudy; 3:30 – 5 p.m. Jesus and Me; 6 p.m. Call to Prayer; 6:30 p.m. Youth Group FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA 434 First St. SW., Blooming Prairie Rev. Jeff Sandgren, Interim Pastor Rev. Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor 507-583-6621 firstlutheranbp.com Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sundays Education Hour: 9:30 a.m. Sun. FIRST LUTHERAN – LCMC 8953 SW 37th Ave., Hope Pastor Sandy Miller 507-451-3854 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m. Sun. GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN – LCMS 2500 7th Ave. NE., Owatonna Rev. Mark Rosenau, Senior Pastor Rev. Greg Schlicker, Associate Pastor 507-451-4125 www.goodshepherd owatonna.com Worship: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. MOLAND LUTHERAN – ELCA 7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon Pastor Nancy Edwardson 507-789-6661 Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA 9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale Pastor Mike Walerius 507-465-8366 Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sun.	REDEEMER LUTHERAN – LCMS 1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna Pastor Kirk Griebel 507-451-2720 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. Sun. RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN – ELCA 30456 Mower-Freeborn Road, Austin Pastor Lindsay Stolen 507-583-2038 or 507-437-3000 www.roglutheran.org Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Sunday School (Sept. – May): 10:15 a.m. ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS 4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont Pastor Alan Broadwell 507-528-2404 Worship: 6 p.m. Saturday; 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS 28959 630th Ave., Sergeant Pastor Collin Duling 507-251-5568 Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9 a.m. ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA 30450 570th Ave., Waltham Pastor Dwight DoBell 507-567-2474 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun. ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – LCMS 202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale Pastor Jesse Krusemark 507-567-2272 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA 2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar 507-451-2165 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. TRINITY LUTHERAN 5881 SE 118th St., Blooming Prairie Pastor Stephanie Wood 507-676-5696 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. (First Sunday of the month) TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA 609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna Rev. Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor Rev. Dean Smith, Associate Pastor Rev. Amanda Weinkauff, Associate Pastor 507-451-4520 www.tlcowatonna.org Worship: Saturday: 5 p.m.; Sun.: 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 6 p.m. Sunday School: 8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.	TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA 104 First St. SE., Hayfield Pastor Paul Hauschild 507-477-2248 www.trinityhayfield.org Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS 108 Third Ave. SW., Medford Pastor Mark Biebighauser 507-451-0447 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS 57043 300th St., Waltham Pastor Jesse Krusemark 507-567-2272 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. ZION LUTHERAN – ELCA 7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar 507-451-2165 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun. CATHOLIC CHRIST THE KING 203 Second Ave. NW., Medford 507-451-6353 Father Kevin Connolly Deacon Patrick Fagan Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m. Monday Mass: 9 a.m. CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS 307 SW First St., New Richland Father Raul Silva Fr. Adam McMillan, Parochial Vicar 507-465-8217 Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL 9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna Father John Sauer Fr. Jose Morales, Weekend Presider 507-451-1588 www.litomysl.webs.com Reconciliation: 8:45 a.m. 1st & 3rd Sundays Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Children's Church for Preschool – 1st Grade began Sept. 24 Faith Formation for Kindergarten – Confirmation: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays Adult Study: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays SACRED HEART CATHOLIC 150 NE Second St., Hayfield Father Thomas Niehaus 507-477-2256 Mass: 8 a.m. Sun. & 8:30 a.m. Thursday Reconciliation: 7:30 a.m. Sun. SACRED HEART PARISH 810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna Father John Sauer Fr. Jose Morales, Parochial Vicar 507-451-1588 www.sacredheartowatonna.org Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday;	8:30 a.m. &10 a.m. Sun. Spanish Mass: 11:45 a.m. Sun. Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m. Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Sat. Adoration: 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. Thurs. ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC 114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie Father Thomas Niehaus 507-583-2784 www.stcolumbanuschurch.com Mass: 10 a.m. Sun. & 8:30 a.m. Friday Reconciliation: 9 a.m. First Friday & Saturday ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH 512 S. Elm Ave., Owatonna Father Kevin Connolly Deacon Patrick Fagan 507-451-4845 Saturday Mass: 4 p.m. Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m. Reconciliation: 3-3:30 p.m. Sat. Daily Mass: 8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri. (Communion Service 8 a.m. Thursday) Adoration Chapel available Mon. – Fri. 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Key fob required after hours or weekends CHRISTIAN CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT 540 SE 18th St., Owatonna Dr. V. Brent Carlson, Pastor 507-451-1032 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Sunday Connections: 10:15 a.m. PENTECOSTAL FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL 230 Locust Ave., Owatonna Pastor Eliazar Talamantes 507-363-2240 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday METHODIST BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST 43089 180th St., Medford (Seven miles west of Medford on CR 23) Pastors JJ & Stefanie Morgan 507-835-8726 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST 200 Sixth St. NW., Ellendale Pastor Randy Cirksema 507-684-2731 www.ellendaleumc.org Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.	OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST 815 E. University, Owatonna Loren Olson, Pastor Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor Joyce Parker, Associate Pastor 507-451-4734 www.owatonnaumc.org Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Contemporary Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun. Sunday morning service at 10:45 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Classes: 10 a.m. Wednesday night service at 6:30 p.m. NON-DENOMINATIONAL BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY 130 W. Bridge St., Owatonna Pastor Keith Haskell 507-215-2249 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. Biblestudy: 9 a.m. Sun. Reformers Unanimous Meetings: 7 p.m. Friday CEDAR CREEK 30 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Aaron de Neui 507-477-2255 www.cedarcreekchurch.org Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. DESTINY CHRISTIAN Owatonna Campus 422 North St., Owatonna Pastors Tyler & Jessica Braucht 507-254-8514 www.destinyc.org Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. ELEVATION NORTH 2002 Austin Road, Owatonna Pastor Doug Jones 507-363-3099 www.elevationnorth.blogspot. com Worship (English): 10 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Worship (Spanish): 2 p.m. Sun. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Spanish Evangelism & Prayer: 7 p.m. Friday NEW BEGINNINGS 332 14th St. NE., Owatonna Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson 507-721-1366 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. Gateway Connection: 6 p.m. Sun. SIMPLE CHURCH 4515 NW 22nd Ave., Owatonna (Country Goods building across the freeway from Cabela's) Pastor Todd Lundgren 507-451-5661 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wednesday MENNONITE PRAIRIE MENNONITE 13638 750th St., Blooming Prairie	Bishop Dennis Martin 507-583-7532 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Wed. MORMON THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS 404 31st St. NW, Austin Bishop Rick Bremner 507-433-9042 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. PRESBYTERIAN ASSOCIATED CHURCH Presbyterian Church (USA) and United Church of Christ 800 Havana Road, Owatonna 507-451-1546 www.associatedchurch.org office@associatedchurch.org Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. (Fellowship, Church School, and Adult Discussions follow) Wednesday Activities: Sept – May (see website for schedule) FIRST PRESBYTERIAN 109 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Kirk Johnston 507-477-2631 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST 2373 Seventh Ave. NE, Owatonna Pastor Bob Brauer 507-340-7143 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sat. Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sat. UCC CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 211 S. Main St., Medford Pastor Louise Bender 507-451-4596 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9 a.m. ASSEMBLY OF GOD VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 702 Third St. S., Ellendale Pastor Patrick Stitt 507-684-3421 www.vibrantlifeag.com Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Kids Church: 10:30 a.m. Sun. BAPTIST FIRST BAPTIST 104 First Ave. NE, Blooming Prairie Pastor Matt Fennell 507-583-2673 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. & 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Sunday School: 9 a.m. Bible Study: 11:30 a.m. Sun.
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Turkey holiday a good one

The first major holiday of the season has faded into our memories, but for many, it was a welcome occasion. For most, the traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings graced family tables, and it gave members of the family an opportunity to catch up on summer and fall activities for each.

Personally, I had the opportunity to join the family at my grandson's home in Minneapolis.

My daughter and son-in-law came down to take me there, and the family enjoyed the traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings. My granddaughter-in-law prepared her first turkey just a couple of years ago, and she did such a good job that she has volunteered to do the honors ever since.

After the dinner, which of course, was interrupted by the Vikings' win over Detroit, and some spirited conversation that occupied a

couple of hours, my daughter returned me home. It had been a wonderful experience on an ideal fall day, and I tucked away another memory to last me for a long time.

FUN ABOUNDS AT GOBBLE WOBBLE

About 80 young and old began the annual Thanksgiving holiday by participating in the annual Gobble Wobble at the BP Youth Club. Everyone involved, including some very young participants, enjoyed the event, and it marked an excellent way in which to burn off some calories, before indulging in food that numbered in the thousands of calories later in the day.

Two of the volunteer organizers, Angie Carlson and LaChelle Wondra thought the turnout was good, and everyone enjoyed the occasion. "It is a good way to start the holiday by burning off a few calories," commented Carlson. The event marked the sixth annual occasion, although eight of them had been scheduled, before weather and other unforeseen circumstances nullified a couple of them.

Pies were awarded as prizes to some of the winners, but the fun of the event marked the biggest prize for the participants. Even the Widdle Wobble of four blocks for the very young was met with smiles and excitement. All of the profits from the event went to the local youth club, and that made the occasion worthwhile for all.

HOLIDAY DAZZLE A BIG DEAL

This coming Friday, Dec.1, the annual Holiday Dazzle will involve businesses and residents in late afternoon and early evening excitement. Although the event has often been plagued with extremely cold temps and very little snow, plenty of action and activities will be available, not the least of which will be the visit of Santa Claus at Farmers and Merchants bank. And that is just one of the many attractions that will be available for young and old.

There may not be any snow again this year, but there also will be mild temps to draw people. Wagon rides, the Santa House, Just For Kix dancers, singers and families in town just having fun are all on the menu, and that doesn't even count the many treats and specials that will abound up and down Main Street at the local retailers. A crowning achievement will be the naming of Mr. Scrooge, and it is hoped that citizens will be generous in voting for their favorites. All profits from that contest go to the city light fund and are sorely needed.

To make a long story short, this annual event should give the upcoming holiday season a proper sendoff, and we encourage everyone to attend and enjoy the festivities. It should be fun.

MORE THEATER

I had the chance to cap off my Thanksgiving activities by attending the musical, "Waitress" at the Orpheum in Minneapolis. I remember really enjoying the 2007 movie with Keri Russell in the lead role. The play did not disappoint me, as the low budget movie turned musical entertained all the way through. The play provided plenty of humor and some dramatic emotion from the characters. It thoroughly proved its entertainment value.

TITLE FOR A NEIGHBOR

Our neighboring Owatonna Huskies football earned its second state championship in four years, as they dismantled all opposition on the way to the title. The high-scoring eleven scored over 60 points in two of its last three playoff games, sparking conversation that the team could even have stood a fair chance at the big school champion. That game would have drawn a lot of attention, for sure.

The state playoffs demonstrated again that Section One and the southeast part of the state turns out some of the best football teams year in and year out. Championships for Spring Grove in nine-man and Caledonia in Class 2A can attest to that.

It hardly seems possible, but the winter sports teams have already begun or will begin next week with contests. As is the case each year, optimism generally abounds, and it is now up to the athletes to prove that optimism. Good luck to the teams, as they begin a nearly four-month campaign. Go Blossoms, and we'll talk again.

HOCKEY



Grace Wolfe attempts to get past a Rochester Century defender with the puck. The Huskies beat Rochester 10-2 on Nov. 21 for its second win of the season.

STAFF PHOTO: DENNIS MARSHALL

Owatonna girls' hockey team off to great start

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

For the first time in recent memory the Owatonna girls' hockey team has started the season 2-0.

The Huskies defeated Rochester Century 10-2 on Nov. 21 for their second win of the

season.

"It feels awesome," senior defenseman Rilee Schmidt said. "We are off to great start and hopefully it keeps rolling for us."

"We've played very well," she continued. "We made a lot of good passes in the defensive zone to breakout and we also had a lot of good shots from the point and we were cycling down low."

Owatonna freshman forward Anna Herzog scored the first goal of the game with four minutes and 40 second into the first period. She was assisted by fellow freshman Grace Wolfe.

Owatonna eighth grader Olivia Herzog was the next to scored when she knocked in

SEE HOCKEY, B7

CROSS COUNTRY

BP Cross Country teams wrap up better than average season

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Although the teams had varying degrees of success over the season, both BP cross country teams counted the 2017 season better than average years. Alec Ille led the

boys for the fifth straight year, and eighth grader Bobbie Bruns emerging as a premier runner for the girls.

In 10 meets over the season, the boys took first in one meet, second in two meets, and third in two meets as well. The team had only one meet in which they finished out of the top ten teams, and that happened in the

section meet with 23 teams involved. The first came at home in the BP invite, and the seconds came at the WEM/JWP Invitational and the United South Central Invitational.

Individually, Alec Ille completed a sparkling career with his third MVP honor

SEE CROSS COUNTRY, B7

LADIES BOWLING LEAGUE

RESULTS WEEK SIX NOV. 15, 2017

TEAM STANDINGS	WON	LOST
F & M BANK	20.5	7.5
B TO Z HARDWARE	19.5	8.5
KOSTERS' KAR CORNER	16.5	11.5
J & H/DAIRY QUEEN	10	18
EPIC CONTRACTING	10	18
BUNKIES LANES & GRILL	7.5	20.5

HIGH TEAM GAME -SCRATCH

F & M BANK.....	604
HIGH TEAM GAME- HANDICAP	
J & H/DAIRY QUEEN	519
NIGH TEAM SERIES- SCRATCH	
F & M BANK.....	1634
HIGH TEAM SERIES- HANDICAP	
J & H/DAIRY QUEEN	1506

HIGH GAME INDIVIDUAL

1.JOANN NIELSON	161
2. KRISTI FIEBIGER.....	154
3. MAREN WILLEY	154
HIGH SERIES INDIVIDUAL	

1. JOANN NIELSON.....	455
2. JUDY ESPLAN.....	408

Gobble Wobble



STAFF PHOTO: HOWARD LESTRUD

Nearly 100 participated in the Sixth Annual Gobble Wobble on the Prairie Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 23. Talon Arndt, 8, left, and Cooper White, 6 are two of the Widdle Wobble participants.



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BLOOMING PRAIRIE A HONOR ROLL—GRADES 9-12
Back row (left to right): Mitchell Oswald, Jerrin Jax, Linnea Sunde, McKenna Hein, Ashleigh Alwes, Isabella White; middle row: Ethan Arett, Samantha Wurst, Jake Ressler, Seth Peterson, Riley Millam, Payton Simon; front row: Megan Oswald, Reese Millam, Emily Kubicek, Rachael Riley, Julia Worke and Rachael Oswald.



BLOOMING PRAIRIE A HONOR ROLL—GRADES 7 & 8
Back row (left to right): Stirling Hart, Isabella Heiber, Bradley Simon, Xavier Rennie; Middle row: Bobbie Bruns, Sierra Larson, Abigail Hefling, Joie Ruhter; Front row: Asha Lighthizer, Emily Miller, Isabelle Sunde, Melanie Winzenburg. Missing was Samuel PirkI.

A HONOR ROLL

Grade 7: Stirling Hart; Abigail Hefling; Sierra Larson; Samuel PirkI; Joie Ruhter.

Grade 8: Bobbie Bruns; Isabella Heiber; Asha Lighthizer; Emily Miller; Xavier Rennie; Bradley Simon; Isabelle Sunde; Melanie Winzenburg.

Grade 9: Ashleigh Alwes; Emily Kubicek; Reese Millam; Megan Oswald; Rachael Riley; Isabella White.

Grade 10: Julia Worke.

Grade 11: Riley Millam; Rachael Oswald; Seth Peterson; Payton Simon.

Grade 12: Ethan Arett; Linnea Byers-Sunde; McKenna Hein; Jerrin Jax; Mitchell Oswald; Jake Ressler; Samantha Wurst.

A- HONOR ROLL

Grade 7: Olivia Anderson; Haven Carlson; Cade Christianson; Micah Donnelly; Trinity Evans; Annika Green; Jenna Johnson; Ava Krejci; Madison Lea; Ethan Marzolf; Samuel Michaud; Anna Pauly; Anna Reese; Clare Rennie; Lucas Schammel; Samuel Smith; Alexis Steckelberg; Madelaine Stoen; Jacob Weinberger.

Grade 8: Tyler Archer; Carson Brennecke; Ethan Ehlers; Colin Jordison; David Kartes; Parker Kubicek; Josie Lorenz; Marquette Millam; Gustaof Ogren; Lauren Schammel; Alivia Schneider; Samuel Skillestad; Carson Wacek.

Grade 9: Maggie Bruns; Maren Forystek; Charlie Heimerman; Shyane Jorgenson; Luke Larkoski; Joseph PirkI; Jessica Ressler; Gretchen Sunde; Wyatt Voss; Taylor Wurst.

Grade 10: Kisha Aquino; Riauna Bishop;

Lila Carlson; Gemini Johnson; Colton Krell; Adam Larson; Jarrett Larson; Maya Lembke; Alexis Olivo; Matthew Pryor; Marti Snider; Baylee Sorensen; Dondi Stender; Viridiana Villarreal.

Grade 11: Jackson Baltazar; William Cardenas; Raeann Grundmeier; Colin Lerum; Trenton Swenson; Timothy Wolf.

Grade 12: Austin Behne; Jeremy Hocking; Alec Ille; Ayren Ingvalson; Brandon Jimenez; Rachel PirkI.

B+ HONOR ROLL

Grade 7: Hosea Baker; Hailey Hensrud; Tyler Miller; Alexander Riley; Cyprus Schleicher; Susan Smith; Anika Sunde; Leah Thorson; Madison Thurnau.

Grade 8: Alana Braaten; Jaydon Brown; Tyler Iverson; Piper Lund; Graci Svoboda; Mavric Voss; Adam Walsh.

Grade 9: Lillian Abbe; Abby Braaten; Cole Graves; Brianna Hensrud; Brian Jimenez; Allison Krohnberg; Alexander Miller; Mariah Miller; Christopher Shepard; Halle Strunk; Kiya Thompson; Rachel Thompson; Micalyn Trihus.

Grade 10: Zachary Archer; Raynee Fawver; Gabriel Hagen; Hazel Michaud; Kaden Thomas; Parker Vaith; Jayde Wacek; Zachary Weber; Jillian Wigham.

Grade 11: Jaelyn Hyland; Hannah Kinny; Ian Wayne.

