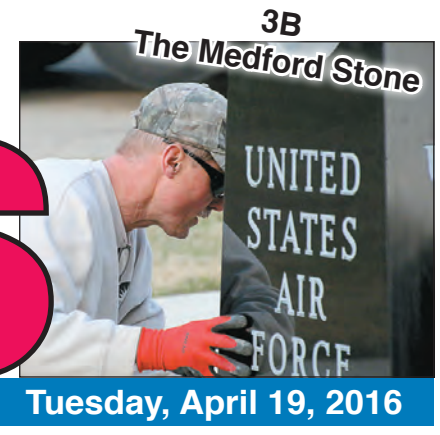
Steele County Times

3A
Child Prodigy



3B
The Medford Stone



$1 | www.steeledodgenews.Com | Tuesday, April 19, 2016



"The sun came up bright and beautiful last Friday morning, and as she did, she found something new and different on her way through Medford. She stopped to admire the stone that had not been there at the previous dawn. She loved it so much, she decided to stop and stay for a moment before continuing her journey. And that's where I found her – resting atop the Medford Stone."

- Mark DeLap

Inside

A:
2A .....Opinion
3A.....Little Thoughts
4A.....Public Safety
10A....106 Years Old

B:
1B.....Steele Talkin'
3B.....Veterans Memorial
7B.....Sports
10B.....Legals

Vol. 124, No. 46 | **Serving Blooming Prairie and Steele County since 1893** | 507-583-4431

Opinion

Our view

Preserving a memory

Standing in a cool Wednesday morning Minnesota breeze this past week, many gathered to witness history. There was a realization, more than ever, that the right to stand there as a free person in a democratic society was paid for. Running a finger along the etched names on that "soldier wall" in the little town of Medford is a chance to touch history itself. The Veterans Memorial tablets of stone memorialized those soldiers who had fought a good fight, and who had kept their faith… they finished their course.

Their memory is kept alive and at the same time, they are honored for offering the greatest sacrifice. No greater love has a man than this… that he lay life down for his friends. There, etched in stone, were the names of those who never gotten a "thank you" or a handshake. Instead, they received only a death sentence. There was no gold watch, only a lead bullet.

And for those who have come back with injuries and nightmares and challenges, the war continues to rage. It comes in the form of a fight not only to come back in through a door that society has tried to lock, but also to fight the apathy and attitude of those who think memorials are a waste of time and funding.

There is a group of veterans in Medford that fought a fierce battle to bring a lasting tribute to their town and for their own. Too quickly life passes and in the midst of business and busy-ness, the time to thank someone passes just as quickly. This group of veterans took the time to make sure all the "i's" were dotted and all the "t's" were crossed on a wall of stone that called a community to remember in humble thanksgiving.

It is not only a tribute to those who gave their lives, but also to those who carry on, and to make sure those who are alive and remain will always be able to remember. Remembering is a good thing. It brings perspective to today. It helps paint a bigger picture and a grander scheme of the humanity we are all a part of.

A "thank you" goes out today to those who served and died. To those who served and lived. To those who are serving still, in one way or another. To be a defender of home and country is one of the greatest callings that comes to the heart of man. It certainly deserves a word of thanks and a debt of gratitude.

Before the moment passes and this is just another article in the archives, run your finger on an etched wall and realize that It's not just a name, but a life. If you know of someone who has served or is serving, take a moment to thank them. Shake their hand and feel the pulse of the one who stood strong on foreign ground and faced a killer… for you.

And a special thanks today to the veterans of Medford who made a way to introduce all who pass thought their town to those who never made it home.



Finally, a trip overseas

HOT PURSUIT



RICK BUSSLER

Many years ago a relative gave me some cash specifically earmarked for a trip to Germany. At the time I was a teenager and traveling abroad didn't really trip my fancy.

In my infinite wisdom, I found every reason in the book to not take advantage of it. College. Work. Marriage. Family. Not enough money. Kids. Time. Other interests. Just to name a few of the reasons I came up with.

I always thought to myself that there will be a day when I can get away to travel. Little did I know that traveling should be done in that period between high school, college and your first real job.

And, to this day, I can kick myself for not cashing in on the opportunity back when it nearly smacked me in the face. As I grow older, I continue to realize how stupid I was for not jumping at the chance way back. There's this thing called "life" that gets in the way and doesn't always allow you to do what you want.

It turned out to be a hard life lesson for me. Since then, I've learned to take advantage of opportunities when possible.

Which leads me to my latest life excursion this week. I will be traveling with my mother to Belgium to visit my oldest daughter, who has been studying there since January. Finally, I will be jumping across the ocean into foreign land. It just took me about 30 years to make that leap.

I can't wait to be reunited with my daughter. Sure, we've exchanged emails and talked to each other over face time throughout the past few months, but it's not the same. I've never been away from her for this long ever in her nearly 21 years of life.

This week's trip is overshadowed just a tad bit by the recent bombings and civil unrest in Belgium. Last month a couple of crazed suicide maniacs blew themselves up and more than 30 innocent bystanders in the Brussels airport. My daughter worked near by, but, fortunately, she wasn't directly impacted by the sad turn of events.

To say I am a little apprehensive about heading over to Belgium may be putting it lightly. I think some people expected me to cancel my trip and not go. But, as I pointed out in the beginning of this column, I've been waiting decades for such an opportunity. I'm not about to let a couple crazy people ruin my trip.

The attacks were blind, violent and cowardly. There is no other way to describe the chaos. March 22 will always be known as a horrible and sad day for Europe.

I am determined to not let these cowards prevail with their cowardly behavior. I believe you can't live life in fear. We need to send a powerful message of strength and friendship to those who want to divide us. Terrorism has no borders and threatens people around the world. But, it's important that we continue fighting this evil by not giving in.

We all need to join in prayer for this kind of senseless behavior to stop. There is no place in society for hatred and violence.

So with a little nervousness and anxiety setting in I will be heading off to Belgium and several other countries around Europe. I'm confident that I will finally be able to enjoy this trip of a lifetime, even though it has been years in the making. What makes it even more special is that I can enjoy it with my daughter. See sometimes it pays to procrastinate.

I'm off in hot pursuit of a wonderful European experience.

CONTACT YOUR FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

Congressman Tim Walz
Washington D.C. Office
1034 Longworth House
Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2472
Rochester Minnesota
Washington, DC Office

Mankato District Office
527 ½ South Front Street
Mankato, MN 56001
Phone: 507-388-2149
877-846-9259

Sen. Al Franken
Washington DC Office
309 Hart Senate
Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5641

Rochester Office
1202-1/2 7th Street NW
Suite 213
Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 288-2003

Sen. Amy Klobuchar
Washington D.C. Office
302 Hart Senate
Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-3244
Fax: 202-228-2186

Southern Office
1130 1/2 7th Street, NW,
Room 212
Rochester, MN 55901
Main Line: 507-288-5321
Fax: 507-288-2922

Toll Free Number:
1-888-224-9043

CONTACT YOUR AREA MAYORS

Blooming Prairie Mayor
H. Peterson
507-583-7573

Ellendale Mayor
Mark Skroch
507-688-9432

Hayfield Mayor
Greg Demmer
507-477-3535
g.demmer@gofast.am

Medford Mayor
Lois M Nelson
507-390-4553
dlnelson1167@q.com

Owatonna Mayor
Thomas Kuntz
507-774-7342
Fax: 507-444-4394
mayor@ci.owatonna.mn.us

It could have been the real thing

REFLECTIONS... AND HOW



HOWARD LESTRUD

A small section of Blooming Prairie was turned into an outdoor classroom on Monday morning, April 4.

The classroom setting was a mock car crash involving two vehicles carrying young teenagers. The crash was staged at the intersection of Main Street and SW 4th Ave., just south of Blooming Prairie High School.

It wasn't a complete secret but information was not shared too widely in the public sense as school officials and emergency responders of Blooming Prairie worked together to get the message across that drinking while driving and texting while driving can kill.

Planning for this exercise actually began last November with the Blooming Prairie Fire Department leading the charge to help teach young people the dangers of DWI and distracted driving.

Lead teachers during the planning stage were Justin Krell of the fire department, Police Chief Greg Skillestad, Sheriff Lon Thiele and school administrators and students.