Grade 12: Jack Abbe; Kyle Bramstedt; Emma Christianson; Jonathan Herron; Talon Kent; Maxwell Romeo; Bradley Staska; Asia Thostenson.

B HONOR ROLL

Grade 7: Aubrie Brandt; Morgan Camery; Jesse Cardenas; Nevaeh

Garcia; Brittany Johnson; Heidi Judy; Kaylee Nirk; Zander Peterson; Anna Suchanek; Paul Sunde.

Grade 8: Dylan Aldrich; Emily Anderson; Lindsey Baltazar; Garret Farr; Payton Fristedt; Jason King; Jett Swenson; Brennan Tapp.

Grade 9: Isaac Arnold; Adrianna Bermea; Thomas Donnelly; Dylan Johnson; Lane Lembke; Mackenzie Madsen; Grace Magnuson; Maggy Mott; Christopher Naatz.

Grade 10: Morgan Anderson; Kassidy Borgen; Isaac Ille; Hope Johnson; Dylan Nirk; Heather PirkI; Karson Vigeland.

Grade 11: Alexys Magnuson; Brett Mott; Clint Peterson; Daniel Rivera-Escandon; Joshua Temple.

Grade 12: Kyler Christianson; Thomas Erickson; Cameron Kubista; Lucas Noble; Haley Ryks; Nicholas Thompson; Zachary Wiese.

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BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT Weapons: On Nov. 11, a Hayfield woman called deputies when a stray bullet from hunters hit her house in the 23100 block of 720th St. at 4:38 p.m.

CRIME BRIEFS

Mother charged with assaulting child

An Owatonna mother has been charged with assaulting her own child. The Steele County Attorney's Office has charged Trennette Myles with felony domestic strangulation and two counts of gross misdemeanor domestic assault. The charges stem from an incident in the 800 block of S. Oak Avenue Nov. 20. Officers from Owatonna Police responded after a child called 911 reporting being assaulted by the mother. According to police, Myles allegedly confronted the child about inappropriate behavior. She then grabbed the child by the hair and threw the child around the kitchen, causing a table to fall over, police said. At some point during the assault, Myles squeezed the child's neck with both hands so hard that the child couldn't breathe, police reported.



Myles

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Nov. 6 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding: **Mariah A. Sleuwenhoek**, 20, Faribault, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. She was sentenced to \$181, 2 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, no contact with co-defendants, obtain permission to leave the state, 120 days of community service and 3 years of supervised probation. **Adam J. Techau**, 33, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. Techau was sentenced to \$1,081, 28 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, psychological evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state, 30 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation. **James E. White**, 36, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony burglary. The defendant was sentenced to \$1,081 no possession of firearms, alcohol monitor, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, no contact with victim, individual therapy, obtain permission to leave the state, complete the Men Who Batter program and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Nov. 6 – 10:

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT Benjamin Banda, 58, Blooming Prairie, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Deontae L. Thomas, 29, Minneapolis, revoked license, \$281.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER Cody S. Ash, 25, homeless, careless driving, no license and speeding, \$331; Roman P. Broadwater, 22, Byron, seat belt, \$106; Catherine M. Devetter, 22, Mankato, speeding, \$121; Samantha M. Ecker, 24, Eagan, speeding, \$121; Cynthia R. Oppenheimer, 61, Albert Lea, speeding, \$121; Teriann Powell, 35, Owatonna, speeding and revoked license, \$421; Jesse T. Price II, 33, Denver, CO, possession of 10 kilos or more of marijuana, stay of adjudication, \$81, 4 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation; Jason M. Probst,

41, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Jarod A. Rogers, 18, West Concord, speeding, \$131; Haley S. Steen, 25, Ames, IA, DWI, \$406, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; Cody N. Wentworth, 25, Hayfield, speeding, \$141; Edward J. Whitfield, 22, Des Moines, IA, speeding and no license, \$321; Lawrence R. Woodbridge, 54, Nevis, speeding, \$121.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT Ruqiyo O. Ali, 20, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Natasha B. Anderson, 21, Owatonna, falsely reporting a crime, \$581, 3 days in county jail, individual therapy and 1 year of supervised probation; Sandra K. Anderson, 50, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Ricky B. Barnes, 24, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Sean E. Blassick, 50, Faribault, no license, \$181; Miguel Estrada, 42, Owatonna, DWI, \$1,106 and 160 days in county jail; Sandra S. Gatlin, 53, speeding, \$131; Tawna M. Johnson, 42, Owatonna, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$81, 45 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishment and 2 years of supervised probation; Stacie M. Laffrey, 37, Waseca, suspended license, \$281; Matthew J. Maly, 32, Lyle, speeding, \$141; Bryn A. McGary, 18, Cottage Grove, minor consumption, \$181; Cory L. Rasmussen, 39, Hayfield, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$100, 5 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state and 3 years of supervised probation; Joey S. Roseland, 37, possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, \$181; Susan M. Simon, 54, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; Stacey S. Thomas, 25, Waseca, revoked license, \$281.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Volodymyr Avhustyn, 44, Chicago, IL, speeding, \$141; Gilberto Becerra, 44, Dodge Center, speeding, \$121; Jennifer L. Boettcher, 35, Titonka, IA, no insurance, \$281; Korey M. Carroll, 24, West Concord, suspended license, \$281; Rosalio Chavez Jr., 31, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Richard K. Cory, 28, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$141; Alyssa R. Cottingham, 22, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Nicholas N. Ebner, 22, Preston, speeding, \$121; Maria E. Escobar Funes, 20, Faribault, speeding, \$121; Christopher C. Gent, 30, Fort Walton Beach, FL, speeding, \$131; Derick T. Helgeson, 25, Owatonna, possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, \$181; Rachelle R. Johnson, 44, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Haylee E. Kremmin, 24, Owatonna, careless driving, \$181; Joseph J. Ornelas, 35, Waseca, speeding and no insurance, \$321; Kevin C. Overby, 65, Northfield, speeding, \$141; Ja-

mie M. Pemrick, 42, Faribault, revoked license, \$281; Amber L. Peters, 29, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Stanley L. Prins, 52, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Erica L. Rainone, 29, Waseca, no insurance, \$281; Amanda L. Thompson, 47, Morristown, expired tabs, \$111; Matthew S. Young, 25, New Richland, stop sign, \$131.

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Nov. 13 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding: **Gerald W. Blevins**, 38, Bemidji, previously appeared and was convicted of felony aid and abet murder while committing a felony. Blevins was sentenced to \$996.40 and 150 months in St. Cloud State Prison. **Peter A. Escobar**, 25, Albert Lea, previously appeared and was convicted of felony criminal vehicular homicide – operate vehicle with negligence under influence of alcohol. The defendant was sentenced to \$1,499, 360 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, Ignition Interlock program, obtain and maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance, psychological evaluation, cognitive skill training, attend two sober support groups per week, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation. **Eric N. Gumbusky**, 28, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony assault with a dangerous weapon. He was sentenced to \$131, 14 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training maintain employment, obtain permission to leave the state, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation. **Cyrus N. Trevino**, 25, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony murder with intent-not premeditated. Trevino was sentenced to \$1,077.40 and 391 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Nov. 13 – 17:

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT Marcello Bermea, 33, Hayfield, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Mikayla M. Finney, 20, Duluth, possession of drug paraphernalia, stay of adjudication, \$121, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Melissa A. Law, 35, Ellendale, obstruction of legal process, \$131, 10 days in county jail, diagnostic assessment, 80 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Bradley J. Ross, 27, Rose Creek, expired tabs, \$111.

MN DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES Jacob P. Banks, 25, Owatonna, take fish without angling license, \$181.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER Jeanne G. Adams, 64, St. Louis

Park, speeding, \$141; Alberto V. Arellano, 21, Cincinnati, OH, speeding, \$221; Kari L. Beckenbaugh, 45, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Nicolas P. Demartini, 23, Zumbro Falls, speeding and revoked license, \$321; Derek P. Denelsbeck, 36, Owatonna, seat belt and possession of marijuana, \$256; Tyree C. Drakeford, 26, St. Paul, speeding, \$100; Sondra J. Enstad, 52, Kasson, speeding, \$121; Jaime M. Goytia, 36, Brooklyn Park, no license, \$181; Michael Greene, 31, Brooklyn Center, speeding, \$100; Ryan S. Harrington, 44, Cannon Falls, speeding, \$121; Alicia A. Janssen, 31, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; Rhiannon L. Ladue, 38, Bloomington, revoked license, \$281; Tao Li, 19, Des Moines, WA, speeding, \$131; Daniel F. Link, 51, Mound, speeding, \$121; Nicole R. Lovings, 43, Omaha, NE, speeding, \$131; Tommy I. Ly, 19, Apple Valley, DWI, \$406, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory, attend MADD impact panel, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Mark L. Marquette, 57, Melbourne, FL, speeding, \$121; Alexander J. McElmury, 17, Kasson, speeding, \$121; Musa A. Muhumed, 33, Faribault, speeding, \$121; Julius D. Powell, 26, Owatonna, suspended license and seat belt, \$306; Erica L. Rainone, 29, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Daniel M. Schadeegg, 52, Sunfish Lake, speeding, \$131; James M. Schlie, 31, Janesville, improperly wear seatbelt, \$106; Steven R. Slater, 21, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Ellen M. Sorenson, 58, Shakopee, speeding, \$121; Thanh H. Tran, 46, Rochester, speeding, \$131; Douglas P. Trom, 60, Blooming Prairie, seat belt, \$106.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT Aaron A. Barta, 36, Owatonna, illegal movement on red, \$131; Katherine J. Bland, 27, Owatonna, speeding, \$100; Cathy A. Diekmann, 63, Hastings, DWI, \$381, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Samantha J. Esser, 25, Waseca, failure to yield and permit violation, \$181; Daniel A. Garcia, 18, Owatonna, possession of marijuana, stay of adjudication, \$131, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state, 224 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Nicole A. Glor, 23, Owatonna, speeding, \$201; Chad G. Griffin, 36, New Richland, revoked license, \$281; Mary J. Grubish, 38, Owatonna, DWI, \$281, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; Vincent F. Guggisberg, 25, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Alfred A. Hernandez, 39, Owatonna, toxic substances, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction;

Deuce J. Hodge, 27, Owatonna, revoked license, no insurance and speeding, \$521; Hannah L. Johnson, 40, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$131; Derek D. Jones, 30, Owatonna, speeding and no insurance, \$321; Shelly L. Malecha, 60, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Jason S. Marik, 30, Morristown, revoked license, \$281; Shawn P. McDowell, 39, Owatonna, no license and no insurance, \$381; Manuel D. Medina-Celis, 40, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Emilio D. Mendoza Alvarez, 21, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Joshua D. Montoya, 25, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Zakeria M. Newman, 23, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Matthew T. Pates, 31, Owatonna, give peace officer false information, \$81, 1 day in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Destiny R. Rietveld, 20, Owatonna, theft, \$381; Alexandra F. Simon, 21, Faribault, speeding, \$221; Mikayla M. Spears, 18, Cottage Grove, minor consumption, \$181; John D. Swenson, 19, Owatonna, failure to stop for school bus, \$300; Claudell Walker, 40, St. Paul, revoked license and speeding, \$421; Joseph L. Walsh, 27, Brooklyn Park, open bottle, \$181; Kevin Webster, 28, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Levi D. Wilder, 30, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; James E. Wimbush, 43, revoked license and no insurance, \$481.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Stephen W. Allen, 48, Sleepy Eye, speeding, \$121; Daniel A. Anderson, 47, Adams, DWI, \$406, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Ethan N. Arendt, 27, Wabasha, speeding, \$221; Travis L. Briggs, 28, New Richland, speeding, \$221; Christian A. Briones Muzquiz, 20, Owatonna, minor consumption, \$181; Vanessa R. Cloves, 29, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Dante A. Coleman, 20, Waseca, no insurance and improper information on license, \$301; Keith F. Cruz, 30, Des Moines, IA, DWI, \$406, 2 days in county jail, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; Jaime R. De Leon, 32, Blooming Prairie, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Dilon A. Flores, 29, Owatonna, DWI, \$406, attend MADD impact panel, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; John C. Fornberg, 47, Ellendale, stop sign, \$131; Lanisa A. Galvan, 23, South St. Paul, speeding, \$221; Ansaar A. Gandy, 31, Milwaukee, WI, speeding, \$141; Lamar X. Graves, 22, Owatonna, speeding and no insurance, \$321; Skylar A. Guggisberg, 24, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Bridgette A. Hemmesch, 31, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Donna L. Ihlenfeld, 64, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Jesse S. Jaeger, 25, Ellendale, speeding, \$121; Christopher M. Jahr, 27, Owatonna, DWI, \$606, 2 days in county jail, Ignition Interlock program, chemical dependency

safety plans and implement strategies that make our roads safe for all users,” said Wayne Sandberg, Washington County engineer who accepted the award in Washington D.C. Projects were evaluated on effectiveness, innovation and efficient use of resources. The program honors projects in two categories: infrastructure and operational improvements, and program planning, development and evaluation. “These awards recognize real and innovative solutions to some of the nation's biggest safety challenges,” said Acting Federal Highway Administrator Brandye L. Hendrickson. “We commend Minnesota for its efforts in saving lives and reducing injuries on our nation's roads, and invite others across the country to put such life-saving solutions to work.”

evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 3 years of supervised probation; James D. Larson, 52, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Roman O. Marinin, 23, Bloomington, DWI, \$381, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Stacy L. Martin, 40, Mauston, WI, revoked license, \$281; Jon J. McNamee, 24, Owatonna, improper information on license, \$101; Jesse K. Moe, 31, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Jared M. Santibanez, 20, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Brady D. Seitz, 23, Owatonna, vehicle auxiliary driving lights violation, speeding and no license, \$371; Alexandra F. Simon, 21, Faribault, speeding, \$141; Derrick J. Skoglund, 46, Northfield, speeding, \$121; Kenneth D. Stone, 19, Bloomington, no insurance, \$281; Stacey S. Thomas, 25, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Jamie G. Vasquez, 21, Waseca, no license, \$181; Daniel D. Wagner, 26, New Richland, speeding, \$121.

POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE Nov. 17 **Warrant:** Police arrested a juvenile for an outstanding warrant in the 600 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 3:22 p.m. **Theft:** A motor vehicle was reported stolen from the 3100 block of Park Dr. NW at 3:31 p.m. **Thefts:** Police took theft reports in the 1000 block of 28th Ave. NW at 5:17 p.m., at Rose St. E. and Pine Ave. NE at 7:53 p.m. and the 600 block of Bridge St. W. at 8:31 p.m. **Assault:** Officers responded to an assault in the 2200 block of 26th St. NW at 5:58 p.m. **Shoplifting:** At 8:42 p.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 200 block of Oak Ave. S. **Juvenile:** Police responded to a juvenile complaint in the 1000 block of 20th St. NE at 11:48 p.m. They issued a citation.

Nov. 18 **Warrant:** Officer made a warrant arrest in the 200 block of 22nd St. NW at 8:38 a.m. **Assault:** Officers responded to an assault in the 500 block of Vine St. E. at 8:49 a.m. **Vandalism:** Property damage was reported in the 1700 block of Cedar Valley Dr. NW at 11:57 a.m. **Domestic:** Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 400 block of Lemond Road SW at 1:01 p.m. **Shoplifting:** At 3:41 p.m., officer issued a shoplifting citation in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.

Nov. 19 **DWI:** Officer arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at 18th St. SE and Austin Road SE at 12:31 a.m. **Theft:** Officer took a theft report in the 3400 block of 9th St. NW at 10:27 a.m.

CONTINUED ON B4

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

1. Gumecindo Solis – child endangerment - \$3,000 bail
2. Jorge Solis – agg viol - \$3,000 bail
3. Josefina Solis – child neglect - \$3,000 bail
4. Michael Sommerfield – theft - \$500 bail
5. Jose Sosa – DWI – no bail
6. Shane Spencer – traffic - \$1,000 bail
7. Joseph Stenbakken – contempt of court - \$500 bail
8. Bashir Sudi – theft by check - \$10,000 bail
9. Santana Syhakhoun – contempt of court - \$500 bail
10. Pablo Tagle – theft by swindle - \$1,000 bail
11. Jacqueline Talieu – contempt of court - \$500 bail
12. Brandon Tate – domestic assault - \$2,000 bail
13. Alvin Taylor – DWI - \$3,000 bail
14. John Tedd – domestic assault – no bail
15. Allen Telschow – DWI – no bail
16. Ramiro Terrones – DWI - \$500 bail
17. Norma Thibodeau – dishonored check - \$1,000 bail
18. James Thomas – theft – no bail
19. Carla Thompkins – stalking - \$35,000 bail
20. Larry Thompson – obstruction - \$3,000 bail

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

Say a prayer for those struggling

Following the Mayflower’s arrival at Plymouth Rock on Dec. 11, 1620, the Pilgrims suffered the loss of nearly half of their original 102 colonists. With the help of local Indians, the remaining pilgrims were able to survive a cold and bitter winter – and produced a very bountiful harvest that next summer. They held a traditional three day English harvest festival, in which both the colonists and natives united in thanks. Most scholars believe this is how our Thanksgiving Holiday started.



Behind the Badge
SCOTT ROSE

For many of us, the Thanksgiving celebration, which we marked last week, includes huge feasts, long weekends, parades, football, and family gatherings.

Unfortunately, for many other families, this time of year is not as festive. While we enjoy a pretty strong economy in this area, especially under the bubble of the Mayo Clinic, there are many families still struggling to make ends meet. Struggles that often include financial challenges that sometimes make it hard to put a meal on the table or clothing on their kids, some dealing with major health battles, some further burdened by chemical dependency challenges - both drugs and alcohol.

This year, as you give thanks for the blessings you and your family enjoy, please consider doing your part to help others this next year. Consider volunteering with an area service group or charitable organization in Dodge County. We have several organizations dedicated to help families like these who are struggling.

You can either volunteer and/or donate to great local organizations like the Masonic Lodge, Legion Auxiliary, SE MN Red Cross, and Salvation Army to name a few. Mission 22 is another great organization that works with veteran and public safety suicide prevention. Shop with a Cop in Kasson.

There are other great community service organizations

like the Lions who volunteer tons of hours throughout the year to community projects. Also groups like the Shriner’s who work to raise money each year for the Children’s Hospital, or the KM Care and Share Auction held annually in Kasson each year that helps raise money to assist people with food, clothing, utilities, and others in times of need. The Dodge County Food Shelf is another organization that needs your support. Our schools also have many organizations you can become a part of to help better our community. There are so many great local organizations here in Dodge County that could use your help and support to help those in need!

Here at the Sheriff’s Office, we are heavily involved in the Toys for Tots program this time of year. Toys for Tots is a program that was founded in 1947 by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, which distributes toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. Last year we sorted over 20,000 toys and delivered them throughout SE MN.

Our first goal at the Sheriff’s Office is to make sure no child in Dodge County goes without a few nice gifts under the tree this Christmas. We then help neighboring communities fill their orders including delivering a bunch of toys to Santa Anonymous and to the Children’s Floor at St. Mary’s Hospital in Rochester. We will start collecting new unwrapped toys this week at the Sheriff’s Office in Mantorville.

Please say a prayer for those struggling this holiday season and consider donating and/or volunteering a little bit of your time to one of the many great charitable organizations in our area. Together we can help continue to make Dodge County a great place to live and raise our families.

Your Sheriff,
Scott

Scott Rose has been the sheriff of Dodge County since 2015. His column appears in this newspaper monthly.

Wanted man accused of fleeing deputy

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A man believed to have a warrant out for his arrest is accused of fleeing a sheriff’s deputy near Beaver Lake on the west end of Steele County.

Joshua Douglas Watkins, 31, of Owatonna, has been charged with felony fleeing police in a motor vehicle after a police chase on Nov. 19. He also faces a misdemeanor count of driving after revocation.

According to the criminal complaint, a Steele County sheriff’s deputy noticed a truck crossing the white fog line by the boat launch at Beaver Lake around 12 a.m. The deputy also noticed the driver would periodically apply the brakes and a top brake light was burnt out.

The deputy attempted to stop the vehicle near Misgen Auto Salvage when it accelerated on Southwest 72nd Avenue. The vehicle blew through a stop sign and continued at speeds reaching 70 mph, the complaint said.

During the pursuit, a back

seat passenger turned on a bright spot light attempting to blind the deputy. The vehicle entered into Waseca County at speeds up to 80 mph and blew through several stop signs, the complaint alleges.

The chase continued into New Richland driving on



Watkins

dead end roads, entering farm fields, driving onto grass at NRHEG High School and entering into another dead end at the recycling center. The vehicle eventually crashed in the west ditch at the intersection of 210th Avenue and 110th Street.

Deputies initiated a high-risk stop and took the driver into custody without further incident.

Watkins was found to have a warrant for fifth-degree controlled substance possession and a revoked driver’s license.

If convicted on the felony charge, Watkins faces five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

He remains locked up in the Steele County Detention Center.

CONTINUED FROM B3

Assault: At 12:14 p.m., police responded to an assault in the 300 block of 18th St. SE.

Welfare: Officer completed a welfare check in the 100 block of McKinley St. E. at 4 p.m.

Domestic: Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 4:16 p.m.

Vulnerable Adult: Police received a vulnerable adult report from the 100 block of 24th Place NW at 10:30 p.m.

Nov. 20

Suspicion: At 1:31 a.m., officers responded to suspicious activity in the 300 block of 16th St. SW. They took a subject into custody at the scene.

Crash: Police assisted the State Patrol with a motor vehicle accident with injuries at Riverside Ave. NW and Bridge St. W. at 7:51 a.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 600 block of School St. E. at 8:10 a.m. and the 100 block of 22nd St. NW at 3:59 p.m.

Burglary: Police began a burglary investigation in the 700 block of Riverwood Dr. SW at 11:43 a.m.

Stop Arm: At 3:02 p.m., police received information regarding a school bus stop arm violation at Prospect St. E. and Grove Ave. S.

Vulnerable Adult: Officers received a vulnerable adult report from the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 3:21 p.m.

Assault: Officers responded to an assault in the 800 block of Oak Ave. S. at 7:36 p.m.

Child Protection: At 8:08 p.m., police received a child protection report from the 700 block of 13th St. NE.

Nov. 21

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 400 block of Dartt Ave. NE at 12:24 a.m. and the 1100 block of Frontage Road W at 1:16 p.m.

Drugs: Officers responded to drug activity in the 1200 block of 21st Ave. NW at 9:23 a.m.

Theft: Police took theft reports in the 500 block of 23rd St. NE at 10:05 a.m. and the 300 block of Allan Ave. SW at 5:42 p.m. and 7:54 p.m.

Fight: A fight occurred in the 500 block of 15th St. NE at 11:17 a.m.

Crash: Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries at 26th St. NW and County Road 45 N. at 3:05 p.m.

Fraud: A citizen reported a fraud incident in the 2200 block of 46th St. NW at 7:04 p.m.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Nov. 17

Assist: Deputies responded to a public assist in the 700 block of 2nd Ave. NE in Medford at 10:34 a.m.

Nov. 19

Welfare: At 2:33 a.m., deputy issued a citation during a welfare check at Highway 218 and 83rd St. SE in Aurora Township.

Theft: Deputy took a theft report in the 100 block of Riverview Court in Medford at 10:23 a.m.

Crash: Deputies assisted the State Patrol with a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at 58th St. SW and 25th Ave. SW in Somerset Township at 1:21 p.m.

Pursuit: Deputies arrested a subject following a vehicle pursuit in the 12800 block of 72nd Ave. SW in Berlin Township at 8:52 p.m.

Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 10:11 p.m.

Nov. 20

Littering: At 11:30 a.m., a littering incident occurred in the 6700 block of Frontage Road W. in Medford.

Medical: Deputies responded to a medical emergency in the 62000 block of 86th St. NE in Merton Township at 1:19 p.m.

Crash: Deputies received information regarding a vehicle hitting a deer in the 1700 block of 69th St. NW in Medford Township at 5:05 p.m.

Nov. 21

Burglary: Deputies began a burglary investigation in the 64000 block of 34th Ave. NE in Merton Township at 9:29 a.m.

Crash: Deputies assisted the State Patrol with a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage in the 31000 block of 18th St. SE in Owatonna Township at 3:17 p.m.

ARREST

Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE

Tony Terrence Fisher, 39, arrested at 2:09 a.m. Nov. 20, aid and abet theft and violation of conditions of release warrants arrest, \$1,000 bail.

William Robert Wheeler, 30, arrested at 2:32 a.m. Nov. 20, probation violation warrant arrest, body only.

Trennette Lashawn Myles, 36, arrested at 9:02 p.m. Nov. 20, domestic assault and assault, held for court.

Cassandra Sue Britt, 25, arrested at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 20, warrant arrest, held for court.

Steele County Sheriff Joshua Douglas Watkins, 31, arrested at 9:12 p.m. Nov. 19, felony fleeing in motor vehicle and warrant, held for court.

Robert Lynn Hagmann, 37, arrested at 9:50 p.m. Nov. 19, warrant arrest, \$10,000 bail.

Tongyik Miyoang Keirkow, 46, arrested at 4:10 p.m. Nov. 20, DWI, held for court.

COURT NEWS

Dodge County

The following cases were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Nov. 6 with Judge Jodi L. Williamson presiding: **John G. Baker Jr.,** 36, Dodge Center, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. He was sentenced to \$205 and 18 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

Thomas L. Jeter, 58, Rochester, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. The defendant was sentenced to

\$130, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, no possession of firearms, mental health evaluation and 5 years of supervised probation.

Corey L. Mees, 31, St. Cloud, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. Mees was sentenced to \$1,155, 61 days in county jail, cognitive skill training, do not enter liquor establishments, mental health evaluation, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Nov. 6 – 13:

DODGE COUNTY

SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Jacob E. Ewing, 24, Kasson, speeding, \$120; David J. Henderson, 58, Kasson, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$975, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 90 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Brandon A. Hendrickson, 18, Owatonna, possession of marijuana and failure to appear, stay of adjudication, \$975, 74 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, 90 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Nathan M. Noser, 20, Pine Island, suspended license, \$280; Justin F. Shoemaker, 30, Zumbrota, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$975, 13 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, 90 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Donald P. Stroeb, 41, Dodge Center, DWI, \$1,010, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, 90 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Brady W. Swanson, 20, Dodge Center, speeding, \$130; Thalamus H. Wilson, 39, Kasson, revoked license and no insurance, \$480.

KASSON POLICE

DEPARTMENT

Destany R. Adreon, 21, Mantorville, failure to yield to pedestrian, \$180; Nathaniel S. Elwoods, 21, Kasson, invalid license, \$180; Joni J. Garcia, 30, Kasson, invalid license, \$180; Jennifer M. Johannsen, 35, Owatonna, speeding, \$140; Paul T. Merry, 39, Rochester, speeding, \$130; James L. Peterson, 84, Byron, stop sign, \$130; Nathan D. Register, 37, Kasson, speeding and no insurance, stay of adjudication, \$120 and 6 months of probation; Wendy J. Reincke, 21, Rochester, speeding, \$220; Ashley E. Rendon, 29, Kasson, parking violation, \$32.

MN STATE PATROL

ROCHESTER

Jared J. Cutting, 28, Byron, speeding, \$140; Billy W. Love-

day, 44, Mantorville, speeding, \$120; Khadar O. Mohamud, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$380; Tanner S. Peterson, 26, Rochester, suspended license, \$280; Eric D. Purvis, 23, Kasson, speeding, \$130.

WEST CONCORD

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Leland J. Corey, 59, West Concord, DWI, \$505, alcohol assessment and 1 year of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Nov. 13 – 20:

DODGE COUNTY

SHERIFF’S OFFICE

Joshua P. Bartels, 23, Lake Elmo, unreasonable acceleration, \$100; Alexander K. Blockhus, 26, Rochester, speeding, \$220; Benedicto D. Cordero, 61, LeRoy, DWI, \$810, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment and 2 years of supervised probation; Dwyn E. Erichsen, 51, Kasson, speeding, \$120; Peter W. Gjense, 47, Cleveland, speeding, \$220; Sheila B. Hatfield, 28, Rochester, revoked license, \$280; Kaitlin M. Kanable, 28, West Concord, failure to yield, \$130; Sterling S. Larson, 80, Kasson, seat belt, no insurance, operate vehicle without plates, \$405; Robert J. Leonard, 32, Mantorville, financial transaction card fraud and failure to appear, \$1,390.17, 52 days in county jail, 10 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Brandon J. Melloon, 27, McIntire, IA, speeding, \$120; Chan D. Prom, 29, DWI, \$405, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment and 1 year of supervised probation; Morgan E. Snider, 18, Blooming Prairie, littering, possession of marijuana and underage possession of liquor, \$430; Casey L. Sommers, 26, Rochester, disorderly conduct, \$355, 20 hours of community service and 1 year of probation; Zebadiah I. Tamez, 18, Dodge Center, speeding, \$220; Bradley R. Terhurne, 46, Rochester, flashing lights violation, \$120; Trevor R. White III, 28, West Concord, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; Jason W. Wilburn, 34, Rochester, nonsupport of spouse or child – amount nine times person’s total monthly payment, stay of adjudication, meet with DHS Child Support office and 1 year of probation.

KASSON POLICE

DEPARTMENT

Chad D. Aaker, 22, Kasson, DWI, \$505, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of probation; Stefania A. Brown, 44, Chicago, IL, speeding, \$130; Erin R. Carr, 27, Kasson, speeding, \$140; Zachary M. Edling, 27, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Christine K. Floren, 48, Byron, following vehicle too closely, \$130; Regina H. Johnson, 40, Rochester, restraining order violation, \$255, 10 hours of community service and 1 year of supervised probation; Stephanie M. Kish, 41, Wanamingo, DWI and reckless driving, \$810, 3 days in county jail and

2 year of supervised probation; Brandon C. Nelson, 23, Rochester, registration violation and no insurance, \$310; Ernesto Paz Jr., 26, Arcadia, WI, invalid license, \$180; Alexander L. Paulson, 20, Dodge Center, failure to display ATV registration, \$105.

MN STATE PATROL

ROCHESTER

Edward J. Bronner, 76, Dodge Center, speeding, \$120; Teresa L. Claassen, 55, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Ciara N. Little, 25, Hayfield, speeding, \$120; Matthew C. Martin, 39, Moorhead, damaged cargo securement device violation, \$380; Braeden C. Oelkers, 17, Hayfield, speeding, \$120; Ley E. Ortiz Calleja, 21, Dodge Center, suspended license, \$280; Zachariah T. Prouty, 32, Hayfield, speeding, \$120; Adam J. Saxton, 35, Owatonna, speeding, \$120; James E. Winkelman, 54, Clear Lake, no registration and break-away braking system violation, \$380; Celina L. Yarbrough, 29, Dodge Center, speeding, \$130; Kaylee J. Zirbes, 19, Kasson, speeding, \$120.

WEST CONCORD

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thomas R. Bond, 54, West Concord, speeding, \$120; Jared M. Peterson, 28, Nerstrand, no insurance, \$280; Bruce M. Rosenau, 50, West Concord, speeding, \$130; Nina Tanner, 27, Austin, disorderly conduct, \$355, domestic abuse evaluation, 20 hours of community service and 1 year of supervised probation; Joseph W. Urwin, 18, Kent, WA, suspended license, \$280.

POLICE BLOTTER

Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff’s Office handled 346 complaints during Nov. 8 and 21. Some of them include:

Nov. 10

Fraud: At 11:52 a.m., a Hayfield citizen reported fraudulent charges on his credit card.

Larceny: At 1:46 p.m., Claremont Service Center reported the theft of two breakfast sandwiches on two separate days by the same subject.

Burglary: Deputies responded to a burglary involving stolen checks in the 100 block of 6th Ave. NE in Hayfield at 4 p.m.

Nov. 12

Hunting: At 5:23 p.m., subjects were shooting after dark in the 60200 block of 195th Ave. in Dodge Center.

Juvenile: Deputies received a complaint of an out of control male in the 500 block of Front St. E. in Claremont at 8:22 p.m.

Nov. 13

Probation: Deputy arrested a subject for a probation violation in the 100 block of 6th Ave. NE in Hayfield at 9:51 a.m.

Nov. 14 Child Endangerment: Deputies received a child endangerment report from Triton High School at 1:31 p.m.

Nov. 15

Tampering: At 8:19 a.m., deputy took a report of a

tampering with a motor vehicle incident in the 500 block of 3rd St. SE in Hayfield.

Tobacco: Deputy found a minor in possession of tobacco on 6th Ave. SE in Hayfield at 10:44 a.m.

Larceny: A Hayfield citizen reported the theft of 15 radiators on 1st St. SW at 4:39 p.m.

Harassment: Deputies responded to a harassment incident on 1st St. SE in Hayfield at 7:22 p.m.

Disturbance: At 11:56 p.m., a disturbance involving two males fighting occurred in the 200 block of Front St. W. in Claremont.

Nov. 16

Larceny: Deputy issued a citation for shoplifting at Claremont Service Center at 8:13 a.m.

Larceny: At 2:46 p.m., a citizen reported the theft of a trailer and belongings on 2nd St. NE in Hayfield.

Sex Offense: Deputies responded to a sex offense in Dodge Center at 3:47 p.m.

Child Neglect: Deputies received a report of child neglect from the 200 block of Elm St. N. in Claremont at 8:45 p.m.

Nov. 17

Threats: At 9:55 a.m., a citizen reported receiving threats at his work place in the 500 block of Hwy. St. E. in Dodge Center.

Larceny: A woman reported the theft of a card in the 72600 block of 220th Ave. in Hayfield at 2:42 p.m.

Mail: A West Concord citizen called deputies to report receiving inappropriate mail in the 20100 block of County Hwy. 24 at 3:19 p.m.

Assault: At 6:10 p.m., a woman forced her way into a home in the 600 block of 5th St. SE in Dodge Center.

Nov. 18

Disturbance: Deputies responded to a disturbance involving an out of control 6-year-old in the 20000 block of County Hwy. 24 in West Concord at 10:44 a.m.

Nov. 19 Disturbance: Deputies responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of 3rd St. in Claremont at 11:37 a.m.

Fire: Deputies responded to a house fire in the 23000 block of 710th St. in Hayfield at 9:48 p.m.

Nov. 20

Assault: Deputies received information regarding a past action assault in the 63600 block of 120th Ave. in Claremont at 10:45 a.m.

Harassment: At 3:20 p.m., a harassment incident occurred on 3rd St. E. in Claremont.

Nov. 21

Theft: At 3:54 a.m., deputies received information regarding a past action stolen car from 5th St. SW in Dodge Center.

Harassment: Deputy responded to a harassment incident on 6th Ave. SE in Hayfield at 3:39 p.m.

Intoxication: Deputies responded to an intoxicated subject in the 700 block of 2nd Ave. SE in Dodge Center at 7:15 p.m.



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Dear Concerned,

There are dozens of small adjustments and simple modifications you can do to help make your mom's home safer and more fit for aging-in-place, that won't cost her much if anything at all. Here are some suggestions to get you started.

ELIMINATE TRIP AND SLIP HAZARDS

Since falls are the leading cause of home injury among seniors, a good place to start is by arranging or moving your mom's furniture so there are clear pathways to walk through. Position any electrical or phone cords along the wall so they won't be a tripping hazard. If she has throw rugs, remove them or use carpet tacks or double-sided tape to secure them. And pick up items on the floor that could cause her to trip like papers, shoes or clothes.

In the bathroom, buy some non-skid rugs for the floors, and a rubber mat or adhesive nonslip strips for the floor of the tub or shower to prevent slipping, and have a carpenter install grab bars in and around the tub/shower and near the toilet for support.

IMPROVE LIGHTING

Good lighting is very important for safe aging-in-place, so check the wattage ratings on your mom's lamps and light fixtures, and install the brightest bulbs allowed. Purchase some nightlights for the bathroom and in the hallways that are used after dark. And consider adding under-cabinet task lighting in the kitchen, and motion sensor lights outside the front and back doors and in the driveway.

HAND HELPERS

If your mom has hand arthritis or problems gripping, install lever-style door handles (or doorknob lever adapters), which are easier to use than doorknobs. The same goes for twist knob kitchen or bathroom faucets, which you can replace with a single lever, touch or sensor-style faucet. And consider replacing knobs on cabinets and drawers with easier-to-grip D-shaped handles.

Simple Home Modifications That Can Help Seniors Age in Place

What tips can you recommend to help make a home safer for aging-in-place? My 76-year-old mother wants to stay living in her own home for as long as possible, but she doesn't have the money for any big renovations.