Mock car crashes are not new in Minnesota but this one in Blooming Prairie was the first ever staged here.

We, the residents, of Blooming Prairie can be very thankful to have such well trained emergency responders in firefighters, police and emergency medical services personnel. Teachers and students must also be complimented for their efforts to help get the message of public safety across to all.

The early morning emergency drill indeed seemed real, not just to the 135 spectators who were BPHS students in grades 10-12 but to the seven student actors and emergency personnel who participated in the exercise.

It was scary to see and feel how real the mock crash was. Emergency responders reacted as if the crash were the real thing.

It is very comforting to know that we in Blooming Prairie have such dedicated and professionally trained First Responders.

Just moments before high school students arrived for their outdoor class, student actors took their places in the vehicles and in the bleachers.

Two actors, Kalyn Naatz and Rylee Fawver burst from the bleachers on command from Sheriff Thiele and began frantically trying to help their seriously injured classmates who were trapped in a vehicle or ejected from a vehicle.

The crash scene was so realistic that emotions were felt during the drill. "I got emotional," Naatz said.

The arrival of emergency vehicles amidst the backdrop of blaring sirens made the event seem real. The realism continued as firefighters used the Jaws of Life tool to extricate passengers from the crashed cars.

Closing chapters raised the crescendo of the morning with the arrival of a Mayo One emergency helicopter to airlift a victim and the arrival of a Worlein Funeral Home hearse to pick up a fatally injured teenager, the role played by Anthony Nelson. He was even placed in a body bag.

I have been on crash scenes many times during my newspaper career and this mock exercise was extremely realistic.

The message gained from this can be the assurance that our public safety is ensured by a large group of ready individuals who are highly trained in First Response.

These First Responders are our neighbors, friends and family members who really care about our welfare. It showed in the compassionate, caring ways they performed their jobs during this drill.

It is hoped that the message of public safety sound in with the students in attendance. Many said they were made more aware of the plea to put the phone down while driving and also stay away from alcohol.

Serious car crashes will still occur, but if the number can be reduced because of the message brought across in these training exercises, then we are headed in the right direction.

Driver distraction can end peoples' lives and turn the lives of those they left behind upside down. To enforce Minnesota's no texting law, more than 300 law enforcement agencies across Minnesota will participate in the extra enforcement distracted driving campaign April 11–17.

Steps like special training and enforcement are being taken to ensure public safety.

Thank you to all who made this Blooming Prairie public safety exercise a success.

HOWARD LESTRUD

Continued on Page 3A

Steele County Times
Always local, all the time.

Bussler Publishing Inc.
USPS 058-340
Published weekly on Tuesdays
Postmaster: Send address changes to: Steele County Times
P.O. Box 247
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
Phone: (507) 583-4431
Fax: (507) 583-4445
bptimes@frontiernet.net

A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

2016
8 State Awards

2015
4 National Awards
7 State Awards

2014
3 National Awards
3 State Awards

2013
2 National Awards
7 State Awards

2012
2 State Awards

2011
4 National Awards

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

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

STAFF

Publisher ..... Rick Bussler
Managing Editor ..... Mark DeLap
Business Manager ..... Kim Hammer
Sales Manager ..... Amy Martin
Sports Editor ..... Joe Tischler
Staff Writer ..... LeMar Nelson
Advertising Sales ..... Eileen Johnson
Tawni Hammer
Graphic Design ..... Michael Anderson
Staff Intern ..... Jessica Nafe

DEADLINE

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

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

ETHICS

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Second Front



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

Learning a language can happen at the library

My oldest daughter, Charlotte, recently returned from a whirlwind trip to Europe and Asia, visiting four countries in ten days.

One of the highlights of her trip, other than logging her 100th passport stamp, was being mistaken as French while in Paris. One reason may be her French last name, but mainly the confusion came about because she spoke French well enough to fool the locals. Her deception was short lived: when Charlotte would have to show her passport, the Parisians were surprised to find out she was American.

Often as Americans, we assume that everyone else should speak English even when we travel to other countries. If you want to show your independence while travelling and speak in the language of the country you are visiting, the Owatonna Public Library and the Blooming Prairie Branch Library are ready to help.

By going to the website, www.owatonna.info, you will find a quick link to Mango Language which can help you learn more than 70 languages, including English. Other languages available include Cherokee, Spanish, Japanese, and even Pirate! And the best part? It's free with your library card!

After registering online with your library card number, you will have an account that will take you back to the lesson you were previously working on. Mango uses conversation and film-based digital resources to keep your attention and also teach you about the countries and cultures that use those languages. If you have a younger person who wants to learn a new language, have them try out Little Pim, designed for children from birth to age 6. Little Pim has videos and conversations, but also books and flashcards that will help them develop a lifelong love of language learning.

So the next time you plan to visit a foreign, non-English speaking country, try out Mango or Little Pim. Maybe you can fool the native speakers too!

Severe weather season is upon us: Be prepared

By ANNA SENGER
County Writer

Awareness of severe weather can save lives. That is the message that Dave Purscell of Steele County Skywarn shared with employees of local companies at the Steele County Safety Council meeting on April 13.

Many probably noticed the tornado sirens sounding on April 14 at 1:45 and 6:55 p.m. Purscell said that those sirens were sounding throughout the state to test first and second shift tornado drills at workplaces. It is also important, he said, to discuss tornado drills with the family.

"It is an important drill to participate in," said Purscell. "Even if you've done it, it's good to refresh."

Despite the past couple years being milder in terms of severe weather, Purscell said it is important to keep those emergency plans active.

Steele County sees two major severe weather types, winter storms and severe thunderstorms. Given the time of year, Purscell focused on severe thunderstorms.

He shared that at any given time, approximately 2,000 thunderstorms are taking place somewhere on the earth. Of those 2,000 thunderstorms, less than 1% end up being severe.

The severity of the storm is decided if there is hail one inch in diameter and wind is at or above 58 miles per hour.

Besides winter storms, severe weather starts as early as March and can last as long as into November. Purscell said that the peak is late May, June and July time period.

"There is chance for severe weather anytime, day or night, so it is very important to be aware of them," he said.

Within the state of Minnesota, not a single county has not had a tornado at some point since 1955. "There aren't any spots within the state of Minnesota for tornados," he decided upon looking at the map.

2010 was a rough year for severe weather, with 113 confirmed tornados in Minnesota that year. The average is typically 40 tornados per year in Minnesota.

"People don't think of Minnesota as the bastion of tornadoes, and yet, we're the top of the tornado alley," said Purscell.

Despite the fear surrounding tornados, the number one killer in thunderstorms is lightening. To stay safe from lightening, Purscell encourages people to stay indoors.

The number one activity that people are involved in for lightening deaths, Purscell shared, is fishing. Playing soccer and golf is also an activity in which people were engaging upon being struck by lightning.

If outdoors, Purscell encourages individuals to crouch down in the stance of a baseball catcher.

When it comes to flooding, he strongly urges drivers to never pass a roadway with standing water. The force of the water could sweep the vehicle away, and the stability of the road bed underneath is not guaranteed.

The best way to stay safe in case of tornado is to anticipate and plan.

He listed www.weather.gov.twincities and www.spc.noaa.gov as wonderful sites for weather planning. He also mentioned that phone aps can be useful in maintaining weather news all day long.

Weather radios are important in staying informed. He was astounded that only a couple attendees had weather radios, and he encouraged the rest of the crowd to go to a store and purchase one.

The radios sounds alerts for severe weather when necessary. Radio owners can personalize settings to their own needs.

Purscell said that if anyone is in need of assistance in setting up the radio, they can bring it to the Owatonna Fire Station office, and they will get in touch with someone from Skywarn to set it up.

"Just always be prepared to take action in the chance of a storm. Be ready," said Purscell.

Following boats and RV driving regulations

Question: What are the requirements for RV triple towing in Minnesota?

Answer: With warmer weather around the corner, we are sure to see more RVs and boat trailers on the roads being towed.

A recreational vehicle combination may be operated without an over-length type permit if:

(1) the combination does not consist of more than three vehicles, and the towing rating of the full-size pickup truck or recreational truck-tractor is equal to or greater than the total weight of all vehicles being towed;

(2) the combination does not exceed 70 feet in length;

(3) the operator of the combination is at least 18 years of age;

(4) the trailer is only carrying watercraft, motorcycles, motorized bicycles, off-highway motorcycles, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, motorized golf carts, or equestrian equipment or supplies, and meets all requirements of law;

(5) the vehicles in the combination are connected to the full-size pickup truck or recreational truck-tractor and each other in conformity with the trailer hitch laws; and

(6) the combination is not operated within the seven-county metropolitan area during the hours of 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Mondays through Fridays.

Please make sure that all trailers are properly secured, safety chains are attached and lights are properly working. When towing, reduce your speeds and increase your following distance.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson – Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us).

HOWARD LESTRUD

Continued from Page 2A

Being a part of the Boomer Generation, I have sorta been a Rock'nroll fan and have been fortunate to have seen many rock stars in person and in concert. I have also attended concerts given by some country rock stars.

I have seen concerts performed by Elvis Presley, Neil Diamond, Sonny & Cher, Bob Dylan, The Eagles, The Rolling Stones, Paul McCartney, Tina Turner, Tony Orlando, Aretha Franklin, Shania Twain, Willie Nelson and Johnny Cash.

I realize I am dating myself when I list those entertainers.

My list was supplemented handsomely on a recent Sunday when my wife Judy and I and friends Dawn and Dwayne took a bus trip from Owatonna to Rochester to see Ethan Bortnick live in concert.

You might ask: "Who is Ethan Bortnick?"

Bortnick, age 15 and son of Ukraine immigrants, is recognized by the Guiness World Records as "The World's Youngest Solo Musician to Headline His Own Concert Tour" at age 14. His tour is called The Power of Music Tour.

This young pianist, singer, composer and dynamic entertainer is more than all of that. He is a true humanitarian and this sets him apart from many other entertainers.

His humanitarian interests are spurred by the fact that his 10-year-old brother Nathan has a rare and complex congenital heart defect called HLHS, the left side of the heart severely underdeveloped. Treatment for HLHS today is palliative -- there is no cure -- and typically involves a series of three surgical procedures.

After wooing his audience with a variety of modern pop tunes and some tunes of old like Bill Haley's Rock Around the Clock, Bortnick stopped his performance to introduce his younger brother who sauntered on stage and asked to introduce some of his friends, others suffering with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome.

It was explained that in the Todd and Karen Wanek Family Program for Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS), Mayo Clinic physicians, scientists and many other experts are working collaboratively to find and apply innovative solutions for HLHS.

A chunk of Bortnick's monies earned in this special concert in Presentation Hall at the Mayo Civic Auditorium are directed to HLHS research.

Ethan, who began playing piano at age 3, has helped raise over $30 million for nonprofits around the world sharing the stage with artists such as Elton John, Andrea Bocelli, Beyonce, Josh Groban and Reba McEntire, among many others.

His highly successful nationally televised TV show, The Power of Music, has been the number once concert pledge show on Public Television for 2014-15 pledge drives and is still running nationwide continuously winning multiple awards.

When Ethan was five, his younger brother had three heart surgeries and that emotional time inspired him to use his musical talents to benefit charity.



"I remember going to the Children's Hospital and seeing a lot of sick children," says Ethan. "I learned that some of these kids could not afford surgery so the hospital raised money for them. It made me want to help these kids."

It was a fast-moving show with Bortnick showing unbelievable talent and stage presence for his youthful age. He showed no air of arrogance as he performed.

As Bortnick's fingers roamed the keyboard of his personal piano, cameras caught him performing from different angles and displaying lots of energy and excitement.

The young man showed his willingness to involve the audience when he asked for two volunteers to bring their cell phones on stage and share their ring tones. His purpose was then to take the ring tones and transfer it to the piano as a special composition. He even asked the cell phone users to come up with a name for the piano piece. It was called "Morning Dew."

Bortnick also took time away from his music to field questions from the audience. Asked what his favorite songs were, he replied that he likes all music.

Music shapes moods and can bring out happiness or sadness, Bortnick said.

His performance ended with a rendition of "We Are the World" featuring a local young women's choral group from Rochester. Bortnick picked up his hand microphone, left the piano and began a parade into the audience, followed by a group from the Bella Voce Young Women's Choir, Rochester.

It's very inspirational to see a young performer have such an amazing command of his music and his audience. It was indeed an afternoon to remember.

We pave paradise and put up a parking lot

LITTLE THOUGHTS ON THE PRAIRIE



MARK DELAP

One of my most prized possessions is something that I didn't buy and it's probably not worth much if I wanted to sell it on Ebay. It is something that my Grandpa DeLap earned and I inherited after his death. It is a certificate and it is dated June 18, 1918. That is especially interesting to me because I am a history buff and know that this certificate was given right in midst of World War I as he served on the USS Vermont. The certificate is what seamen call the "Davey Jones" certificate or the "Order of Neptune." It is a naval tradition that observes a mariner's transformation from Pollywog, a seaman who hasn't crossed the equator, to Shellback, also called a Son of Neptune – a sailor who has traversed the equatorial line.

It is a huge certificate, probably 16 x 20 and it has ornate drawings and writing to honor the sailor for his transformation. Tradition also tells us that the hazing that is a part of the ritual can be quite interesting, to say the least. The certificate also gives the exact coordinates as to where the crossing occurred.

Call me corny, but I think it's an awesome thing to know where my grandfather was on that specific day. The exact place he was on this earth.

I was honored to cover the story this week dealing with the Medford Veterans Memorial and a group of incredible veterans who made it all happen. I was so taken by it all that I wanted to go back and see it lit up at night. I wanted to run my finger on the etchings and speak the names out loud. I wanted to thank God for each one that sacrificed years out of their own life to protect our freedoms.

I wanted to see what it was like as dawn broke over the memorial and experience the first rays of light echoing off of the granite tablets, announcing the splendor of a new day. I wanted them to know that I was so proud of them and that this monument would be forever a place to let them know that they mattered. And it made me mindful of my own grandfather who served in World War I, my uncles who fought in World War II and my dad who came through the Korean conflict.

I thought of how this memorial location had changed from the downtown area and I started to realize that this was perhaps scripted by the divine. I listened to the robins as they began to praise the new day and the geese as they called out a morning cadence, flying over the memorial in formation as nature's Blue Angels. The flags were rippling in the wind and the terminals tapping against the poles.

It was mostly quiet, though. And I tried to listen to what these men might have heard. The sound of battle, the prayers in the foxholes, the cries of liberty, the orders to go home. I thought to myself how incredible would it have been if some of the veterans of my grandfather's generation would have put his name on a stone other than his grave marker. I'd visit. Often. And I'd bring my kids.

Medford, you did a good thing, but perhaps it isn't yet complete. The land that your Veterans Memorial sits on is perfect for a Veterans Park. A place where those who served can come home, surrounded by their friends and families and remember their brethren.

Perhaps though, it is land designated for something else, but isn't that the sacrifice that our veterans have made? Lives designated for something else, they changed their designations and put their lives on the line for each of us.

I think it's wonderful that you gave them a corner. It would be above and beyond to give them a park. A place where food and fellowship abound. Speeches and picnics and balloons and fireworks on the fourth of July. A place where the children will never forget what was done for them and perhaps… just perhaps, one day – a Medford soldier on the battle line makes it through because he remembers what's waiting for him back home.

A place where the safety of being home and having a place to call their own would mean the world. The very world they set off to die for.

I think of the words to an old song, "Don't it always seem to go, That you don't know what you've got til its gone they paved paradise and put up a parking lot. Hey, now they paved paradise to put up a parking lot."

The world has far too many parking lots and not enough parks.

If you build it…. proud grandsons like myself will come. And they will keep coming and keep remembering and forever they will continue to let our veterans know that they mattered and that they will never be forgotten.

Public Safety

Blotter spotlight: Fight. Police responded to a fight at Hazel Lane NE and St. Paul Rd. NE at 3:18 p.m.

Man charged in death of another man in pasture near Hollandale

An Austin man faces felony charges in connection with the death of another man attending a social gathering in a pasture in rural Freeborn County over the weekend.

Nathan Paul Brooks, 26, faces criminal vehicular homicide. Authorities accuse him of causing the death of Alex Dylan Tapp, 30, also of Austin.