Concerned Son

EASIER LIVING

To help make your mom's kitchen easier to use, organize her cabinets so the things she uses most often are within easy reach without a lot of stooping or using a step stool. Also, consider installing pullout shelves beneath the counter and Lazy Susans in corner cabinets for easier access. And get her a kitchen stool so she can sit down while she's working.

In the bathroom for easier and safer bathing, consider purchasing a shower chair and install a hand-held shower so your mom can bathe from a seated position if need be.

ACCESSIBILITY SOLUTIONS

If your mom uses a walker or wheelchair, you can adapt her house by installing ramps on entrance steps, and mini-ramps to go over high thresholds. You can also install "swing-away" or "swing-clear" hinges on her doors to add two inches of width for easier access.

SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

To keep your mom safe, set her hot water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit or below to prevent scalds. If she has stairs, put handrails on both sides. Also, install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on all levels of her house, and place a lightweight, easy-to-use ABC-rated fire extinguisher in an easily accessible location in the kitchen.

For more tips, get a copy of AARP's "HomeFit Guide" that's filled with dozens of aging-in-place recommendations. You can access it at AARP.org/homefit, or call 888-687-2277 and ask them to mail you a free copy.

Also note that all the previously mentioned products can be purchased either in local retail stores, home improvement stores, pharmacies or medical supply stores, or online at Amazon.com.

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

History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago

Nov. 27, 2007

Dan Evans, Publisher

This past month two new employees started their career in banking with U.S. Banks, here in Blooming Prairie. Jill Lindeman and Jess Motl, both working now as tellers, come from different places, but now find themselves behind the same counter assisting customers with their banking needs.

Blooming Prairie Librarian Darlene Grams is going back to her alma mater. She has accepted a position at the U of M, Mankato Memorial Library in the Reference Services Department and will leave the BP Library after almost nine years of service.

20 Years Ago

Nov. 25, 1997

Elsie Slinger, Publisher

On Oct. 24, LeMar Nelson was presented with a plaque to commemorate his winning the Section 1 Athletic Directors Association Distinguished Service Award. The ceremony took place at the Holiday Inn South in Rochester. This award is given to a person who has made a significant contribution to their local school's programs.

Making sure hazing isn't a problem ever in Blooming Prairie, the school board passed the state mandated policy passed down at its meeting Nov. 24. Because hazing isn't mentioned in the school's harassment policy, board members felt it was appropriate to pass the state policy.

50 Years Ago

Nov. 30, 1967

Victor, Vernon & Vryle Krejci, Publishers

"Blooming Prairie and Steele County should have more up-to-date library service," George Frederickson, chairman of the local citizen's committee, which is working toward this goal, reported this week. A release issued to the Times Monday read as follows: "For years' the citizens of Steele County have been paying taxes to support the Owatonna Public Library. For this, they have been able to use the facilities of the Owatonna Library without charge. There is now available a more convenient plan for Library service through the Regional Library Plan. Through this plan, the Library service could be extended by use of Bookmobiles into the rural areas and by establishment of a Branch Library in Blooming Prairie."

The BP Fire Department was summoned to the Central Co-op Oil Station at 8 a.m. Monday of this week to extinguish a blaze, which threatened to destroy a small egg van truck owned by Harold B. Hansen. Damage was confined to the truck box.

Safety patrol members promise to keep others safe



Fifty-five members of the school patrol at Wilson Elementary promised to do their best as Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele administered the oath of office Nov. 17 in front of the entire student body. Some of the patrol members who took the oath of office included: front row (left to right): Bryant Reyes Sanchez, Sawyer Erickson and Randy Hansen; back row: Danica Sevier, Aleesia Guzman, Tenley Wagner and Sheriff Thiele.

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

With their right hands raised, 55 fourth and fifth graders at Wilson Elementary School in Owatonna pledged to do their best in keeping their fellow classmates safe throughout the school year.

Once they finished reciting the oath of office in front of Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele and the rest of the student body on Nov. 17, the students officially became members of the school patrol. Thiele congratulated them and presented each of them with a tiny junior sheriff badge.

"This is a big deal when they take an oath," said Lisa Thorson, who is this year's patrol advisor. "It's a meaningful experience for them and they take their job seriously," she added.

Thorson said there is high interest to be involved in the patrol.

Those interested in joining the patrol go through an application process, according to Thorson. And, she added, not everyone who applies is accepted into the program.

The goal of the safety patrol, Thorson said, is keeping students safe as they come and go to school. The patrol members are out there "to set a good example of being

safe," she said.

"I believe it to be a pretty powerful experience," Thorson said.

Patrol members are required to be out in all weather conditions, including rain, snow, hot, cold and even below zero in an effort to get everyone to school. There are safety patrols at four corners of the school grounds before school at 7:25 a.m. and after school at 2:45 p.m.

In addition to helping students reach the school safely, the experience also provides patrol members with a leadership role. "It's a leadership job they look forward to," Thorson said. "It's very much a student-led leadership role."

One of the privileges of being a patrol member is a trip to the water park at the end of the school year.

For Sheriff Thiele, it was a special for him to lead the ceremony. He attended Wilson Elementary when he was growing up.

Crossword solution

T	A	B	E	S		F	I	S	C		A	S	C	I	
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CRWD finishes water-quality projects south of Austin

Crews complete 3 berms along Cedar River as part of 25-project initiative

Rain falling on more than 500 acres of mostly cropland south of Austin now will be slowed down and treated by three earthen berms before reaching the nearby Cedar River State Water Trail.

Crews on Thursday planted grass seed and made other final touches to the berms constructed this fall in Austin Township as part of the Cedar River Watershed District’s five-year, \$8.4 million Capital Improvement Project (CIP) to build 25 structures on farm land to improve water quality and reduce flooding.

CRWD worked with landowners Dwane Hull and Jeffrey Pederson to bring the nearly \$200,000 ravine-stabilization project to reality and, in doing so, address erosion issues related to stormwater drainage on nearly one square mile of land.

“We’ve had outstanding landowners to work with on these projects,” said Cody Fox, CRWD’s project manager overseeing the CIP initiative that now has four completed projects. “These berms were a high priority because they offered opportunities to catch a large amount of sediment just before reaching the river.”

These berms with the Hull-Pederson projects are expected to protect the Cedar River from receiving about 78 tons per year of sediment and 156 pounds of phosphorus, which, if in the river, could create nearly 40 tons of algae.

Fitzgerald Excavating of Goodhue, Minn., constructed all three berms.

CRWD’s CIP initiative consists of the district’s top 25 prioritized projects that range in size, complexity and location. They generally relate to detaining stormwater in storage structures built in upland or headwater farmland areas but also include ravine stabilization and flood-risk reduction.

Most of the 25 CIP projects are planned for upstream of Austin, with a majority currently targeted in the Dobbins Creek sub watershed, which is highly prone to flash flooding. Dobbins’ two branches meet at Austin’s Jay C. Hormel Nature Center before it becomes East Side Lake due to a dam and flows into the Cedar River at Austin’s Driesner Park.

Strategic construction of upland storage structures helps CRWD slow water flows while keeping more soil and nutrients from entering local waterways. This also reduces flood damage to buildings, infrastructure and farm fields.

CIP projects aim to achieve 40 to 70 percent flow reductions on most individual sites as well as



A crew builds a ravine-stabilization berm this fall on Dwane Hull’s property in Austin Township near the Cedar River.

an 8 percent overall reduction at the confluence of Dobbins Creek and the Cedar River in southeast Austin. CRWD’s long-term plan calls for a 20 percent reduction in flood flows.

flows in its localized area by 80 percent, keeping about 134 tons of sediment and 218 pounds of phosphorus per year out of Dobbins, Fox said.

This spring, CRWD completed its first CIP project – about \$60,000 – along Dobbins Creek’s north branch at the Anderson-Oelkers site in Red Rock Township southeast of Brownsdale. That site is downstream from the Dobbins 1 project location.

Earlier this year, state Sen. Dan Sparks and Rep. Jeanne Poppe, both of Austin, helped secure \$1.7 million in state funding from a bonding bill to help CRWD match a \$3.2 million grant awarded in 2015 by The Hormel Foundation for CIP projects through a request by the local Vision 2020 Waterways Committee. The Hormel Foundation awarded CRWD

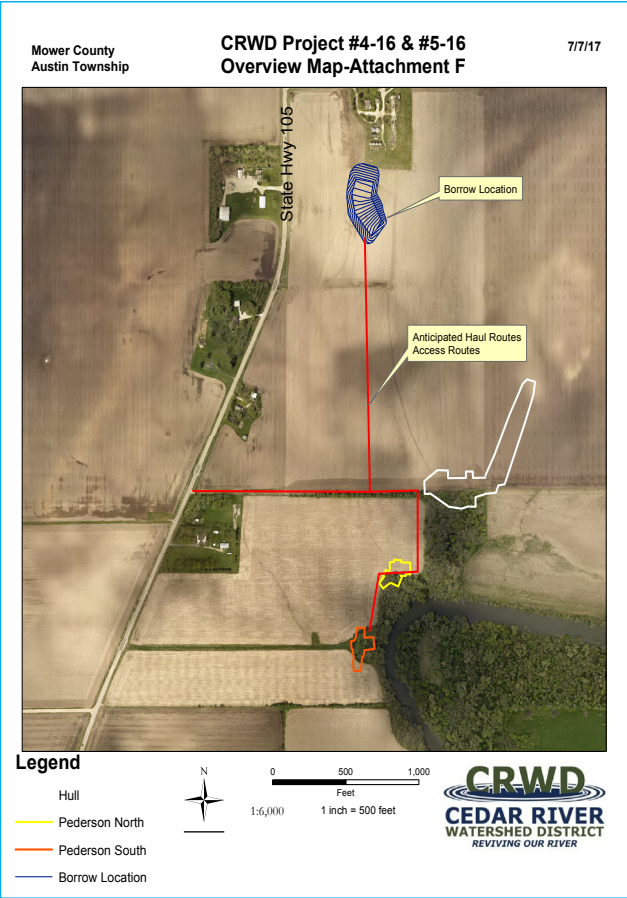
the grant to use as leverage in obtaining other funding sources for CIP projects.

CRWD now has access to matching funds of up to \$3.8 million from state grants and a local project levy. CRWD will keep pursuing funding for the overall initiative and work to avoid needing to use all of the CIP’s levy potential.

This is the CRWD’s 10th anniversary year of forming in 2007 to address concerns with area flooding and water quality. The district’s boundaries cover about 435 square miles, including portions of Mower, Dodge, Freeborn and Steele counties.

Cedar River Watershed District

In 2007, state and local officials formed the Cedar River Watershed District in response to the Cedar River Watershed’s worst-known floods occurring in 2000 and 2004. CRWD’s top priorities are aimed at reducing flooding and improving water quality within the Cedar River Watershed.



In spring 2018, CRWD plans to start construction on its largest CIP project – known as Dobbins 1 – in the headwaters of Dobbins Creek’s north branch in Red Rock and Dexter townships. When completed, the nearly \$1.5 million project will consist of two water-retention structures or earthen dams that, during large rain events, temporarily will hold stormwater covering more than 50 acres, which is larger than the 40-acre East Side Lake.

Once completed, Dobbins 1 is expected to reduce stormwater

Ag loans expand for more pollution prevention

State extends eligibility to include larger livestock operations

Low-interest loans for projects that help prevent pollution are being expanded by the state to include larger livestock operations.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture is expanding the Agricultural Best Management Practices – better known as AgBMP – loans under an agreement with the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program in Louisiana. Livestock operations holding National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits or those with more than 1,000 animal units now can apply.

A formal letter of understanding recently was signed recognizing the importance of coordinating pollution-prevention efforts throughout the Mississippi River watershed locally in Minnesota and in distant downstream areas, including the receiving waters of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary in Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico.

“This is great news for Mower County’s numerous livestock operators,” said Justin Hanson, district manager for Mower Soil & Water Conservation District. “We hope this leads to even more AgBMP funds being secured for local projects.”

In 2017, Mower SWCD has assisted Mower County producers and rural homeowners across the county in securing AgBMP loans for 10 pollution-prevention projects totaling about \$450,000 overall, Hanson said, adding that there’s plenty more funding available for local projects.

AgBMP funds in Mower County have helped purchase equipment for tillage and manure handling as well as; tillage equipment; and septic replacements but also could cover participation in conservation programs or practices, Hanson said.

Since its inception in 2015, the state’s AgBMP Loan Program has issued more than

13,000 low-interest loans to Minnesota businesses and landowners financing more than \$220 million for projects addressing erosion, runoff, manure management, septic treatment, and drinking water problems.

Under AgBMP, producers and landowners can apply for a 3.5 percent low-interest loan by working with their local SWCD and local bankers to secure the loans. SWCDs manage the allocated funding from the state for each county’s AgBMP program and approve the applications as well as provide project oversight to ensure they follow state rules.

The SWCD’s primary role is giving assistance if landowners or bankers need help in the application and eligibility process.

“AgBMP is the easiest program that we run because it involves the least amount of red tape and paperwork,” Hanson said.

Applications for an AgBMP loan is one sheet and easy to fill out, Hanson said. Tracking and approvals typically can be processed within a day locally, he added, with loan approvals usually approved by the state within one or two weeks.

The state’s letter of understanding recognizes that pollution does not stop at state boundaries and that a multi-state perspective should be considered when addressing pollution problems, according to the MDA.

“All along the Mississippi River, we need to work with our partners and follow the same road map to manage the watershed while still recognizing that people and communities use the land in a variety of ways,” said MDA Commissioner Dave Frederickson. “Expanding the number of farm operations eligible for AgBMP loans here in the Mississippi River’s headwaters state is another step toward managing and protecting this important watershed.”



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STAFF PHOTO: RICK BUSSLER

Fifth-grader Tanner Smith smiles as he had the pleasure of putting food on cringing P.E. teacher Josh Williams during a Jump Rope for Heart celebration at Wilson Elementary School in Owatonna on Nov. 17. The school raised a total of \$9,800 for the American Heart Association event. As a reward for fundraising \$1,000, Smith had the opportunity to go in front of the school and dump food on Williams. Food options included sauerkraut, dog food, whipped cream, tuna fish and dirt water.



CROSS COUNTRY: Better than average season

FROM PAGE B1

and All-Conference award. Nine runners earned letters this season, with Cameron Kubista and Isaac Ille counting the second and third place time on the team. Ille had his record best 16:44 time at the Stewartville meet, but he also recorded another scintillating time of 16:59 on the tough state course at Northfield. Kubista ran a 17:52 at the section meet, and Ille recorded a 19:39 on the same course. Five of the boys earned an All-Academic honor. Besides his MVP honors, Alec Ille earned the Leader of the Pack, Most Dedicated, and Most Career Dedication awards. Brian Jimenez and Alex Miller were named Most Improved, and Jesse Schewe was awarded the Gopher conference Sportsmanship honor. On the girls' side Bobbie Bruns made her mark, running first in every meet but two,

when she got sidelined with a sprained ankle. Abby Smith came in first in the last regular meets. Bruns timed a season-best 20:49 at the USC invitational, and Smith recorded 23:02 at the section meet. Jerrin Jax timed a 23:34 at the section, and Asha Lightizer ran 24:22, also at the section. The Blossom team took first in its own Invitational and also finished second once and third once. Bruns was named the MVP and Leader of the Pack for the girls, and Smith earned Honorable Mention all-Conference honors. Most Improved honors went to Jackie Hyland, and Jax was honored as most Dedicated and the Gopher Conference Sportsmanship recipient. Nine runners earned letters, and Smith, Bruns, Lightizer, Smith and Jax all were named to the Academic All-Conference squad. It could truly be said that the season was a good one, the second one in a row.

HOCKEY: Girls off to a great start

FROM PAGE B1

a goal two minutes later. Owatonna junior forward Maylynn Prokopec continued the scoring in the first period to give the Huskies a 3-0 advantage 11:54 into the first period. Prokopec was assisted by senior forward Margo Achterkirch and senior defenseman Jamie Davison. "It's always nice to come out and get a win," Owatonna coach Dan Paur said. "We want to be competitive and chase that Big 9 championship. It's good start. "We put some points on early and that puts pressure on the other team," he continued. "We did that pretty consistently throughout all three period and I was pretty happy with that." Century's Elizabeth Oyen scored to make the score 3-1 at the end of the first period. Achterkirch answered with a goal on a power play just 42 second into the second period. She was assisted by junior defenseman Kiley Friedrichs and Prokopec. Owatonna's sophomore defenseman Chloe Schmidt scored a goal 13:09 in to the

second period to give the Huskies a 5-1 lead. Oyen then scored her second goal for Century to narrow the score to 5-2, but a goal by Davison late in the second period to extend the Huskies lead back to four goals. Wolfe, Anna Herzog, Sydney Hunst and Achterkirch added goals in the third period with Chloe Schmidt, Hunst, Anna Herzog and Davison raking in assists. Paur said overall, he was very happy with the way his team played. "We have a really great team and a lot of the girls are unselfish and willing to make the right play for the team," he said. "We want to have that team first attitude. We have great seniors. Margo Achterkirch has a bunch of points already this season. Our seniors also led us on defense with Rille Schmidt and Jamie Davidson. They are both tremendous for us on the blue line. All of our upperclassmen do a great job of leading our younger crew." Davison said she thought the Huskies played well, but there are still some areas that need improvement like moving the duck quicker and winning

the battles in the corners. "We definitely found a lot of things to work on, but that was expected because we've only had a week of practice," she said. "It will be nice to see where we go from here. "We definitely we're really positive as a team," she continued. "We kept picking each other up and helping each other, which is really nice" The Huskies defeated the Saint Paul Blades back on Nov. 10 for their first victory. Davison said she can't remember the last time the Huskies started the season 2-0. "It feels great," she said. "But we know we are going to play some tougher teams, so we just have to be ready for that." Schmidt said she is confident that if the Huskies keep working hard in practice it will translate into more wins. "I think if we just keep that intensity up, we will keep our record strong," she said.