Tapp died Saturday around 9:10 p.m. in a pasture at 23595 890th Avenue east of Hollandale.

Sheriff Kurt Freitag said a 2000 Chevy Suburban struck Tapp while he was walking in the pasture behind the residence. Witnesses began CPR on Tapp until sheriff's deputies arrived on the scene. CPR was continued for some time before Tapp was declared dead at the scene. His body was transported to the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office for an autopsy.

The sheriff's office is continuing its investigation into what led up to the incident.

In addition to Freeborn County, the Mower County Sheriff's Office, Austin Police, Gold Cross Ambulance, Minnesota State Patrol and Hollandale First Responders assisted at the scene.

Crime Brief

Driver slips away after chase and crash

A man gave local police the slip after a high-speed chase in Owatonna April 12.

Just before noon an Owatonna officer tried to stop a car near 7th Avenue and 22nd Street Northeast for a cracked windshield and driving after suspension. Police said the car traveled north through Lainhaven Place and back out to 7th Avenue disregarding every stop sign along the way.

While traveling southbound on 7th Avenue, the driver allegedly blew the stop sign at 20th Street Northeast at 80 mph. At this point, the officer discontinued the pursuit due to the potential dangers imposed to the public.

A short time later the officer came upon car parts in the roadway and fresh damage to a boulevard tree. Residents in the area pointed east where the officer found the car disabled on Bigelow Avenue. However, the driver was not around. Police brought in a K-9 unit to track the suspect, but he was not located.

The case remains under investigation.

Police blotter
Steele County

Blooming Prairie Police

April 10

Vandalism. Officer took a property damage report in the city at 12:19 p.m.

Theft. At 6:22 p.m., police received a theft report.

April 13

Fraud. A fraud incident occurred in the city at 1:41 p.m.

Owatonna Police

April 8

Warrant. Police arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 500 block of South Cedar Ave. at 9:32 a.m.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 100 block of Park Square W. at 10:52 a.m.

Shoplifting. At 1:19 p.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W.

Hit and Run. A hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred at Harriet Ave. SE and Phelphs St. E. at 2:52 p.m.

Missing Person. Officer took a missing person report in the 200 block of 22nd St. NW at 3:20 ;.m.

Restraining Order. At 6:34 p.m., police responded to a restraining order violation in the 200 block of Pearl St. E.

April 9

Drunken Driving. Police pulled over a motorist at McKinely St. W. and Oak Ave. S. at 1:22 a.m. He or she was found to be intoxicated and was taken into custody.

Domestic. Police responded to domestic disturbances in the 200 block of Fremont St. E. at 3:13 a.m. and in the 200 block of Riverside Ave. NW at 9:18 p.m. They made arrests at both incidents.

Vandalism. Officer took a property damage report in the 1200 block of Crestview Lane NE at 10:47 a.m.

Drugs. Police responded to drug activity in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 6:35 p.m. They arrested a subject.

April 10

Disturbance. At 12:56 a.m., police responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Cedar Ave. N. They issued a citation.

Burglary. Police began a burglary investigation in the 1000 block of Havana Rd. at 2:02 a.m.

Hit and Run. A hit and run crash resulting in property damage occurred in the 400 block of North St. W. at 9:17 a.m.

Vandalism. Property damage occurred in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 5:06 p.m.

Theft. Officer took a theft report in the 100 block of Broadway St. W. at 7:01 p.m.

April 11

Warrant. At 12:05 a.m., police made a warrant arrest in the 500 block of 22nd St. NE.

Child Protection. Police received a child protection report from the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 2:30 p.m.

April 12

Pursuit. Officers engaged in a vehicle pursuit at 25th St. NE and 7th Ave. NE at 11:41 a.m.

Theft. At 4:01 p.m., officer took a theft report in the 600 block of Bridge St. W.

April 13

Death. Police began a death investigation in the 100 block of 24th St. NE at 7:20 a.m.

Threats. At 11:03 a.m., officers responded to a threats incident in the 400 block of North St. W.

Fraud. A fraud incident occurred in the 400 block of Kim Lane SW at 2:33 p.m.

April 14

Arrest. At 12:12 a.m., police arrested a subject in the 600 block of Bridge St. W.

Vandalism. Property damage occurred in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 7:30 a.m.

Warrant. Officers made warrant arrests in the 700 block of State Ave. NW at 10:35 a.m. and in the 200 block of 18th St. SW at 5:37 p.m.

Fraud. A fraud incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 10:11 a.m.

Assault. At 5:11 p.m., police responded to an assault in the 200 block of 18th St. SW. They made an arrest at the scene.

Steele County Sheriff

April 8

Warrant. At 1:55 p.m., deputies arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 1800 block of 44th Ave. SE.

Fraud. Deputy took a report of fraud in the 2000 block of 88th St. SW at 1:58 p.m.

Welfare. Deputies completed a welfare check in the 100 block of 2nd St. SE at 2:27 p.m.

April 10

Warrant. Deputies made a warrant arrest at Hwy. 218 and Hwy. 30 E. at 6:20 p.m.

April 11

Fraud. A fraud incident occurred in the 10400 block of 62nd Ave. SW at 4:40 p.m.

Assault. Deputies responded to an assault in the detention center at 9:20 p.m.

April 12

Crash. At 7:10 p.m., deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage on Interstate 35 southbound.

April 13

Warrant. A subject turned himself in for an outstanding warrant at the detention center at 3:44 a.m.

Harassment. Deputy responded to a harassment incident in the 600 block of Jansen Place at 4:51 a.m.

Crash. At 8:22 a.m., deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident at 26th St. NW and County Rd. 45 N.

April 14

Arrest. Deputies arrested a motorist following a traffic stop on Interstate 35 northbound at 1:03 a.m.

Crash. Deputies responded to a crash at 50th St. NW and 72nd Ave. NW at 3:02 p.m. They issued a citation to one of the drivers.

Warrant. At 3:48 p.m., deputies made a warrant arrest at the detention center.

Steele Arrests

Owatonna Police

Charles Quartermain Bridgeman, 36, arrested at 1:36 a.m. April 9, DWI, $12,000 bail.

Alfredo Garza, 34, arrested at 3:25 a.m. April 9, felony domestic assault by strangulation, held for court.

James Edward White, 35, arrested at 9:45 p.m. April 9, domestic assault and DWI, held for court.

Ricky Scott Steele, 41, arrested at 11:51 a.m. April 10, extradition hearing.

Keith Allen Beene, 37, arrested at 12:23 a.m. April 11, warrant arrest, held for court.

Sherry Lynn Smith, 54, arrested at 3:55 p.m. April 11, warrant arrest, $500 bail.

Lavell Malone, 44, arrested at 5:30 p.m. April 14, warrant arrest, held for court.

Tyjuan Lavell Williams, 28, arrested April 14, felony domestic assault by strangulation, held for court.

Steele County Sheriff

Christopher Michial Kraudy, 46, arrested at 9:41 p.m. April 9, warrant arrest, $41,019.89 bail.

Gabriel Alberto Torres, 31, arrested at 12:21 a.m. April 10, DWI, held for court.

Casey Joe Eggum, 29, arrested at 10:12 a.m. April 11, warrant arrest, $4,100 bail.

Matthew Allen Reiter, 29, arrested at 3:42 p.m. April 11, probation violation warrant arrest, body only.

Jordan David Lindeman, 18, arrested at 7:42 p.m. April 11, burglary warrant arrest, $3,000 bail.

Zachary Michael Wellentin, 28, arrested at 11 p.m. April 11, felony assault, held for court.

Courtney Michael Bauer, 27, arrested at 11:40 a.m. April 12, warrant arrest, body only.

Edward Chavis Williams, 30, arrested at 4 p.m. April 12, civil warrants arrest, $17,944.37 bail.

Daniel James Stockwell, 28, arrested at 9:55 p.m. April 12, violation of conditions of release, held for court.

Marcos Anthony Trevino, 23, arrested at 3:54 a.m. April 13, warrant arrest, $3,000 bail.

Jessica Renee Heise, 34, arrested at 3:04 a.m. April 14, warrant arrest, $400 bail.

Jose Antonio Gonzalez, 20, arrested at 9:33 a.m. April 14, warrant arrest, $10,000 bail.