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT
This holiday season

Holiday Dazzle is coming up on Friday. It is sure to be a fun night with the REAL Santa coming to F&M Bank again, wagon rides, Santa House, dancers, singers and families in town having fun! The Christmas Wish Tree will be up at Sportstitch. Stop in and take a tag off the tree to purchase a Christmas gift for those less fortunate in the community. Plan to come and celebrate with us that day in town as we kick off the Christmas season! Our Scrooge jars are out! Those running in the Scrooge campaign are Nick Schiefert, Alyssa Ressler, Rachel Pirkel and Aaron Ressler. So if you see a jar, put some change in it for your favorite Scrooge. All proceeds go to the Christmas Light Fund. Remember to thank these people for having their pictures around town and helping us to raise money for the Christmas Light Fund. Upcoming event: Business After Hours- Dec. 13, 5-7 p.m., Farmers and Merchants Bank in Blooming Prairie.

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BP Chamber Director

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NRHEG Elementary- Ellendale

This week's Panther of the Week is Madison Schultz. Madison resides in Ellendale with her parents, Jeff and Ashley Schultz. She is in Mrs. Jensen's Kindergarten class. Madison always has such a positive attitude. She loves helping others and is always showing Panther Pride in the hallway by walking quietly and keeping her hands to herself. She is a great example of what Panther Pride looks like. Madison likes to jump on the trampoline, play with her brother, and help clean the house. She also loves to play at the pumpkin store at school. Keep up the great work Madison!

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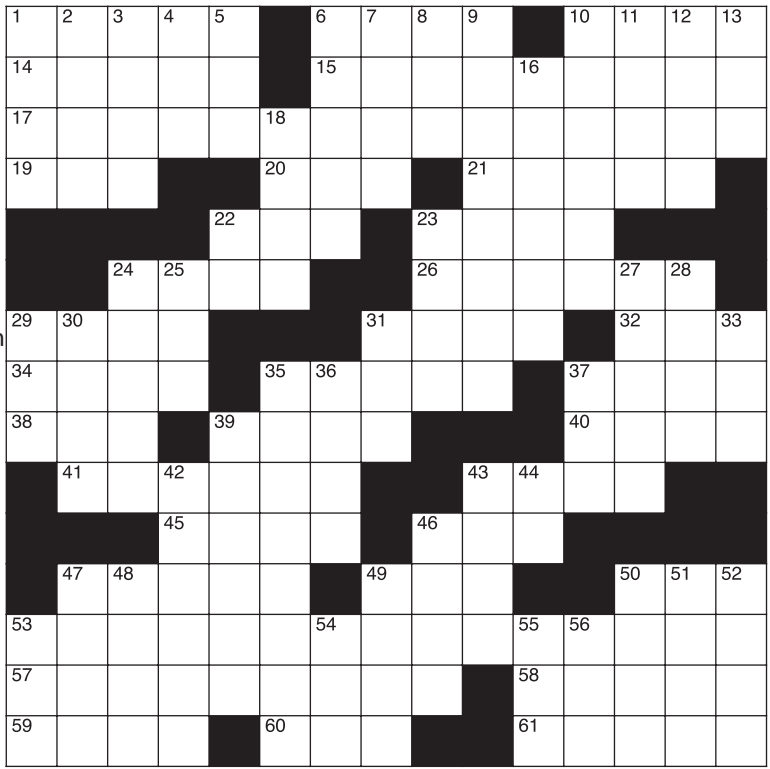
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Solutions on B5

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Emaciation
- 6. Exchequer
- 10. Sacs where fungi develop
- 14. First letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 15. Unexplored waters
- 17. Berkeley athletes
- 19. Norse giantess
- 20. Crater on the moon
- 21. Resembles velvet
- 22. Pearl Jam's debut album
- 23. Hair-like structure
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Put in advance
- 29. First son of Lot
- 31. Native American language
- 32. Furry family member
- 34. Vedic God of fire
- 35. Genie
- 37. German city
- 38. Acquire
- 39. Cambodia currency
- 40. A person from a Balkan republic
- 41. More simple
- 43. Bloats
- 45. "The other white meat"
- 46. ___ student: learns healing
- 47. 04492, town in Maine
- 49. Paddle
- 50. Airline once owned by Howard Hughes
- 53. Big 10 athlete
- 57. Inflammation of the intestine
- 58. Key's comedic partner

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



- 59. Chamomile and black are two
- 60. Distress signal
- 61. Assn. for translators

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Measures engine speed (abbr.)
- 2. Wings
- 3. Founded a phone com-

- pany
- 4. Upon
- 5. Superhigh frequency
- 6. Colorless liquid
- 7. Hostelries
- 8. ___ fi (slang)
- 9. One who accompanies
- 10. Where rockers play
- 11. "___ the Man" Musial
- 12. Waxy cover on some

- birds' beaks
- 13. Software that monitors for malicious activity (abbr.)
- 16. Becomes less intense
- 18. Lyric poems
- 22. Touchdown
- 23. From end to end
- 24. ___ Claus
- 25. Jedi Master Kenobi
- 27. Fencing swords
- 28. Famed child psychiatrist
- 29. Gossip
- 30. S-shaped lining
- 31. '___ death do us part
- 33. Bar bill
- 35. Placed over a vowel to indicate sound
- 36. Steve Martin was one
- 37. Low paid educator (abbr.)
- 39. One who rampages
- 42. Backbones
- 43. "Friday Night Lights" director
- 44. Anno Domini
- 46. One-time Yankees sensation Kevin
- 47. Fermented grape juice
- 48. Peruvian province
- 49. Former Braves outfielder Nixon
- 50. Entertainment award
- 51. Feeling good
- 52. Greek god of war
- 53. Famed NYC museum
- 54. Of the ears
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Bremer Bank donates to Owatonna Foundation

Bremer Bank recently made a \$2,500 donation to the Owatonna Foundation.

“We are extremely grateful to Bremer Bank and their President, Jason Eyberg, for their support. The Bremer culture of philanthropy has truly enhanced our community and we appreciate their support of our mission which is; improving the quality of life for present and future generations by supporting Owatonna projects that focus on community, arts, recreation, and education,” said Foundation Executive Director Laura Resler.

The Owatonna Foundation, now in its 59th year of serving the Owatonna community, provides capital grants in Owatonna and its environs.

The Foundation was established in 1957 with the goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations of Owatonna



The Owatonna Foundation has accepted a \$2,500 donation from Bremer Bank. Those involved in the presentation of the donation were (left to right) Foundation trustees Ray Stawarz, Dave Einhaus, and Todd Hale, mortgage loan officer Ryan Gillespie, ag banker Dave Stenzel, CSA manager Kelli Alstead, business service associate Shannon Pederson, Foundation president Betsy Lindgren, Bremer president Jason Eyberg and trustee Dr. Carol Winter.

residents. Since then, the Owatonna Foundation has committed more than \$11.75 million dollars in grants to Owatonna projects and annually awards \$30,000 in scholarships for both traditional and non-traditional

students.

For more information about the Owatonna Foundation, please visit our website at: www.owatonnafoundation.org, or call our office at 507-455-2995.

Cancer

Corner

Blooming Prairie Cancer Group

Gas cards, parking passes help cancer patients in BP

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The Blooming Prairie Cancer Group is renowned for its many fundraising events that it sponsors during a year.

One of the main beneficiaries of the fundraising efforts is the BP Cancer Group Community Fund that was started in 2010.

Gas Cards and parking passes (at Mayo Clinic) are provided by the BP Cancer Group as a main focus of the Community Fund.

Cheri Krejci, BP Cancer Group treasurer, said the Community Fund began as a vehicle to support people in the Blooming Prairie community and area who are dealing with cancer.

Early in its existence, the Community Fund helped provide lumber materials for a wheel chair ramp built for a cancer patient. Other ways to help included buying a bed for a woman with cancer; helping with lodging in Rochester; providing help with utility bills; buying a wig for a woman and purchasing grocery store certificates.

To deal directly with the needs of families touched by cancer, the Community Fund was designed to provide gas cards and parking passes for cancer patients.

The cards are purchased by the BP Cancer Group at Casey's and Central Farm Services.

From January 1 to mid-November of this year, the BP Cancer Group has given out 62 gas cards at \$50 each. The Group has also distributed 30 parking passes at \$40 each. Each pass includes 10 punches and may be used any time.

The BP Cancer Group tried a new wrinkle of promotion at last September's auctions by asking auction goers to donate monies for gas cards and parking passes.

Auctioneers on Friday night sold 30 parking passes at \$40 each and on Saturday night, they sold 41 gas cards at \$50 each. Bidders held up their bidding numbers as auctioneers solicited funds.

The group raised \$3,250 at the auctions for the parking passes and gas cards. If anyone wishes to donate to this cause, contact any member of the BP Cancer



STAFF PHOTO: HOWARD LESTRUD
Cheri Krejci, treasurer of the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group, says anyone can donate to the BP Cancer Group Community Fund and thus help purchase gas cards and parking passes for those undergoing treatment for cancer.

Group, or Cheri Krejci at 507-438-6895.

One more way the Community Fund helps is by offering a Cancer Cab. Volunteers, coordinated by Becky Braaten, provide rides to treatment for those dealing with cancer.

“The community response to the Cancer Group’s fundraising efforts is just simply amazing,” says Krejci.

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STAFF FILE PHOTO: HOWARD LESTRUD

Long lines of kids, their parents and grandparents waited to see Santa Claus at F & M State Bank in Blooming Prairie during the annual Holiday Dazzle celebration last year in downtown Blooming Prairie. Santa holds Grace Johnson, 10 months. Grace was accompanied by her brothers Noah, 3, and Eli, 6. The Johnsons are children of Elizabeth and Corey Johnson of Blooming Prairie.

DECK THE TOWNS

Holiday Dazzle set for Friday in BP

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

"There's something for everyone," says Becky Noble, Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce executive director, when previewing the upcoming Holiday Dazzle celebration.

Holiday Dazzle 2017 will be Friday in downtown Blooming Prairie.

"This is traditionally the coldest night of the year," says H. Peterson, mayor of Blooming Prairie. Long-range forecasts, however, indicate that it will be a mild night.

Santa Claus will be at Farmers & Merchants Bank from 5-7 p.m. Kids will get their photo taken with Santa and they will be given free chocolate milk and cookies.

Most of the activity is at night, however the Women of Today Santa House runs from 2-5 p.m. at the City Center. Lynn Borchert of Women of Today says hours and hours are spent throughout the year, planning for the Santa House.

The Santa House is designed for the little shoppers who will be helped as they walk around and select gifts for family members on their shopping list. Items are \$3 or less.

After the little shopper checks out, Women of Today volunteers offer to wrap the gifts for them. Treats including hot chocolate will be available for the little shoppers. Parents are asked to wait in the hall to allow the little shoppers a chance to shop by themselves.

Other activities on Main Street include wagon rides, courtesy of Pittman Farms, beginning at 5 p.m.

The 2017 Scrooge will be announced at 5:30 outside of Bunkie's.

A snowball toss will be held on Main Street at 5:45 p.m. with B to Z Hardware the site of the toss. Snowballs will be random given out at the Holiday Dazzle with a drawing for lucky numbered snowballs held for BP Bucks at 7 p.m.

The wooden nickel toss is being brought back and is planned for 6 p.m. Kix dancers will perform at 6:30 p.m. on Main Street.

Carolers and instrumentalists plus The Grinch will be strolling Main Street.

A complete listing of the businesses participating, along with their Holiday Dazzle specials, can be found on page A8.

Parade kicks off holiday season Thursday in Owatonna

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

In the past the weather outside may have been frightful for a holiday celebration, but this year looks to be anything but frightful.

Owatonna will kick off the holiday season on Thursday with its annual Lighted Holiday Parade and Lighting of Lights in the downtown area. The parade begins at 6 p.m. followed by festivities in Central Park at 7 p.m.

"Other years it has been horribly cold with ice and snow," said Shirley Schultz, Main Street Director with the Owatonna Chamber of Commerce, one of the organizers of the event. She added that the forecast calls for moderate temperatures, which she hopes will bring out more people than ever.

In the past, the event has attracted as many as 3,000 people.

"I'm expecting we will have more people this year," Schultz said. "Everyone loves a parade and to get out and celebrate with their neighbors."

As of Monday afternoon, 45 floats had registered with the chamber for the parade, which begins in the 600 block of North Cedar by the elevator, winding

through downtown and Central Park and ending by Federated Insurance and Josten's. It was still up in the air Monday whether the Huskies championship football team would be a part of the parade, but Schultz was hoping to have at least some of the team members be a part of the festivities.

Schultz said the highlight of the parade is having all the floats lighted up. She said the floats may not be as elaborate as some of those seen on TV, but they do a great job of getting people into the holiday spirit.

County commissioner and former downtown businessman Greg Krueger will be performing the ceremonial flipping of the holiday lights at Central Park.

At 7 p.m., carolers will take center stage at Central Park and sing holiday carols for about 15 minutes.

Schultz did not know exactly when the parade began, but said it was started in the 1990s by downtown businesses.

"The main purpose is to get out and celebrate the holidays as a community," Schultz said, adding it serves as the kick off to many other community celebrations in the coming weeks.

Despite the lack of snow, Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be making the

trip from the North Pole for a special appearance in Owatonna. Schultz said Santa will be busy handing out candy canes in the park.

Thursday night is also the time when Owatonna finds out if it will be named the best town in Minnesota. A contingency of city leaders will be representing Owatonna in the Twin Cities for the special announcement. Schultz said an announcement will be made at the holiday gathering if they find out in time.

Lighted Holiday Parade

Thursday- 6 p.m.

Downtown Owatonna

Festivities at
Central Park

Sponsored by Owatonna
Chamber and Owatonna
Business Partnerships



Theatre presents a unique holiday experience

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

"Snap Shots: Memories, Moments, Music," Little Theatre of Owatonna's upcoming production, includes many different acts, some Christmas-related, but others from various experiences and traditions from around the world.

The show runs for one weekend only on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1-3 and includes solo and group musical performances including a fun acapella number, spiritual, a comedic holiday vocal/instrumental duet, a sacred choral selection, a women's trio and an inspiring Whitney Houston selection.

"This is going to be a fun show that people should come see," co-Artistic Director Kathy Purdie said. "It's going to have comedy, dancing, singing and it's just going to be a variety of wonderful memories, traditions and different things that people want to bring to life here on stage."

There will also be a solemn portrayal of the 1914

SEE THEATRE, C8

Shop with Santa, 4-H style

It seems like Halloween was just here and we just had our big Thanksgiving feast! It is hard to believe we are in the midst of the holiday season already! The Christmas lists and wishes have begun as my children see the holiday ads.

With my daughter being the shopper that she is and so many people to buy for, I am starting to feel overwhelmed! It's hard to find very much these days for a couple of bucks. If you are trying to find that extra special gift for every person on your list while managing a tight budget, Steele

County 4-H has just the thing for you, "Shop with Santa!"

Shop with Santa will be held on Saturday at St. John Lutheran Church, 1301 Lincoln Ave. S. in Owatonna. Numbered bags will be distributed from 7 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Shopping will begin at 8 a.m. and go until noon.

For those of you who don't know what Shop with Santa is, it is a great opportunity for children 6th grade and under to do their very own Christmas shopping (without

parents!) in a safe, easily accessible location, and at a very reasonable cost too!

Thousands of gifts will be delivered to St. John Lutheran Church in Owatonna. These gifts are made by Steele County 4-H'ers, their leaders, parents, friends and grandparents. The gifts are all priced at \$5 or below with most ranging between \$1 and \$2. In the past, there have been wooden puzzles, squirrel feeders, aprons, dish towels, wall hangings, country craft items and the list goes on and on!

The best part of Shop with Santa is that the children get to shop without parents trying to peek. When the little shoppers arrive at 8 a.m., they are given a shopping bag with a number on it. While they are waiting for their number to be called, they may fill out name tags for gifts, watch movies and participate in other fun activities. Each shopper will be assisted by one of "Santa's helpers" who are available to aid the shoppers with their selections.

With so many tables and gifts, it can take some shoppers a while to make their final decisions, but we want them to be satisfied and happy with the gifts they have picked out for their special people. Their gifts will be wrapped with name tags attached before they exit the store to meet Mom or Dad who are always patiently waiting.

Parents— while you are waiting for your child to pick out just the right gift, you can finish that gift you thought you would never have time to finish, write out your Christmas cards, or just relax and enjoy the atmosphere!

Last year, hundreds of children filled their shopping lists. It never ceases to amaze us! Our 4-H'ers and their families are some of the most generous people! They purchase the materials, spend hours making the gifts, and donate them so many small shoppers can experience that wonderful feeling of giving during the holiday season! The gifts are always kept at a very reasonable price and there is something for even the smallest budget! The proceeds from the sales of the gifts support youth programming in Steele County 4-H.

So shoppers, start making your shopping lists! We hope to see you at "Shop with Santa" on Saturday. Oh yes, "Mrs. Claus' Coffee Shop" will have donuts, juice, milk, and coffee available for those patiently waiting parents and exhausted shoppers.

Missy Koch is the program coordinator with Steele County 4-H. Steele Talkin' is a regular column written by various writers representing groups and organizations throughout Steele County.



STAFF PHOTO: RICHARD JOHNSON

The mangled wreckage of Kaitlyn Hansen's vehicle will be making the rounds across southeastern Minnesota over the coming months to serve as a tragic reminder of how alcohol can kill innocent victims. The 16-year-old was driving the car near Chatfield in 2016 when a drunk driver crashed head-on into her vehicle, killing her instantly.

Dedication of crash car kicks off holiday DWI crackdown

Owatonna Police and local sheriff's offices part of statewide campaign

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A mangled crash car will be making the rounds throughout southeastern Minnesota over the coming months in an effort to let others know about the heartache caused by impaired drivers.

The Hansen family of Harmony knows first hand. Their daughter, Kaitlyn Hansen, was killed when a

drunk driver traveling 94 mph slammed into her vehicle head-on near Chatfield on Jan. 28, 2016.

The Hansens have donated her car to the Toward Zero Deaths program, which strives to create a safe driving culture on Minnesota roadways. The crash car was unveiled for the first time on Nov. 22 at the Dodge Center Fire Hall. It will now be used at educational events throughout the region.

During the dedication ceremony, Hansen's mother, Georgeanne, noted

Kaitlyn donated her organs, which have assisted many people, including a 5-month-old girl and a 7-year-old boy.

"She was a free spirit," said Georgeanne. "She loved people. She loved everybody. She was your friend, whether you knew it or not. You just didn't know it yet. She knew people all over the place. She wasn't done, but as you can see, with her organs, she's gone

SEE DWI, C8

A harvest dilemma



A bumper corn crop has provided storage challenges as evidenced by this augering of corn at the Lansing Elevator. Corn yields have been reported well over 200 bushels to the acre. Recent drier weather helped many of our area farmers get the corn out of the field after cool and wet conditions for most of fall.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Glen and Cheryl Meger, owners of Brick-Meger Funeral Home in Owatonna, raised 75 pounds of food and \$500 cash for the Steele County Food Shelf Nov. 15. They hosted a benefit at their funeral home.