Heather Marie Saurer, 33, arrested at 4:08 p.m. April 14, warrant arrest, $10,000 bail.

Gypsy Lynn Ramirez, 35, arrested at 12:15 a.m. April 15, warrant arrest, held for court.

Court news
Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 4 with Judge Robert Bimbaum presiding:

Kerry C. Bittrich, 26, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony drug possession. Bittrich was sentenced to $81, no alcohol or controlled substance use, and 10 years of supervised probation.

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 4 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Steven A. Menke, 58, Bancroft, IA, previously appeared and was convicted of felony controlled substance crime. He was sentenced to $581, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state, no alcohol or controlled substance use, attend MADD impact panel, 224 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation.

Carlos A. Sosa-Venegas, 19, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony assault. The defendant was sentenced to $131, and 115 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 4 – 8:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Bree C. Leiferman-Helder, 37, Kasota, intent to escape tax, $131, 30 hours of community service and 1 year of supervised probation.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Travis D. Chadbourn, 34, Austin, revoked license, $281; Dangelo O. Davis, 26, MI, no license, $181; Gregory K. Foster, 55, Dalhart, TX, speeding, $131; Christiano J. Gonzalez, 19, Fertile, IA, speeding, $141; Charles A. Hellekson, 50, Albert Lea, expired registration, $111; Ronny L. Hoffman, 34, Waseca, seat belt, $106; Jill S. Hyson, 47, Blue Springs, MO, speeding, $121; Emdzad Jahic, 51, Minnetonka, speeding, $131; Peter B. Knight, 37, Minneapolis, unsafe lane usage, $131; Patrick T. Kraling, 45, Owatonna, seat belt, $106;

Rebecca S. Krug, 45, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Craig A. Laska, 45, Owatonna, seat belt, $106; Myrtle B. Lemon, 20, Grand Haven, MI, speeding, $221; Duane E. Nordin, 65, Belle Plaine, speeding, $131; Simon A. Oliver, 19, Lakeville, speeding, $131; Tyra D. Reaves, 31, Davenport, IA, speeding, $131; Juan F. Rodriguez Tellez, 18, Owatonna, illegal u-turn, $131; Chelsey E. Rouse, 23, St. Louis Park, speeding, $131;

James P. Sandgren, 56, Stillwater, speeding, $121; Travis A. Schleichert, 26, Oak Grove, MO, seat belt, $106; Alex M. Schott, 27, Edina, window tint violation, $131; Richard Thomas, 50, Rogers, speeding, $131; Matthew A. Throne, 19, Scarville, IA, weaving over lane lines, $131; Brenda Victorio-Martinez, 23, St. Peter, failure to use designated lane, $131; Anthony J. Volpe, 40, Climax, no endorsement and no log book, $281.

Owatonna Police Department

Magdaline M. Abrams, 22, Faribault, possession of Marijuana, $131; Cody L. Blaha, 18, Owatonna, possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia, $181; Patrick J. Brady, 38, Owatonna, no insurance and expired tabs, $311; Christopher L. Burr, 35, Owatonna, no insurance, $281; Ray D. Cabrera, 18, Owatonna, possession of Marijuana, $131;

Michelle L. Ciochetto, 34, Owatonna, texting while driving and no insurance, $331; Jessica A. Dahle, 39, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, $481; Lorenzo C. Davis, 29, Faribault, revoked license, $281; Michael C. Florine, 66, Owatonna, shoplifting, $81; Vincent R. Garr, 33, Waseca, revoked license and suspended license, $581; Robert M. Gjerdahl, 23, White Bear Lake, no insurance, $281;

Jacob W. Gray, 21, Claremont, shoplifting, $75, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Ernesto R. Guerrero, 23, Owatonna, DWI, $406, 3 days in county jail, attend MADD impact panel, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Vincent F. Guggisberg, 23, Owatonna, revoked license, $281 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Larry D. Haberman, 44, Blooming Prairie, suspended license, $281; Evelyn J. Haines, 53, Owatonna, speeding, $201;

Ryan M. Hanson, 25, Owatonna, suspended license and stop sign, $531; Christopher M. Heise, 39, Owatonna, domestic assault, $581, 3 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, domestic abuse evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Amanda L. House, 20, Owatonna, shoplifting, $231; Sergio R. Izquierdo, 16, Owatonna, speeding, $281; Wyatt L. Jackson, 32, Owatonna, suspended license and open bottle, $381; Contrell D. Johnson, 27, Faribault, open bottle, 56 days in county jail;

Matthew R. Knafel, 24, Chicago, IL, careless driving, $81, chemical dependency evaluation, and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Samantha L. Krukowski, 22, Owatonna, expired tabs, $111; Jacob V. Louks, 23, Owatonna, possession of Paraphernalia and Marijuana, $181; Abdirahman M. Mohamed, 28, Rochester, revoked license, $281; Kijafa N. Parsons, 33, Rochester, no insurance, and revoked license, $481; Nicholas R. Richards, 27, Owatonna, window tint violation, improper information on license and registration violation, $251; Juan J. Rivera, 30, Owatonna, revoked license, $281; Gary S. Rousey, 46, Waseca, no MN license, $181;

Travis J. Sanden, 28, Owatonna, possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia, $281; Brandy G. Schmitt, 19, West Concord, permit violation and no insurance, $331; Jason L. Terpstra, 37, Owatonna, cancelled license, $181, 2 days in county jail, and 1 year of supervised probation; Marcos A. Trevino, 23, Owatonna, possession of Marijuana and open bottle, $231; Jennifer M. Weller, 32, Owatonna, careless driving, $281, substance abuse subtle screening inventory and 1 year of unsupervised probation.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Omot O. Alak, 48, Austin, revoked license, $281; Matthew R. Alwes, 32, Kasson, failure to yield, $131; David Barajas, 51, Owatonna, failure to yield, $131; Kelsey J. Beauchamp, 19, Rochester, NY, speeding, $121; Vikas Bhardwaj, 45, Eden Prairie, speeding, $221; Tatelyn R. Blazek, 19, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Daniel L. Brackett, 53, Martinez, CA, speeding, $121; Jazmin M. Brue, 16, Albert Lea, speeding, $131; Jose A. Castro Tercero, 30, Estherville, IA, speeding, $121; Rosalio Chavez Jr., 29, Owatonna, speeding, $221; Brady D. Christianson, 24, Mason City, IA, speeding, $121;

Bridget G. Cook, 25, Nerstrand, speeding, $221; Anthony L. Fuller, 30, Geneva, speeding, $121; Chelsea M. Gillispie, 28, Geneva, speeding, $141; Myrna J. Gommels, 62, Rochester, expired tabs and speeding, $151; Joshua L. Hansen, 17, Owatonna, speeding, $221; Porsha L. Hoskins, 27, Ellendale, revoked license and speeding, $321; Justin M. Kiel, 34, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Julie H. Langlie, 59, Ellendale, DWI, $481, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Kimberly M. Matzke, 39, Owatonna, revoked license and no license in possession, $301;

Marlene J. Mayhew, 65, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Jeannine M. Ness, 57, Northfield, speeding, $121; Benton C. Olson, 19, Farmington, speeding, $121; Ashley M. Padilla, 24, Waseca, failure to obey traffic control device and revoked license, $331; Penny L. Porter, 44, Indianola, IA, speeding, $131; Marjorie S. Radtke, 60, Claremont, speeding, $121; Jose A. Rosas Vera, 35, Owatonna, no MN license and stop sign, $231; Joshua T. Schley, 24, Owatonna, plate light violation and no insurance, $321;

Annette M. Shepardson, 48, Winona, speeding, $121; Tanner J. Sitar, 28, Neenah, WI, speeding, $141; Jesse R. Skelly, 33, Elgin, reckless driving and false name to peace officer, $481 and 75 days in county jail; Nathan P. Smith, 16, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Courtney R. Spicer, 38, Delano, speeding, $121; Mir R. Subla, 55, North Mankato, speeding, $221; David L. Thompson, 54, Austin, speeding, $141;

Mitchell H. Thompson, 44, New Richland, rear plate violation, seat belt and speeding, $176; Jesus Z. Vazquez Zavala, 23, Medford, revoked license, $281; Glenda A. Weigel, 62, Alden, speeding, $121; Diane E. Wollenburg, 51, Waseca, speeding, $131; Anita L. Workman, 62, Rochester, speeding, $131; Annie M. Yant, 34, Princeton, speeding, $131.