Megers host annual food shelf benefit

Glen and Cheryl Meger hosted their 18th consecutive food shelf benefit social Nov. 15 in the reception center at Brick-Meger Funeral Home in Owatonna for fellowship and a meal.

The annual event brings together spouses and members of the Msgr. Henry Speck Assembly, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. They are treated to egg rolls made from Meger's own "secret" recipe and grilled pork kabobs. Members furnished hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

Attendees made cash donations and also donated non-perishable food items. At the conclusion of the event a total of 75 pounds of food and \$500 was collected for the Steele County Food Shelf.

Host Glen Meger said, "We are pleased to have hosted this event for the past 18 years and the generosity of my Brother Sir Knights certainly exemplifies the first principle of the Order, that being Charity."

Owatonna Knights distribute coats for needy kids



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Owatonna Knights of Columbus recently distributed new coats to area needy families. Taking part in the Coats for Kids initiative were front row (left to right): Sheila Sawyer, Tammy Balausky, Randy Balausky, state community programs chairman; back row: Dan Sawyer, deputy grand knight; Tim Rice, project chairman; Nicholas Matejcek, grand knight, and Gary Sanford, district deputy. Not pictured Tony David, recorder.

The Owatonna Knights of Columbus distributed new coats to 18 families in need on Nov. 7.

This was conducted as a part of the Supreme Council's "Coats for Kids" program. Coats for both boys and girls in various colors and sizes were available. The balance of the 72 coats was delivered to the Steele County Clothes Line to be distributed to others in need of a warm coat.

Many children throughout the United States and Canada go without a coat each winter. Many low-income families use their scarce resources to meet the most basic essentials and they need help to provide this vital winter necessity.

That's why the Knights of Columbus developed the "Coats for Kids" program, which allows councils across North America the opportunity to purchase new winter coats for children at a discount and to distribute them to children in need in their local communities.

Through their Coats for Kids program, 1,780 local councils distributed 87,906 coats to children in need throughout the United States and Canada in 2016. Since the program began in 2009, nearly 400,000 coats have been distributed.

Steele County bridge reopens after beam and bridge deck replacement over I-35

Steele County Road 31 reopened Tuesday, Nov. 21 after replacement work was completed on the bridge that spans Interstate 35 south of Owatonna, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The road had been reduced to a single lane with each direction taking turns since earlier this year after the bridge was damaged in the spring by an oversized vehicle. Equipment being hauled on a trailer struck and damaged the bridge and also damaged another I-35 bridge at Steele County Road 18.

In late August the Steele County Road 31 bridge closed so crews could replace the beams and bridge deck of the bridge. The work has been added to a project south of Owatonna

where 10 bridges are being replaced over two years on I-35 (six bridges) and Hwy 14 (four bridges).

Steele County Road 18 will be replaced in spring of 2018. Lunda Construction Company is the prime contractor. Motorists interested in more information about the project, may visit the MnDOT project website at www.dot.state.mn.us/d6/projects/stelecty-bridge/index.html and sign up for email updates on the project.

Motorists should always be attentive, drive with caution, slow down in work zones and never enter a road blocked with barriers or cones, MnDOT says. For real-time traffic information in Minnesota, call 511 or visit www.511mn.org.

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Turkey bingo helps Geneva Fire



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Top left - Ethan Thompson of New Richland was a popcorn vendor at the Geneva Fire Department's annual Turkey Bingo night on Nov. 18 at the Geneva Municipal Building. An estimated 180 persons played bingo and the firefighters brought in over \$3,500 from Bingo and the sale of homemade pies. **Top right** - Kayla Hallowpeter, 5, of Blooming Prairie takes the game of Bingo seriously. She was one of nearly 200 who played Bingo at the Geneva Community Center Nov. 18. **Right** - Geneva Firemen Greg Bartsch, left, and Rick Seath hawk some homemade pies during an auction, part of a Bingo night in Geneva on Saturday night, Nov. 18.



New Land, New Life Exhibit opens at history center

The Sons of Norway Nortonna Lodge No. 1-638 has partnered with the Steele County Historical Society to present, “New Land, New Life: Norwegian Immigration to Minnesota, 1825 – 1925” at the Steele County History Center in Owatonna.

The exhibit opened Nov. 9 and runs through Jan. 27.

The Sons of Norway Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge 1–8 has spearheaded this unique project which offers 20 exhibit panels on Norwegian immigrant life. The panels include information on everything from why Norwegians immigrated to Minnesota, to farming, education and folk art. The text was reviewed favorably by historian-authors Dr. Odd Lovoll of St. Olaf College and Dr. Betty Bergland of UW–River Falls.

The panels interpret primary materials and secondary research of Professors Carlton Qualey and John Gjerde on one of the earliest and largest ethnic groups to settle the Minnesota frontier. One in five Minnesotans claim Norwegian ancestry. Since 2013, the exhibit has traveled to communities across the Midwest.

The panels are complemented by the Owatonna Sons of Norway Lodge providing artifacts from local Scandinavian families.

Funding to create this exhibit came from the Sons of Norway Foundation and funds from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund as administered by the Minnesota Historical Society.

The Steele County Historical Society is a non-profit educational and cultural institution established in 1949. Its mission is to preserve and share Steele County history today for tomorrow. The society collects, preserves and tells the story of Steele County’s past through museum exhibits, research, collections, tours, educational programs and book publishing.

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



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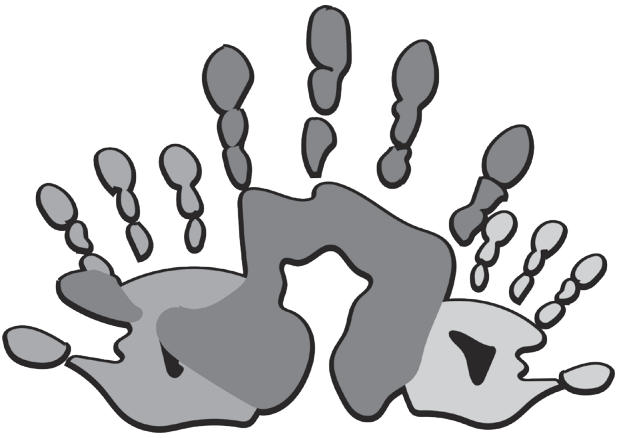


Mike is a smart, quick-learning 11-year-old boy. He likes sports, electronics, and legos. When he grows up, he wants to be an inventor or a scientist. The best Big for Mike would help him express his feelings, channel his intellect into his school work, and wouldn't make him hold a snake—he hates snakes.



Cy'Nia is an outgoing, bubbly 9-year-old girl who wants to learn how to do gymnast and ballerina moves. She loves dancing, singing, karate, and being involved at church. She wants to know what her future Big likes to do, likes to wear, and if they'd like to get a makeover together. She would love if her Big could take her to artistic places.

For additional information on how to be a mentor to one of these kids or any others, contact Megan Horton at 507-451-5922. More info can also be found at www.bbbsouthernmn.org.



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GIVE TO THE MAX

Riverland projects gain support

Steve Brown, dean for institutional advancement at Riverland Community College in Austin, announced that a Give to the Max Day on Nov. 16 was a “wonderful success.”

He said 64 individuals gave 82 separate gifts totaling \$5,525, which helped direct a gift from Dr. C. Jerry Nelson of \$500 to use toward the Law Enforcement “Use of Force Simulation” project.

Supporters help fund Riverland projects. Varied gifts were designated to support the simulation project, the Greatest Need Fund, scholarship for students, theatre angels, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and leveraged equipment fund.

When compared to other higher education institutions, Riverland ranked 12th as the highest overall college or university in Minnesota out of 66 institutions receiving funds.

The Riverland Community College Foundation was the highest ranked Minnesota state college/university foundation to receive funds.



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BLOOMING PRAIRIE

NOV. 29
10:30 a.m. – Storytime,
BP Library

NOV. 30
9:30 a.m. – Veterans
Service Officer Office
Hours, Servicemen's Club

DEC. 1
Holiday Dazzle, Main
Street in BP
6 p.m. – 9 p.m. – Ladies'
Night Out, Servicemen's
Club

DEC. 2
Noon – 3 p.m. – BP
Outback Bowl Dance Team
Fundraiser, Bunkie's

DEC. 3
10:30 a.m. – Noon –
Nativity Brunch and Bake
Sale, St. Columbanus
Church

DEC. 4
Noon – 4 p.m. – 55+
Driver Improvement
Refresher Course, City
Center

DEC. 5
10:30 a.m. – Storytime,
BP Library
7 p.m. – Ladies
Christmas Tea, First Baptist
Church

DEC. 10
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. –
Loaded Bloody Mary Bar,
Servicemen's Club

DEC. 13
5 p.m. – 7 p.m. – F&M
Bank Business After Hours

DEC. 14
7 p.m. – BP Cancer
Group's Jingle Bingo, Pizza
Cellar Party Room



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ELLENDALE/GENEVA/HOPE

NOV. 29
3:30 p.m. – Com Ed
(Crayon Art) Class, NR
Commons Area

NOV. 30
11 a.m. – Veterans
Service Officer Office
Hours, Ellendale Community
Building
4 p.m. – Com Ed
(Beginner Piano Lessons)
Class, NR Band Room
7 p.m. MLS Public
Hearing, Ellendale
Community Building
7:30 p.m. – Ellendale
City Council Meeting,
Community Building

DEC. 4
10 a.m. – Ellendale
Fire Department Meeting,

Community Building
7:30 p.m. – Middle
School Band/Choir Concert,
NR High School Gym

DEC. 5
3 p.m. – Com Ed
(Babysitting Training) Class,
Ellendale Media Center
6:30 p.m. – Karate,
Ellendale Elementary North
Gym

DEC. 6
7 p.m. – Codification
Workshop, Ellendale
Community Building

DEC. 9
Christmas in the
Country, Ellendale

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

NOV. 29
3:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
– Red Cross Blood Drive,
McKinley Elementary School
5:30 p.m. – 50+ Fit and
Flex Workshop, Sollid Yoga

NOV. 30
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. – Job &
Career Fair, Holiday Inn
1 p.m. – Fair Farmland
Rental Agreement Meeting,
Steele County Community
Center
3 p.m. – Frosting the
Holiday, The Kitchen
5 p.m. – Chili Supper, First
Baptist Church
6 p.m. - Lighted Holiday
Parade, Downtown
Owatonna
6:30 p.m. – Family
Storytime, Owatonna Library
7 p.m. – Best Minnesota
Town Competition Party,
Lumber Exchange Building in
Minneapolis
7:30 p.m. – Snapshots:
Memories, Moments, Music,
Little Theatre of Owatonna

DEC. 1
2 p.m. – Snapshots:
Memories, Moments, Music,
Little Theatre of Owatonna
4:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. –
Christmas in the Village,
Village of Yesteryear

DEC. 2
8 a.m. – Noon – 4-H
Shop with Santa, St. John's
Lutheran Church
9 a.m. – 11 a.m. – Trinity
Women's Bake Sale, Trinity
Lutheran Church
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Open
Rug Hooking Workshop,
Straight River Rug Hooking &
Fiber Arts
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. –
Christmas in the Village,
Steele County History

Center
10 a.m. – Noon – Making
a Wool Feather Christmas
Tree, Straight River Rug
Hooking & Fiber Arts
2 p.m. – Snapshots:
Memories, Moments, Music,
Little Theatre of Owatonna
5 p.m. – Norwegian
Meatball Supper, Steele
County History Center

DEC. 3
11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. –
Come Play Tennis, West Hills
Circle
Noon – 5 p.m. – Historic
Holiday Home Tour
2 p.m. – Snapshots:
Memories, Moments, Music,
Little Theatre of Owatonna
4 p.m. – OHS Carolers
Concert, Owatonna High
School

DEC. 4
1 p.m. – Senior Place Inc.
Board Meeting, Senior Place

DEC. 5
9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. – U
of M Extension Financial
Management Workshop,
Kibble Equipment
9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. –
Storytime, Owatonna Library
3:45 p.m. – OHS Carolers
Performance, Owatonna
Library
4 p.m. – 5 p.m. –
Canadian Pacific Holiday
Train, 1145 Park Drive
5:30 p.m. – OACCT
Business After Hours,
Owatonna Country Club
5:30 p.m. – Study
Session for Software
Proposals for HCM, City
Admin Building
6 p.m. – Truth-in-Taxation
Meeting, City Admin Building
7 p.m. – Owatonna City
Council Meeting, City Admin

COMMUNITY CALENDAR BRIEFS

RED CROSS CALLS FOR BLOOD DONORS

The American Red Cross encourages people to share their good health this holiday season by donating blood for patients in need.

A decline in donations occurs from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day when donors are busy with holiday activities and travel. However, patients don't get a holiday break from needing lifesaving transfusions. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

By giving blood or platelets, donors may give patients more time – and more holidays – with loved ones. Make an appointment to give blood. Download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

There are several upcoming blood donation opportunities around the area:

Albert Lea – 1 p.m. – 7 p.m. Nov. 30, Salem Lutheran Church

Owatonna – 3:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Nov. 29, McKinley Elementary School

Veterans Service Officer's monthly office hours

The Steele County Veterans Service Officer, Rene Gilormini, will be holding his monthly office hours in Blooming Prairie and Ellendale on Thursday, Nov. 30.

He will be at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and then at the Ellendale Community Building from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

FAIR FARMLAND RENTAL AGREEMENT MEETING IN THE AREA

University of Minnesota Extension is hosting a Fair Farmland Rental Agreement Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 30 at 1 p.m. at the Steele County Community Center, 1380 S. Elm St. in Owatonna.

The meeting is designed to assist land owners, farmers and agri-business professionals with farm financial issues related to farmland rental rates, ownership, management, leasing agreements and related issues. It will last approximately two hours. Extension Educator Dave Bau will be presenting.

NORWEGIAN MEATBALL SUPPER COMING TO OWATONNA

The Owatonna Sons of Norway Nortonna Lodge will host a Norwegian Meatball Supper on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Steele County History Center, 1700 Austin Road.

The menu will include authentic Norwegian meatballs, parslid potatoes, mashed rutabagas, peas with pearl onions, beet pickles, lefse, Norwegian riskrem and coffee.

Cost is \$14 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under.

This is the seventh annual Norwegian Meatball Supper, held as part of the Christmas in the Village and Hometown Holiday weekend every year. Proceeds from the supper will go to scholarships for youth to attend Norwegian language camps and for lodge programs.

Tickets may be ordered ahead of time by calling DeeAnn Pettyjohn at 507-451-8644 or purchased at the door, if they are not sold out.

Nativity Brunch and Bake Sale this Sunday

St. Columbanus Council of Catholic Women presents the 6th Annual Nativity Brunch and Bake Sale on Sunday, Dec. 3 from 10:30 a.m. to Noon.

Breakfast includes breakfast burritos, hash browns, fruit slices, breakfast pastries, juice and coffee. Enjoy nativities from around the world, and a bake sale. There will be a free will donation. St. Columbanus is located at 114 Main St. in Blooming Prairie.

55+ Driver Improvement Program coming to BP

THE MINNESOTA HIGHWAY SAFETY CENTER IS OFFERING A 55+ DRIVER IMPROVEMENT COURSE IN THE AREA.

The class is open to the public and a pre-registration is required. By utilizing the most up-to-date research in the field, participants will be provided the latest information in regards to driver safety, new laws and vehicle technology.

People age 55 and older who complete the course qualify for a 10 percent discount on their auto insurance premiums for three years. First time participants must complete the initial eight hours of training and a four-hour refresher class every three years to maintain the discount. The cost of the refresher class is \$22.00.

The four-hour refresher course will be in Blooming Prairie on Dec. 4 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the BP City Center.

For more information or to register, visit our website at www.mnsafetycenter.org or call 1(888) 234-1294.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HOSTS ANNUAL LADIES CHRISTMAS TEA

First Baptist Church in Blooming Prairie invites the ladies of Blooming Prairie and the surrounding area to its Annual Ladies Christmas Tea on Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.

The event begins with Christmas music and fellowship in the main sanctuary. Following the performance, Christmas tea and delectable treats will be available in the church's fellowship hall, which is handicapped

accessible.

This evening is a special way to begin the Christmas season with turning hearts towards Jesus.

Please RSVP for the event by Monday, Nov. 27 by calling the church office (507) 583-2673.

U of M Extension offering financial management course "Taking Charge of YOUR Finances: How to Survive and Thrive," a financial management workshop taught across the state will be in Owatonna on Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Kibble Equipment.

University of Minnesota Extension Educators Dave Bau, Joleen Hadrich, Rob Holcomb, Nathan Hulinsky, Megan Roberts, teach the sessions offered around the state.

This short course will use an interactive and fun approach to teach participants how to organize and use financial records; develop and analyze financial statements; and make informed decisions regarding finances and production. Producer teams will act as loan review committees and learn about these concepts as they review a case study farm. The concepts covered promote better internal decisions for farm management and stronger relationships with external partners, such as farm lenders. The participants will learn the components of a balance sheet, income statement, cash flow, and the importance of records.

Nathan Hulinsky, Extension Educator explains, "With the current commodity prices and farm economy, keeping on top of, and managing the farm's finances is a top concern. This course will give the participants the opportunity to review another farm's finances to determine their financial needs and if the case farm cash flows."

Lunch will be provided. Attendance is free and each participant will receive a binder full of handouts and resources to take home.

Registration is open. To register, please visit https://z.umn.edu/2017-Survive_Thrive. For more information on the workshop, please call or e-mail Nathan Hulinsky, 218-236-2009 or huli0013@umn.edu.



Blooming Prairie
800-248-3855
www.minimizer.com

Holiday Home Tour returns to Owatonna

Here is your chance to tour seven stunning private residences and historic sites all dressed up for the holidays!

The Holiday Home Tour returns on Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

The following Owatonna homes will be featured: Dr. Megan Rogers and Tom Sarac, 438 Cherry St.; Dave and Ruth

Smith, 2445 Mossy Creek Dr.; Denny and Kim King, 505 Braemar Place; Cottage #11, 540 West Hills Cir.; Dunnell House, 1448 Austin Road; St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 220 Cedar Ave. S.; Ryan and Julia Seykora, 717 S. Elm Ave.

Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased at the History Center, Tri M Graphics,

and Kottke Jewelers in Owatonna, or at Lerberg's Foods in Ellendale or A Touch of Charm in Blooming Prairie. Tickets include the map to the homes. You can tour as many or as few as you like, on your schedule.

A community tradition returns to history center

The Steele County Historical Society will host its annual soup supper Friday from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the History Center in Owatonna.

The menu consists of homemade wild rice soup or chili, bread, a beverage, and a fancy holiday cookie. Cost is \$7 per person. Hotdogs are available for purchase for children under 12. Tickets are available at the History Center and can be purchased in advance or the night of the supper.

"The Soup Supper is a staple to our Christmas in the Village celebration," says Stephanie Kibler, manager of meetings and

events at the History Center. "This is a great way for the SCHS staff, board, and volunteers to interact with the community, and provides a wonderful opening to our historic holiday celebration."

In addition to the Soup Supper, the Christmas in the Village celebration will offer hands-on crafting experiences for children, gift shopping in the County Junction, horse-drawn wagon rides, a wide range of character experiences and more.

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J&H LIQUOR

- **BAR BINGO:** Monday, 6:30 p.m.
- **BLOOMIN' GRAPEVINE WINE CLUB:** Tuesday, 7-8:30 p.m. December Holiday Get-together, Jan. 30, Feb. 20, Mar. 20, Apr. 17, May 8: Season Finalé
- **EUCHRE:** Nov. 18, 1 p.m.
- **CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS:** Wednesday, Nov. 8 & Dec. 6, 5-7:30 p.m. *A Touch of Charm*—Holiday tastings, special discounts, holiday decorations
J&H OFF-SALE—Wine tastings and treats, holiday wine sale, register for door prizes
- **HOLIDAY DAZZLE DOWNTOWN:** Dec. 1
- **HARVEY'S HOLIDAY CHEER:** Dec. 16

CLOSED DEC. 24, 25, 31 & JAN. 1

340 E. Main St. • Blooming Prairie • 583-7557

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Great opportunity to own this hometown bar/off-sale.
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ALL EVENT DETAILS AVAILABLE AT J&H LIQUOR

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION LIEN FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, default has been made in the terms and conditions of the Declaration of Skyview Townhouse Association Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (hereafter "Declaration"), dated April 26, 1988, and recorded in the Office of the County Recorder in and for Steele County, Minnesota, on the 16th day of June, 1988, in Book 34 of Titles, page 259, which said Declaration covers the following described property situated in the County of Steele and State of Minnesota, to-wit: LEGAL DESCRIPTION - Lot 7, Block 1, Skyview Townhouses, Steele County, Minnesota STREET ADDRESS - 177 22nd Street NW, Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota 55060 PID # - 17.411.0107 Torrens Property - Certificate of Title Number 18156

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, there is claimed to be due and owing as of the date of this Notice by Laxman Sundae, unit owner, to Skyview Townhouse Association, Inc., the principle amount of Eight Thousand Sixty-Eight and No/100 Dollars (\$8,068.00) for condominium assessments and late fees through October 1, 2017, and no action being now pending at law or otherwise to recover said debt of any part thereof, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, and the statute in such case made and provided, said debt creates a lien upon said premises in favor of Skyview Townhouse Association, Inc.,

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power of sale created by statute, said lien will be foreclosed by the sale of said premises with the hereditaments and appurtenances, which said sale will be made by the Sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota, at the Sheriff's Office, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota, on December 5, 2017, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, to pay the amount then due for said condominium assessments, together with the costs of foreclosure, including attorney fees as allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by the unit owners, their personal representatives or assigns, is six (6) months from the date of said sale.

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 unit owners must vacate the property if the lien is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on June 5, 2018. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, then the date to vacate the property is the next business day at 11:59 p.m. Dated: October 11, 2017

SKYVIEW TOWNHOUSE ASSOCIATION, INC. HVISTENDAHL, MOERSCH, DORSEY & HAHN, P.A.

BY: /s/ Mary L. Hahn Mary L. Hahn (#309370) 311 South Water Street Northfield, MN 55057 Phone: (507) 645-9358 Attorneys for Skyview Townhouse Association, Inc.

11/24, 10/31, 11/7
11/14, 11/21, 11/28

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION LIEN FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, default has been made in the terms and conditions of the Declaration of Skyview Townhouse Association Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (hereafter "Declaration"), dated April 26, 1988, and recorded in the Office of the County Recorder in and for Steele County, Minnesota, on the 16th day of June, 1988, in Book 34 of Titles, page 259, which said Declaration covers the following described property situated in the County of Steele and State of Minnesota, to-wit: LEGAL DESCRIPTION - Lot 14, Block 1, Skyview Townhouses, Steele County, Minnesota STREET ADDRESS - 149 22nd Street NW, Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota 55060 PID # - 17.411.0114 Torrens Property - Certificate of Title Number 18136

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, there is claimed to be due and owing as of the date of this Notice by Laxman Sundae as unit owner to Skyview

Townhouse Association, Inc., the principle amount of Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty and No/100 Dollars (\$7,730.00) for condominium assessments and late fees through October 1, 2017, and no action being now pending at law or otherwise to recover said debt of any part thereof, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, and the statute in such case made and provided, said debt creates a lien upon said premises in favor of Skyview Townhouse Association, Inc.,

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power of sale created by statute, said lien will be foreclosed by the sale of said premises with the hereditaments and appurtenances, which said sale will be made by the Sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota, at the Sheriff's Office, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota, on December 5, 2017, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, to pay the amount then due for said condominium assessments, together with the costs of foreclosure, including attorney fees as allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by the unit owners, their personal representatives or assigns, is six (6) months from the date of said sale.

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 unit owners must vacate the property if the lien is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on June 5, 2018. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, then the date to vacate the property is the next business day at 11:59 p.m. Dated: October 11, 2017

SKYVIEW TOWNHOUSE ASSOCIATION, INC. HVISTENDAHL, MOERSCH, DORSEY & HAHN, P.A.

BY: /s/ Mary L. Hahn Mary L. Hahn (#309370) 311 South Water Street Northfield, MN 55057 Phone: (507) 645-9358 Attorneys for Skyview Townhouse Association, Inc.

11/24, 10/31, 11/7
11/14, 11/21, 11/28

FORECLOSURE

12-081815

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 1, 2008 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$127,806.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Brandon L. Klemmensen and Aana E. Spurgeon, both single persons MORTGAGEE: Advisor's Mortgage, LLC LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Advisor's Mortgage, LLC SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed May 2, 2008, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000356965, Thereafter modified by a Loan Modification Agreement recorded on October 22, 2014 as document number A000399216 ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.; Dated: May 1, 2008 filed: May 2, 2008, recorded as document number A000356966 LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Commencing at a point 2 rods West and 1384 feet South of the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 106 North, Range 20 West, thence West 142 feet to the East line of the Right of Way of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway; thence Southwest along said Right of Way line 130 feet, thence East approximately 162 feet to the West line of Highway, being a point 1512 feet directly South of the North line of said Northwest Quarter, thence North along the West line of Highway to the point of commencement. Subject to easements of record. Except: The North 66 feet thereof PROPERTY ADDRESS: 9184 37th Ave SW, Hope, MN 56046 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 05-030-4202 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$124,729.82 THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: January 12, 2018 at 10:00 AM

above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: December 21, 2017, 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 June 21, 2018, or the next business day if June 21, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: October 24, 2017

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

10/31, 11/7, 11/14
11/21, 11/28, 12/5

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 conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: March 24, 2006 MORTGAGOR: Robert D. Hagen and Erin L. Hagen, husband and wife. MORTGAGEE: J P - Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.. DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Filed March 31, 2006, Steele County Registrar of Titles, Document No. T000059768 on Certificate of Title No. 16861. ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association successor by merger to Chase Home Finance, LLC. Dated February 20, 2009 Filed March 2, 2009 , as Document No. T000064051. Said Mortgage being upon Registered Land. TRANSACTION AGENT: NONE TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: NONE LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: JP-Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association

MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 523 15th Street Northeast, Owatonna, MN 55060 TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 172020115 LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot Fifteen (15), Northern Height's Addition to the City of Owatonna. COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$160,548.00 AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$171,397.34 That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; 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: January 12, 2018 at 10:00 AM

PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN to pay the debt then 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 six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.

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 July 12, 2018, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.

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

Dated: November 20, 2017

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

USSET, WEINGARDEN AND LIEBO, P.L.L.P. Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee 4500 Park Glen Road #300 Minneapolis, MN 55416 (952) 925-6888 30 - 17-007151 FC

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

11/21, 11/28, 12/5
12/12, 12/19, 12/26

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 conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: September 9, 2013 MORTGAGOR: John J. Devoe and Skye R. Devoe, husband and wife. MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded September 10, 2013 Steele County Recorder, Document No. A000393391. ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association. Dated July 16, 2014 Recorded July 29, 2014, as Document No. A000398052. TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: 1002489-0000006986-5 LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: Rescue Mortgage Inc., dba Mortgage Depot RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 5248 Kenyon Road, Owatonna, MN 55060 TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 100191201 LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: EXHIBIT "A" Commencing at a point in the center of the Public Highway, Forty-two (42) rods North of the quarter section stake between Sections Nineteen and Twenty (19&20), in Township One Hundred Eight (108) North, of Range Nineteen (19) West, running thence West Fifteen (15) rods; thence North Sixteen (16) rods; thence East Fifteen (15) rods to the center of said Highway; thence South along the center of said Highway Sixteen (16) rods to point of beginning. (Being in the SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 19-108-19). COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$146,938.00 AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$157,747.38 That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; 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: January 19, 2018 at 10:00 AM PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN

to pay the debt then 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 six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.

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 July 19, 2018, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032. MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE:None "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."

Dated: November 14, 2017

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

USSET, WEINGARDEN AND LIEBO, P.L.L.P. Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee 4500 Park Glen Road #300 Minneapolis, MN 55416 (952) 925-6888 30 - 17-006084 FC

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

11/28, 12/5, 12/12
12/19, 12/26, 1/2

FORECLOSURE

17-108146

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: June 9, 2000 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$99,250.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Aaron M. Lindekugel and Cathy A. Lindekugel husband and wife MORTGAGEE: Timberland Mortgage Services, Inc. LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Timberland Mortgage Services, Inc. SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed June 12, 2000, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number 282930 ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The East Half of Lots 1 and 2, in Block 3, in Dartt's Addition to the City of Owatonna PROPERTY ADDRESS: 510 Vine St E, Owatonna, MN 55060 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-122-0301 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$76,559.85 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: January 18, 2018, 10:00am PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is

an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on July 18, 2018, or the next business day if July 18, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: November 21, 2017

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Successor by Merger to Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

11/28, 12/5, 12/12
12/19, 12/26, 1/2

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-2111

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

Estate of George Tashima, Decedent

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 8th day of January, 2018, at 3:00 pm, a hearing will be held in the above named Court at 107 W. Main St., Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the above named decedent, dated September 26, 2012, and for the appointment of Peggy Tashima, whose address is 339 2nd Avenue NW, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in unsupervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close 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 Clerk of the Court within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Joseph A. Bueltel Judge of District Court 11-17-2017 Dated

Jason J. Iacovino Attorney at Law 415 E. Main St. Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 (507) 583-6663 Attorney Registration Number 386770

11/28, 12/5

FORECLOSURE

17-107550

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: July 15, 2008

ORIGINAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$80,300.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Jacqueline J. Robinson, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation

SERVICER: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed July 16, 2008, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000358537

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.; Therefore assigned to Carrington Mortgages Services, LLC.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots 15 to 26, both inclusive in Block 3, Clarke's Addition to the Village (now City) of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

That part of the South Half of 7th Street NE (Pope Street) which lies S of Lot 1, Block 4, Clarke's Addition, North of Lot 20, Block 3, Clarke's Addition East of the East line of Center Avenue (Pine Street) and West of the Westerly right of way line of State Highways 218 and 30 in the village (now City) of Blooming Prairie (now Vacated)

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 801 Center Ave N, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-109-0315

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$75,131.83

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: January 18, 2018, 10:00am

PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

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

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on July 18, 2018, or the next business day if July 18, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: November 21, 2017

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

11/28, 12/5, 12/12
12/19, 12/26, 1/2

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 31, 2013

ORIGINAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$111,935.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Joshua L. Devore, a married man

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation, as nominee for American Mortgage & Equity Consultants, Inc., a Minnesota corporation

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on February 4, 2013 and memorialized upon Certificate of Title No. 18287 as Document Number T000069878; as modified of record by document recorded on July 11, 2017 as Document Number T000075064 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on February 12, 2015 as Document Number T000072247 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot Four in Block Three in Naefke Addition to the City of Owatonna, Minnesota.

REGISTERED PROPERTY STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 749 SOUTH STREET,

OWATONNA, MN 55060

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$99,750.80

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: American Mortgage & Equity Consultants, Inc., a Minnesota corporation

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-188-0304

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100867100522686755

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

A high-five for the sheriff



STAFF PHOTO: RICK BUSSLER

Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele received warm greetings from students at Wilson Elementary School in Owatonna Nov. 17. The sheriff appeared at the school to administer the oath of office to all the school patrol members. Thiele attended Wilson as a child.

ES 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: November 21, 2017

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/

Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee

The Academy
Professional Building
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(17-1219-FC01)

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11/28, 12/5, 12/12
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STEELE COUNTY

Times

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314 1st St. NE, Kasson: Inside. Fri. & Sat. Garage/Moving sale (make offers). 4' x 7' (2) piece hutch, 30 1/2" cement girl golf statue, metal detector, eagles, horse & wagon collections; 1939 John Deere model 'B' 1/8 scale, pole bird feeders, mirrors, tools, collectibles, big set of dishes, sewing cabinets, Xmas lights & much more. 49,50,51nc

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Cast members practiced last week for **Snapshots: Memories, Moments, Music**, which will take center stage at the Little Theatre in Owatonna this weekend. The play includes several different acts including a solemn portrayal of the 1914 Christmas Truce during World War I.

STAFF PHOTO: DENNIS MARSHALL

THEATRE: *Owatonna's unique holiday experience*

FROM PAGE C1

Christmas Truce during World War I. “It will be very heartwarming and heart felt,” Purdie said. “With Veteran’s Day just having when here, it’s just a really nice time of the year to remember [veterans] and what they have done for our country.” Other performances include a Hispanic explanation and portrayal including angel dancers of the Quinceañera celebrating 15-year-old girls; an informative personal storytelling by a local Somali woman and the national dance of Venezuela. “They have their own celebrations and their own traditions and they are very excited to be part of the Owatonna community and share some of that with us,” co-Artistic Director Gaylene Steckelberg said. “They’re people we see on the streets and our friends who have come from other countries and have now made Owatonna home. It gives us a chance to peek into their lives a little bit

and see just how similar we all are.” Storytelling, both poignant and humorous as well as magic round out this special family-friendly experience. “It’s unique because we started with nothing, except an idea,” Steckelberg said. “After we had some characters and some acts, we had to figure out how we were going to string this all together. So, we had to devised the script.” Steckelberg said next they had to figure out how they were going to stage the performance. “Normally when you do a play, the book comes with all the directions about how you stage it and who the characters are and how you should dress them,” she said. “We had to figure all of that out along the way. It’s been a real cooperative and creative effort.” Tickets are available at www.LittleTheatreOwatonna.com or at the theatre’s box office starting Nov. 27. The box office can be reached at 507-451-0764.

DWI: *Crash car dedication*

FROM PAGE C1

very far, to many states, many people.” TZD honored the Hansens for their commitment to traffic safety. It’s important to promote awareness of such tragedies in order to try and prevent others, Dodge Center Ambulance director Jared Oscarson said. “I think the more people are aware, the more responsible they’ll be,” he said, “and it puts it on the forefront of people’s minds to do the right thing, make good decisions and be responsible with operating vehicles, and safe and responsible in consuming beverages and things like that. “And beyond this it goes to texting, distracted driving—all those things,” Oscarson noted. “The goal is to get everybody home at night to their families and friends, and really have a safe community.” The dedication of the crash car served as a kickoff to the holiday DWI enforcement period, which runs through Dec. 30. The campaign involves law enforcement agencies all over the state working overtime shifts to nab drunk drivers. “Combining education and enforcement, along with empowering the public to speak up about lining up a sober ride, will help us stop drunk driving-related crashes before they happen,” said Sgt. Troy Christianson of the State Patrol. Included in the beefed up enforcement will be officers from Owatonna Police, the State Patrol and sheriff’s offices from Steele and Dodge counties. Choices to drive drunk have contributed to 27 deaths on Minnesota roads from the day before Thanksgiving through Dec. 30 in the last five years, according to TZD. “As the holidays approach, it’s a time of excited anticipation for many Minnesotans,” said Jason Petterson of Owatonna Police. “Sadly, for too many other Minnesotans, the holidays are a painful reminder that their loved one is no longer with them. A drunk driver took their life or their loved one decided to drive impaired. Please celebrate wisely over the holidays, speak up to

prevent a tragedy and always plan a sober ride.” Over the past five years, nearly 13,000 motorists have been arrested for DWI between Nov. 22-Dec. 30. Last year, 2,136 drivers were taken off the roadways during the holiday period. TZD recommends motorists plan for a safe ride, speak up and offer to be a designated driver, buckle up and report drunk drivers to 911. Parents of Kaitlyn Hansen know they will never get her back. But they are hoping images of their daughter’s mangled vehicle will help save someone else’s life.

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HUSKIES

OWATONNA HUSKIES 2017 STATE FOOTBALL SOUVENIR EDITION
Steele County Times - November 28, 2017



Owatonna Season Recap

OWATONNA 61, FARIBAULT 0

Owatonna started the season with an offense explosion against the Faribault Falcons in their season opener. The Huskies recorded 337 yards of offense and led 54-0 at halftime before resting many of their starters in the second half.

OWATONNA 46, ROCHESTER MAYO 7

The Huskies scored 19 points in the second quarter after was scored was deadlocked 7-7 after the first quarter. Senior quarterback Abe Havelka led Owatonna by passing for five touchdowns.

OWATONNA 70, AUSTIN 36

It wasn't the prettiest game, but the Huskies' offense continued to light up the scoreboard. Junior running back Jason Williamson recorded seven total touchdowns and rushed for 210 yards in the Huskies' dominating win.