April 6

Police blotter
Dodge County

Sexual Assault. Deputies began an investigation of a sexual assault in the 500 block of Hwy. St. E. in Dodge Center at 3:59 p.m.

Suspicion. At 7:33 p.m., deputies responded to a suspicious activity report in the 700 block of 2nd St. NW in Hayfield.

April 7

Vulnerable Adult. Deputies assisted with a vulnerable adult and financial fraud in the 300 block of 2nd St. NE in Hayfield at 10:17 a.m.

Burglary. Deputies began a burglary investigation following the theft of several items from a machine shed in the 18100 block of 540th St. in West Concord at 3:59 p.m.

April 8

Vandalism. At 7:53 a.m., deputies received a report that a set of mailboxes were smashed in the 26700 block of 755th St. in Hayfield.

Harassment. A harassment incident occurred in the 1000 block of 3rd Ave. NE in Byron at 1:17 p.m.

Domestic. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of Main St. E. in Dodge Center at 3:39 p.m.

Domestic Disturbance. At 8:55 p.m., deputies arrested a subject following a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of 1st Ave. NE in Hayfield.

April 9

Fire. At 8:31 a.m., smoke was seen from under a trailer in the 800 block of Center Ave. S. in Hayfield.

Juvenile. Deputies received a juvenile complaint from the 20000 block of County Hwy. 24 in West Concord at 12:43 p.m.

April 12

Narcotics. Deputies found narcotics in the 22500 block of 570th St. in Dodge Center at 2:17a a.m.

Court news
Dodge County

The following cases were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of April 4 with Judge Jodi L. Williamson presiding:

Billy J. Bishop, 36, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony check forgery. He was sentenced to $1,621.55, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, obtain and maintain employment, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation.

Caleb K. Moyer, 25, Frontenac, previously appeared and was convicted of felony controlled substance. He was sentenced to $1,075, 3 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, maintain employment, cognitive skill training , 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 April 4 – 11:

Dodge County Sheriff's Office

Paige E. Demmer, 22, Hayfield, parking violation, $32; Brandon J. Driscoll, 35, Mantorville, revoked license, $280; Zachary J. Eisen, 22, Owatonna, speeding, $220; Megan J. Hagen, 21, Dodge Center, suspended license and no insurance, $480;

DODGE COURT
Continued on Page 7A

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

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

- Brady Dubose – theft, shoplifting - $1,000 bail
- Scott Dungey – DWI - $3,000 bail
- Angel Duran – assault – no bail
- William Durham – domestic assault - $2,000 bail
- Rosa Dusbabek – controlled substance - $30,000 bail
- Douglas Eckerman – DWI – no bail
- David Ecklund – DWI - $500 bail
- Glenn Ellison – forged check - $1,000 bail
- Jean Enamorado – open bottle - $181 bail
- Carlos Escobar – suspended license - $500 bail
- Ramiro Esquivel – false information - $2,000 bail
- Lance Evan – DWI - $12,000 bail
- Travis Farris – theft – no bail
- Stephen Fehring – theft - $500 bail
- Romero Fernandez – criminal sexual conduct - $200,000 bail
- Oscar Ferrera – DWI – no bail
- Terry Fink – disorderly conduct – no bail
- Raymond Fleming – DWI – no bail
- Luis Flores – traffic - $100 bail
- Rogelio Flores – DWI, revoked license - $12,000 bail

X Slug Here
CYAN MAGENTA YELLOW BLACK REGIST.

Auto insurance discounts for older drivers

Dear Savvy Senior,
I've read that many car insurance companies offer a variety of discounts to older drivers when they retire or reach a certain age. What can you tell me about this?
Discount Seeker

Dear Seeker,
Most auto insurance companies offer policyholders a wide variety of discounts, many of which can benefit retirees. Auto insurers love older drivers because they're experienced behind the wheel and they drive less than younger age groups, which makes them a lower risk for accidents and a safer bet for insurance companies.

While discounts will vary by insurer, many of these benefits can reduce your overall premium by 15 to 20 percent or more, and you are usually allowed to combine discounts to increase your savings, though total discounts are often capped at around 25 percent.

To find out what discounts may be available to you, contact your auto insurer and inquire about these benefits, and any others that may benefit you.

Age discount: Many auto insurance companies offer a general "senior" discount that will reduce your premium just because you've reached a specific age. The actual name and amount of the discount will vary by insurer.

Allstate, for example, provides a "senior adult discount" of up to 10 percent to drivers who are at least 55 years old and aren't actively looking for full-time work. And Liberty Mutual offers a "newly retired discount" to drivers who reach that employment milestone, regardless of age.

Low mileage discount: Most insurers offer discounts to customers who drive limited miles each year, which is often beneficial to retirees who drive less because they don't commute to work every day. The fewer miles you drive, the lower your odds of getting into an accident.

The parameters of low mileage differ by insurer, but generally about a 10 percent discount is available for driving less than 5,000 to 8,000 miles each year, although smaller discounts may also be available to seniors who drive more than this but less than 15,000.

Drivers Ed discount: Many states require insurance companies to offer "defensive-driving" discounts to drivers who take a refresher course to brush up on their safety skills. The discounts vary usually ranging between 5 and 15 percent.

Driver safety courses are inexpensive, usually costing around $20 to $30 and can often be taken in a classroom or online. To locate a class contact your local AAA (aaa.com), which operates a Driver Improvement Course for seniors, or AARP (aarp.org/driversafety, 888-227-7669), which offers the Smart Driver Course to members and non-members.

Club member discount: Insurers offer discounts to members of clubs and associations with which they have partnered. These could include professional associations, workers' unions, large employers or membership organizations such as AAA, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, the Seniors Coalition, AARP, etc. You could even qualify for savings based on the college you attended or the fraternity or sorority you belonged to decades ago.

Safe driving discount: Many insurance providers now offer discounts based on how and when you use your car. To do this, they would place a diagnostic device in your car that transmits wireless data on how you drive (including how fast you're going and how hard you're braking), when you drive and how much you drive.

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.


THE SAVVY SENIOR
Brought to you by: Prairie Manor Care Center
Prairie Manor Care Center & Heather Haus
220 3rd St. NW, Blooming Prairie
583-4434

History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
Tuesday, April 25, 2006
Dan Evans, Publisher

Elizabeth "Betty" Strohfus gave members of the Blooming Prairie Chamber of Commerce (BPCC) a delightful speech on her experiences as a World War II pilot and her wonderful career with the military. She was an instruction pilot for an elite group of women called Women Air force Service Pilots (W.A.S.P.s) and flew every type of aircraft the military had. With gusto, Strohfus shared her passion for flying that started as a teenager flying at the local Sky Club and grew into an adult flying airplanes with four engines.

Mary Kittelson, area Purple Cross representative, was awarded the 2005 Purple Cross Outstanding Agent Award for her accomplishments and commitment to customer service.

20 Years Ago
Tuesday, April 23, 1996
Elsie Slinger, Editor

Millie Hansen, Blooming Prairie, has been recognized as a "top volunteer" in the community in honor of National Volunteer Week. She has given 26 years of volunteer time to the Prairie Manor Nursing Home. Her work has included helping with weekly Sing-A-Longs, ordering greeting cards, helping with trips for residents, and serving coffee. Millie also serves at the First Baptist Church, teaching Sunday school and release classes, and has helped Meals on Wheels for almost 20 years.

Blooming Prairie High School senior Theresa Hatteberg, daughter of Kurt and Suzan Hatteberg, captured the championship in the Serious Poetry division of the MSHSL State Speech Contest.

50 Years Ago
Thursday, April 21, 1966
Victor, Vernon and Vyrle Krejci, Editors

Steele County's 1966 Dairy Princess is Barbara Ann Marie Wencl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wencl, Medford. She was active in 4-H dairy program for nine years and was selected for the high honor at a coronation ceremony at the Ellendale High School auditorium. Over 200 persons were in attendance at a traditional dairy banquet, held prior to the coronation.