OWATONNA 42, ROCHESTER JOHN MARSHALL 6

Owatonna's offense and defensive line controlling the line of scrimmage made the difference against the Rochester John Marshall Rockets. Senior Tucker Alstead hauled in two interceptions to pace the Huskies' defense, which forced an additional three fumbles in another lopsided victory.



OWATONNA 48, MANKATO EAST 0

For the second straight game the Owatonna defense stole the show by allowing just 150 yards of total offense to the Mankato East Cougars. The No. 2 ranked Huskies rolled to their fifth straight win.

OWATONNA 46, ROCHESTER CENTURY 7

Williamson played like a man possessed and rushed for an incredible 343 yards and four touchdowns. It was his sixth straight game eclipsing the 100-yard mark.

NORTHFIELD 21, OWATONNA 17

The Northfield Raiders handed the Huskies their lone loss of the season and erased an 10-0 halftime deficit. Senior wide receiver Noah Budach caught 11 passes for a season-high 153 yards, including a 48-yard touchdown.

OWATONNA 49, NEW PRAGUE 0

Owatonna bounced back by dismantling the New Prague Trojans. The Huskies' defense registered their third shutout of the year and allowed in 168 yards in the team's regular season finale.

POSTSEASON

Section Semifinals

OWATONNA 62, AUSTIN 41

The Huskies slowly pulled away from the Austin Packers in the second half to win by three touchdowns. The Owatonna offense racked up 546 yards.

Section Finals

OWATONNA 37, ROCHESTER CENTURY 0

The Huskies won their fourth Section 1-5A title in six years. The Owatonna defense held Century's offense to just 28 rushing and 80 passing yards.

State Quarterfinals

OWATONNA 59, MAHTOMEDI 34

The Huskies crushed Mahtomedi and advanced to the state semifinals for the second consecutive season. Williamson starred for Owatonna by carrying the ball 34 times for 262 yards and an astonishing seven touchdown.

State Semifinals

OWATONNA 56, BRAINERD 28

Not to be outdone, Havelka matched Williamson's touchdown total from the week before by tossing seven of this own. Senior wide receivers Dalton Kubista and Alex Raichle each caught three touchdown passes and the Huskies advanced to the state finals.



O, THE BEST



STAFF PHOTO: RICK BUSSLER

Tucker Alstead (2) outruns an Elk River defender to score a touchdown in the State Championship game. He marched into the end zone while holding up a no. 1 with his finger.

Huskies claim State 5A title by knocking off defending champ Elk River

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Elk River 63-26 in the Class 5A state championship game Saturday at U.S. Bank Stadium.

Owatonna scored 42 unanswered points after trailing 14-7 early in the second quarter. The Huskies

finished the year 12-1.

"We played exceedingly well," Owatonna coach Jeff Williams said. "It didn't surprise me because we defended them very well last year, but to be able to put up 63 points against a team that is as talented as Elk River is pretty gratifying."

"They're a great bunch of kids to work with," Williams continued. "I'm really happy for them and what they have been able to accomplish. They have an awful lot to be proud of."

The Huskies found some redemption after falling to the Elks, 19-7, in the state semifinals a season ago.

"They were probably the team that we had in our sights all year," Williams

said. "During the course of the season we kind of tracked their scores and I know they tracked ours."

"I had periodic conversations with their coach," he continued. "I think we kind of suspected that if things went according to form and everybody took care of business we would see each other in the championship game."

Elk River started the game with the ball, but the stingy Owatonna defense quickly forced the Elks to punt.

Senior Logan Starkson said Owatonna's defense wanted to play more physical Saturday than they did in their previous meeting with Elk River.

"The more physicality we bring the better chance we have to shut down their drives," he said. "I think we really brought the physicality starting with that first drive when we shut them out."

The Huskies marched down

the field 67 yards in four plays. Junior running back Jason Williamson made his first of many highlight plays when he dashed into the endzone on a 33-yard run with eight minutes and two seconds remaining in first quarter.

Elk River answered with a long meticulous drive of its own on the next possession by going 75 yards in 11 plays and scoring on a 1-yard touchdown run by junior fullback Arik Nordenstrom. The Elks' 2-point conversion failed after a pass bounced off of an Elk River receiver's hands in the endzone.

The Elks attempted and nearly recovered an onside kick attempt, but after bobbling the ball all the way back to their own 11-yard line, the Huskies recovered. However, Owatonna's offense couldn't establish any rhythm and punted after going three-and-out. Elk River three plays later when junior running

back Adam Nelson carried up the middle and rumbled in for a 39-yard touchdown. The Elks took a 14-7 advantage after senior running back Sherrod Kpahn ran in the 2-point attempt.

Elk River tried another onside kick, but Williamson caught the ball off and a bounce and proceeded to sprint 67 yards for an Owatonna touchdown that tied the game 14-14.

"It's really awesome having [Williamson] as a teammate," senior wide receiver Noah Budach said. "He just brings so much to the table and makes it so hard for defenses to game plan. It's really nice to have him on our team and to be able to just sit back and watch him do his thing. He's a really special player."

It appeared that Nelson would return the ensuing kickoff for a touchdown, but a Husky defender forced him out of bounds at Owatonna's 45-yard line after a 54-yard return.

Owatonna's defense made the necessary adjustments and forced Elk River into a fourth-and-3, which the Elks opted to go for, but Owatonna senior defensive back Alex Raichle was the first of a plethora Husky defensemen to meet Kpahn near the line of scrimmage and force a turnover on down.

The Huskies' regained the lead for good on their next drive, which covered 64 yards in six plays and was finished off by who else than the playmaking Williams on a 9-yard touchdown run to take the lead for good.

During the drive Owatonna senior could barely get a pass off as he was being brought down the turf, but he somehow found Williamson at the final moment for 13-yard gain.

"That's how we drew that

SEE HUSKIES, D6

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 #2 Tucker Alstead, QB/DB
 #3 Abe Havelka, QB/OLB
 #4 Alex Raichle, WR/DB
 #5 Matt Segler, WR/DB
 #6 Sol Havelka, QB
 #7 Matt Williams, WR/DB
 #8 Trevor Schroeder, WR/DB
 #9 Cole Deason, WR/DB
 #10 Owen Koslosky, WR/LB

#11 Ben Zappa, QB/DB
 #12 Parker Westphal, WR/DB
 #13 Jake Miller, WR/DB
 #14 Mason Rhoades, WR/DB
 #15 Noah Brandt, WR/DB
 #19 David Keller, K
 #20 Dawson Leer, WR/LB
 #21 Zach Mensink, FB/LB
 #22 Jason Williamson, RB/DB
 #23 Ethan Walter, RB/DB

#24 Jay Schuster, RB/LB
 #25 Cole Rocha, FB/LB
 #26 Mitch Wiese, FB/LB
 #27 Jacob McMains, WR/LB
 #28 Isaac Gefre, FB/LB
 #29 Adnan Abdullahi, WR/DB
 #30 Zander Johnson, FB/LB
 #31 Davein Rodgers, RB
 #32 Taylor Hall, RB/DB
 #33 Parker Holton, FB/LB

#34 Josh Nelson, K
 #36 Eli Telljohn, TE/LB
 #42 Karson Madole, TE/LB
 #44 Mason Oland, RB/LB
 #50 Kade Serbus, OL/DL
 #52 Brock Stephenson, OL/DL
 #53 Nick Staska, OL/LB
 #55 Dylan Meier, OL/DL
 #58 Isaiah Noeldner, OL/DL
 #61 Joe Edell, OL/DL

#62 Spencer Steckelberg, OL/DL
 #63 Zach Wiese, OL/DL
 #64 Cade Gasner, OL/DL
 #65 Joseph Stransky, OL/DL
 #66 Andy Jensen, OL/DL
 #69 Ben Brownnewell, OL/DL
 #70 Brody Veach, OL/DL
 #71 Ethan Rohman, OL/DL
 #73 Terrell Conner, OL/DL
 #74 Ray Deml, OL/DL

#75 Chris Lewis, OT/DL
 #78 Kadyn Mulert, OL/DL
 #80 Isaac Oppgaard, WR/DB
 #81 Brady Schuster, TE/LB
 #82 Nolan Malo, WR/DB
 #83 Carson DeKam, TE/LB
 #84 Said Abdullahi, WR/DB
 #85 Brandon Schmidt, TE/LB
 #86 Logan Starkson, TE/LB
 #87 Ryan Good, TE/LB
 #88 Dalton Kubista, WR/DB

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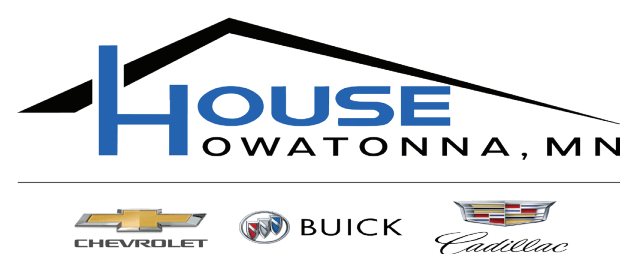
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Owatonna Huskies capture 2017 state title, leave lasting legacy

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

When the Owatonna football team lifted the Minnesota Class 5A state championship Saturday at U.S. Bank Stadium, it marked an unforgettable moment for the players, coaches and fans.

For the second time in five years, the Huskies were the last team standing.

Here's what some players had to say about the experience:

Senior quarterback Abe Havelka: "It's a dream come true to come back my senior year with my brothers and have a better outcome. Honestly, it really hasn't sunk in yet. It's definitely something special and it's been a dream of mine since I was a kid. To actually call yourself a state champion is pretty sweet."

Senior fullback/linebacker Zach Mensink: "It's means so much to me because the guys worked so hard all season and for all the work to pay off, it just means so much. Everybody did their jobs and we all played together as one unit. We executed the game

plan and it all came together."

Senior fullback Mitch Wiese: "It's a dream come true to win a state title. It's unbelievable, I can't even explain it. It just feels good knowing that all the hard work my teammates and I put in paid off. I think we were just hungry. It has always been sitting in the back of minds that we came up short last year, so we just wanted to get back to U.S. Bank Stadium and win there."

Senior offensive lineman Terrell Conner: "It feels good, but it really hits me because it didn't feel like it was that much competition. It feels great though to know that I ended my high school career at the highest point possibly. We knew we could shut down their run game and that our offense was going to put points on the board."

Senior offensive lineman Dylan Meier: "We dreamed about this since the summer. We have been working hard all year and it just paid off. It doesn't feel like we won. It's just crazy to think that we won and it's a great feeling."

Senior tight end/defensive lineman Logan Starkson: "It's surreal because I never pictured being in a state title game until



STAFF PHOTO: DENNIS MARSHALL

The Owatonna student section was buzzing with excitement during Saturday's game at U.S. Bank Stadium. Many students brought signs with various sayings including "Put a ring on it" and "Wiese is a beast."

last year. Going into the summer before my junior year I didn't even consider playing football, but I missed the game. When we lost to Elk River last year, all I could think about was that we had to get back and we have to get them again. We did it and I couldn't be happier for my team."

Senior wide receiver Noah Budach: "It was obviously a really awesome feeling to be able to end our season with a win. It really hasn't set in yet that we won. Everything is going so fast and we have been getting so much attention on social media. I haven't chance to sit back and take everything in yet, but it was an amazing experience and really humbling."

Junior wide receiver Mason Rhoades: "It's just amazing and crazy to be where we are right now. It was great season. I love all my teammates."

Junior wide receiver/defensive back Matt Segler: "It so surreal because have been working so hard everyday for past several months and to finally get this win is great. It's easily the biggest win I've ever experienced."

Junior wide receiver/defensive back Cole Deason: "It's awesome just to be a part of this team. All the guys are great. I think it's really cool that we finished the job after losing last year to Elk River and tonight we just got it done."

HUSKIES: Claim State 5A title against Elk River

FROM PAGE D3

up," Havelka joked during the welcome home at the Owatonna High School Auditorium. "No, but [Williamson] is a smart player and he knew where to be and I just threw it to him as I was going down."

Elk River moved the ball with some success on the following drive, but Owatonna senior linebacker Cole Rocha delivered a jarring blow to an Elks' ball carrier to force a fumble that Raichle recovered at the Huskies' 48-yard line.

Havelka muscled a designed quarterback run into the endzone from 5 yards out to give Owatonna a 28-14 lead with 1:01 left until halftime.

The Huskies started the opening drive of second half near midfield after a nice kick return by Budach. Havelka connected with Raichle on quick 17-yard strike to move Owatonna in Elk River territory and Williamson broke free for a 43-yard touchdown run on the next play.

Then, Owatonna senior safety Parker Westphal forced a fumble on the Elks' first

offensive play on the second half, that fellow senior safety Tucker Alstead scooped off the turf and returned for a touchdown. The defensive score gave the Huskies a commanding 42-14 advantage just 64 seconds into the second half.

Each teams defense settled in and Elk River and Owatonna took turns going three-and-out on the next three drives.

Williamson rushed for a 9-yard touchdown near the end of the third quarter to give the Huskies a seemingly insurmountable 49-14 lead.

To Elk River's credit, they refused to quit and Nelson broke of an Owatonna defender's grip and streaked down the field for 79-yard touchdown on the Elks' ensuing possession.

Williamson tied the Prep Bowl record for touchdown in a game on the Huskies' next drive when he leaped over an Elks' defender and into the endzone on a 5-yard scamper for sixth touchdown of the day.

Elk River senior quarterback Mitch Stroh connected with senior tight end Devon Garrison in the right corner of endzone to

make the score 56-26 with 4:45 left in the fourth quarter.

Owatonna scored the final touchdown on the game when Havelka threw a backwards pass to Budach, who then rushed for 53 yards into the endzone.

"It was late in the game and we were up by a lot," Budach said. "I expected us to keep the ball on the ground and run out the clock. [Havelka] faked the handoff and it looked like he was going to keep it himself. I don't know what he saw, but all of a sudden he just flung the ball out to me.

"I had good perimeter blocking, I was able to make one guy miss and then just ran it the rest of the way," he continued. "It was still sweet to be able to score like that in such a big game, even though it didn't matter. It was still a cool experience."

Williams said he wasn't surprised by the offensive explosion by Huskies because they averaged 50.5 points per game this season.

"That's unheard of," Williams said. "I think our old record was like 38 or 39 [points per game]."

"We have been scoring some points, but you don't

really expect to continue to do that [at that pace] the further you get into the state playoffs," he continued. "You are supposed to be seeing the best teams in the state of Minnesota and I know that we did, but it just shows how well our offense was clicking by the end of the season."

Williamson finished the game with 23 carries for 213 yards and five touchdowns. He also had three receptions for 54 yards and a 67-yard kick return for a touchdown.

"Jason Williamson was unreal in the state championship," Budach said. "He really had a great a game for us. He's been unreal all season."

Havelka completed 11-of-15 pass attempts for 138 yards and rushed four times for 19 yards. Budach finished the game with four catches for 47 yards and carried the ball three times for 66 yards and touchdown. Raichle hauled in three receptions for 37 yards.

Rocha lead the Huskies on

defense with 15 total tackles and forced fumble. Starkson and Alstead were the next leading tacklers with 12 and nine, respectively.

"[We'll] enjoy it for at least a couple of days," Williams said. "I think we open at Faribault on Labor Day weekend 2018. So it won't be too long before we start thinking about that. That's the nature of a coaches' life, you don't sit around and enjoy things for very long, but it is nice to win the last game of year."

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STAFF PHOTO: DENNIS MARSHALL

Senior captain Alex Raichle holds the championship trophy during a welcome home celebration in Owatonna High School's auditorium after the victory at U.S. Bank Stadium. He's surrounded by his teammates who have various expressions of excitement including smiling and throwing their arms in the air.

Husky fans welcome home state champs

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Fans welcomed the Owatonna football team home Saturday night after its state championship victory at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

Cheers and applause erupted throughout the school's auditorium as the players and coaches arrived and made their way to the stage.

Mark Randall, high school principal, started the ceremony by congratulating the team on its momentous accomplishment and thanking the players, coaches and fans for their commitment.

"Moments like this will sit with you for the rest of your lives," he said. "Now you are in the record books and nobody can ever take that away from you."

Randall praised the Huskies for not only taking care of business on the field, but also in the classroom.

Owatonna's football team was named as an Academic All-State Gold Recipient, which means the average GPA of the team is 3.26 or higher.

Randall closed his remarks by saying he was proud of Owatonna's athletic achievements, but most importantly, he was proud of how the players were leaders in the community.

Mayor Tom Kuntz spoke about how Owatonna was named as one of the five finalists for the Minnesota Monthly's "Best Minnesota Town."

"But today, we are number one in football," he said, while congratulating the team.

Owatonna Superintendent Jeff Elstad said he was proud of how the players, coaches and fans invested their hearts in the program this season and "tonight, we got revenge."

Huskies' defensive coordinator Marc Achterkirch said he was proud of every single one of his players.

"We were all in," he said. "Guys got hurt, but others stepped up and we had a knock down drag out week of practice preparing for this game."

Achterkirch also thanked the fans for all the support they have shown the team this season.

"Not only did Elk River see blue on the field, they saw a sea of blue in the stands," he said, adding that the Owatonna fans at least doubled the number of Elk River fans who made the trip to U.S. Bank Stadium.

Senior Abe Havelka, Logan Starkson, Terrell Conner, Zach Mensink, Cole Rocha and junior Jason Williamson spoke briefly about the season and what bringing a title to the city of Owatonna meant to them.

"We played together as one," Rocha said. "The coaches gave us a good game plan and we went out and executed."

Mensink said it was an amazing feeling to bring a championship home to the Owatonna community.

"It all paid off tonight," he said. "It's amazing because the fan support all year has been incredible."

Congrats on winning the state football championship, Huskies!

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It requires team work to take down the Elk River ball carrier trying to gain yardage. Tucker Alstead (2), Zach Mensink (21), Alex Raichle (4) and Cole Rocha (25) all come in to tackle the player.

STAFF PHOTO: RICK BUSSLER



STAFF PHOTO: RICK BUSSLER

With adrenaline flowing and a mouth wide open in excitement, quarterback Abe Havelka (3) rushes into the end zone to score a touchdown for the Owatonna Huskies in their 63-26 victory over Elk River. Also joining in the excitement is Terrell Conner (73) who is throwing up his arms as he watched Havelka score. In the back, Zach Wiese (63) blocked an Elk River defender to help make the touchdown possible.

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