Paul Johnson, member of the Blooming Prairie Future Farmers of America Chapter, has been awarded the coveted State Farmer Degree at the annual banquet held in conjunction with the F.F.A. Convention.

75 Years Ago
Thursday, April 24, 1941
Frank Krejci, Publisher

An unknown driver missed the corner near the Catholic Church and crashed

into the electrifier near the water tower in the city park. The car was apparently going at high speed as the machine rammed through the iron light pole as the driver attempted to turn, and the vehicle went on into the park for fifty or more feet, narrowly missing the water supply tank.

The Blooming Prairie Municipal light observed Ten years of distinguished service to the community and power plant, as the giant diesel engines rounded out ten years of uninterrupted power service. Known as "the showplace of seven states" among Midwest municipal power plants, the BP enterprise has established an enviable record for plant performance and financial success.


HughesNet
HIGH-SPEED INTERNET AVAILABLE ANYWHERE
WHY HUGHESNET?
High-Speed Performance
Available Anywhere
No Phone Line Required
INSTANT SAVINGS
FREE Standard Installation*
Speeds up to 15mbps
Packages Starting at $59.99/mo
ALTITUDE
Call for further details
1-800-504-7740

Steele County Times Professional Directory

Accountants
Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
Certified Public Accountant Tamzen R. Johnson
319 East Main Street, Blooming Prairie | 888-933-6828 | Fax: 507-583-2389

Automotive
Koster's CAR KORNER
ROD & TESS KOSTER, Owners
Bus: 507-583-2018 • Fax: 507-583-2317
Hwy. 218 • Blooming Prairie
www.kostercarkorner.com
FOR THAT HOMETOWN PERSONAL TOUCH

Construction
Johnson Construction & Tree Service
Tree & Stump Removal • Trimming & Topping • Tree Moving
Lot Clearing • Backhoe/Skidloader • Hauling General Construction
24 Hr. Emergency Services • Year Round Work • Licensed & Insured
KYLE JOHNSON • 507-583-7592
AUSTIN & BLOOMING PRAIRIE

Dental Care
BLOOMING PRAIRIE DENTAL CENTER
"Dentistry for the whole family"
Jeffrey A. Schwert, D.D.S.
132 2nd Ave. NE
Blooming Prairie ~ 583-6613

Dental Care
Locally Owned
Main Street Dental Clinics
comfortable dentistry
Blooming Prairie: 405 E. Main St. 507-583-2141
Owatonna: 1170 East Frontage Rd. 507-455-1000
Mankato: 287 St. Andrews Drive Suite 100 507-720-0250
Rochester: 3110 Wellner Dr. NE. 507-536-7700
New Richland: 132 Broadway Ave. N. 507-463-0502

Funeral Planning
A Simple, Thoughtful Act of Caring
PREARRANGEMENT & PREFUNDING
507-583-7561
www.worlein.com
Mary Kittelson
NFDA Certified Preplanning Consultant • Licensed Agent - Purple Cross Plans
Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home
418 Highway Ave S. ,Blooming Prairie, MN

Garbage
WALSH Garbage Service, Inc.
319 2nd St. SW • Blooming Prairie
507-583-7562
William P. Walsh, Owner
"A family-owned, hometown business serving the Blooming Prairie community for over 45 years."
Residential & Business Hauling

Garden
GARDEN TILLING & LAWN ROLLING
POP'S GARAGE
LAWN MOWER & CHAINSAW BLADE SHARPENING
Jerry Heimerman
507-213-0829
heimerje@hotmail.com
INSURED

Golf
CLARKS GROVE GOLF COURSE
Try Foot-golf! Family Fun! 9 holes
Adults $7 • 17 and under $5
For membership information visit:
clarksgrovegolfcourse.com
76783 270th St. • Clarks Grove, MN •507-256-7737

Greenhouse
HILLTOP GREENHOUSE & FARM
CALL TODAY FOR VEGGIE CLUB MEMBERSHIP
WE GROW SO YOU CAN ENJOY!
83204 300th Street, Ellendale, MN 56026
507-889-3271
sales@hilltopgreenhouse.com

Insurance
Holman Insurance Agency
For all your insurance needs
Keith & Carol Holman
421 E. Main Street
• 507- 583-7294 •
Independent Insurance Agent

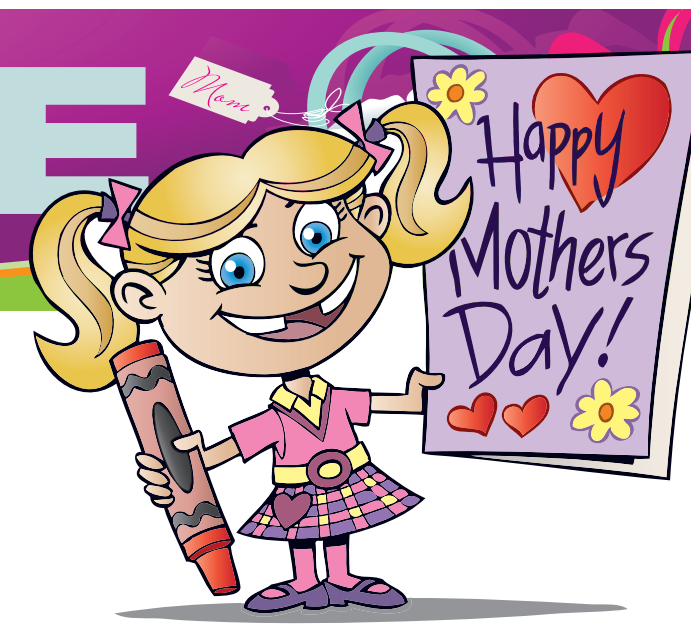
Insurance
Insurance from the Best!
TROY THOMPSON AGENCY, INC.
Troy Thompson LUTCF
1330 W. Main, Albert Lea, MN
Ph: 507-377-2852 F: 507-377-3301
troythompsonagency@gmail.com

Recreation
MINER'S Outdoor & Rec
Outdoor Power Equipment, Golf Carts, ATV, Sales Service, Parts & Accessories
Hwy 218 S.
Blooming Prairie
www.minersoutdoor.com • 507-583-2712

Repair Service
SALINAS AUTO REPAIR INC.
656 3rd St. NE
Blooming Prairie, MN
Robert Salinas
Family-Owned
583-6620

Siding & Windows
J.A. GWILT SIDERS, INC.
Siding & Windows
Lic. #20533878
•Maintenance Free Siding
•Premium Vinyl, Steel & Aluminum
•Custom Trim Work
•Seamless Aluminum or Copper Gutters
•Lifetime Warranty
For Free Estimates Call: 507-583-7413
Now supplying siding for contractors & do-it yourselfers!

GIFT GUIDE



The 411 on Mother's Day flowers

Mother's Day is an annual holiday that honors motherhood and provides an opportunity for men, women and children to show their mothers how much they appreciate them.

While Mother's Day traditions have changed since Jarvis first proposed the holiday, many people feel it's customary to give mothers gifts on Mother's Day, when moms take the day off from chores and relax with their families. Flowers make for popular Mother's Day gifts, and well-wishers who want to give the special women in their lives flowers this year can consider a host of varieties.

Carnations

Carnations are popular Mother's Day flowers, perhaps because they are available in a number of colors. That means it's highly likely sons, daughters, husbands and others gifting moms this Mother's Day can find some carnations in Mom's favorite color. Ask your florist about what each carnation color symbolizes, as each has its own unique meaning. Pink carnations, for example, are believed to symbolize a mother's love.

Roses

Few mothers can resist roses, making them one of the more popular flowers come Mother's Day. Roses are symbolic of love and make the perfect floral gift for mothers who like traditional flowers. If you want to spice things up, order a bouquet made up of roses of various colors.

Daffodils

Yellow is synonymous with spring, and daffodils can highlight the season in which Mother's Day takes place while also providing a cheerful look that's perfect for Mother's Day floral bouquets. Daffodils can be given on their own or added to mixed bouquets. Daffodils also last quite a while when cared for correctly, giving moms more than just a few days to enjoy their bouquets.



495 W. North Street • Owatonna
507-451-8116 • www.cashwise.com

She taught you your numbers early on
I'M GOING TO COUNT TO THREE

Starting at $39 includes free silver charm
This Mother's Day, thank her for an education that has served you well ever since
Kottke Jewelers
Voted BEST Jewelry Store in Southern MN
115 North Cedar Street
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 451-6644
www.kottkejewelers.com
Open T-F 9-5, Sat. 9-Noon

The Oaks
Golf Club in Hayfield
It's worth the short drive
New Memberships 2016
Single - $350, Couple - $450, Family - $550
Limited Membership - $99 per year
Mother's Day Brunch for $16.99, with Mother's eating for 1/2 price. Call 477-3234 for reservations.
507-477-3233
OAKSinHayfield.com
18 Holes of Golf plus Cart & Burger Basket
Mon & Fri Only $23
Must have coupon
73671 170th Ave. • Hayfield



April Hours: M-F 8-6, Sat. 9-4, Sun 11-3 • May Hours: M-F 8-7, Sat. 8-5, Sun 10-4
4003 Crane Creek Rd (Old Hwy. 14) Owatonna
1 Mile West of McDonald's
"Creating your garden one plant at a time."
451-1444
LOCALLY GROWN BY THE SOUBA FAMILY FOR OVER 120 YEARS!

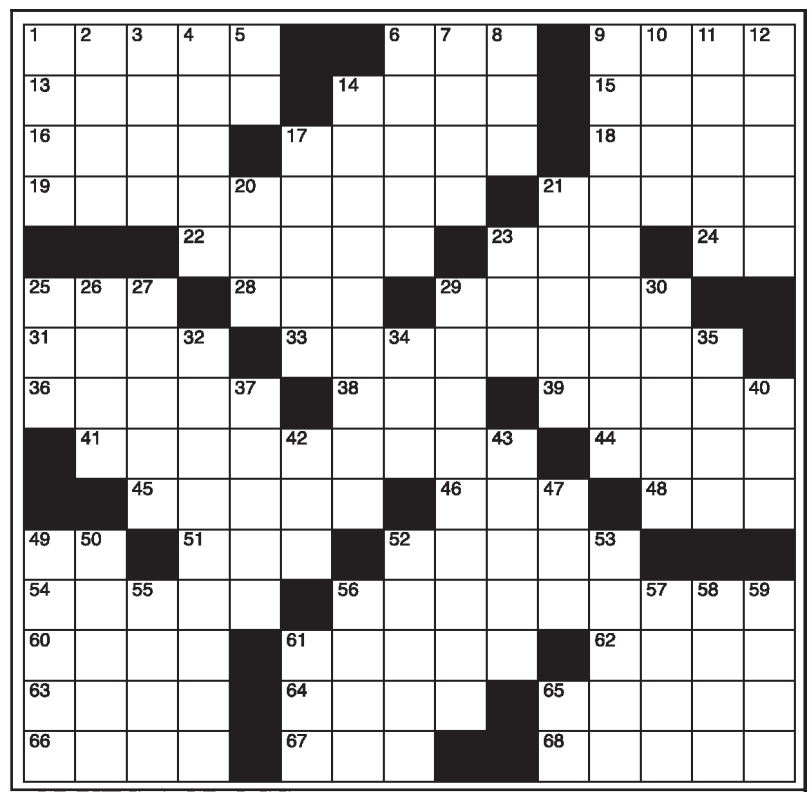
SOUTHERN MINNESOTA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY
for more than 35 years proudly serving
AUSTIN UTILITIES
Blooming Prairie Public Utilities
FAIRMONT Public Utilities
Grand Marais Public Utilities
City of Lake City Public Utilities
LITCHFIELD PUBLIC UTILITIES
MORA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
MUNICIPAL NEW PRAGUE UTILITIES
North Branch Municipal Water & Light
OWATONNA PUBLIC UTILITIES
Preston PUBLIC UTILITIES
Princeton Public Utilities
City of Redwood Falls Public Utilities
rpu we pledge, we deliver
City of Saint Peter Public Utilities
Spring Valley Utilities LIGHT & WATER DEPARTMENT
Waseca Utilities
WELLS PUBLIC UTILITIES
As a non-profit Agency, we have supplied our municipally owned member utilities with wholesale electric power at a fair price since 1977.
Our eighteen non-profit member utilities depend on us for reliable electricity, service they can trust, and long term security.
We look forward to serving your utility far into the future.
smmpa.com

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Answers on Page 10A

CLUES ACROSS

1. Bangladesh capital
6. Ed Murrow's home
9. L. Lamas' mother Arlene
13. 9th Hindu month
14. Barbary sheep
15. Olive genus
16. Repast
17. Into the air
18. Droops
19. Land of Enchantment
21. Yes _____ Bob
22. Gross revenue
23. Scottish woolen cap
24. Initials of "Girls" star
25. WGBH or WNET
28. A. Hamilton
29. Skin lesions
31. Mures river city
33. Phone counselling volunteer
36. Restaurants
38. Deerfield, Il Christian Un.
39. Gland secretion
41. Trace the outline of
44. Give advice, explain
45. Male parents
46. One point N of due E
48. Radioactivity unit
49. Equally
51. "Rubber Ball" singer Bobby
52. 93562
54. Bird confinement status
56. Daniel Boone's state
60. Burn the surface of
61. Hillsides (Scot.)
62. Swiss river
63. Stir to anger
64. Political action committees
65. Ajitesh ___, Cricket player
66. In bed
67. Miles per hour
68. Checkmating game



CLUES DOWN

1. Musical "____ Yankees"
2. "CIA Diary" author Phil
3. Chew without swallowing, as of tobacco
4. Steadies
5. Article
6. Slang for lots of reptiles
7. True toad
8. Be in session
9. For measuring doses of radiation
10. Winged
11. 1770-1831 German Philosopher
12. Emitted coherent radiation
14. Estranges
17. Wheel shafts
20. Take in solid food
21. Indian frocks
23. Hill (Celtic)
25. Singular of 64 across
26. Small nail
27. Strongboxes
29. White dessert wines
30. Curved cavalry sword
32. Dropped off a package
34. __ Farrow, actress
35. Class of comb jellies
37. Begat
40. __ student, learns healing
42. Born of
43. Very dark blacks
47. Midway between N and NE
49. Capital of Ghana
50. Indian term of respect
52. Impart knowledge
53. 4th Hindu month
55. Strong air current
56. Hunting device
57. One who is wise
58. Amounts of time
59. Soft-finned fishes
61. Beats per minute
65. Carrier's invention

GIVE YOUR FINANCIAL PLAN THE ATTENTION IT DESERVES.
Contact us for a complimentary consultation or second opinion – with no obligation.
Specializing in:
Mutual Funds • Unit Investment Trusts
Fixed & Variable Annuities • Stocks
Bonds • Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance • IRAs
ACCENTRA Investment Services

Jay Braaten, Financial Advisor
507-434-3334 400 Fourth Ave. NE • Austin, MN 55912
Registered Representative of INVEST Financial Corporation, member FINRA/SIPC. INVEST and its affiliated insurance agencies offer securities, advisory services and certain insurance products and are not affiliated with Accentra Investment Services. Products offered are: • Not FDIC insured • Not Credit Union Guaranteed • May lose value.

X Slug Here
CYAN MAGENTA YELLOW BLACK REGIST.

DODGE COURT

Continued from Page 4A

Michael A. Hammerschmidt, 37, Dodge Center, parking violation, $32; Kimberly J. Jensen, 25, Dodge Center, cancelled license, $280;
Gary A. Johnson, 68, Dodge Center, parking violation, $32; Siobhan M. McKee, 23, Dodge Center, possession of Paraphernalia, $130; Dale W. Paulson, 66, Hayfield, parking violation, $32; Rebecca J. Schultz, 40, Mantorville, suspended license, $280; Jacob C. Severson, 25, Hayfield, stop sign, $130; Jeffrey P. Short, 51, Kasson, parking violation, $32;
Drew W. Sommers, 22, Rochester, revoked license and speeding, $420; Zachariah N. Tamez, 24, Dodge Center, possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia, $180; Ryan D. Tjepkes, 25, Hayfield, parking violation, $32; Brian V. Vangrevenhof, 37, Rochester, revoked license, $280; Cassandra R. Waldner, 22, Dodge Center, revoked license and no insurance, $480.

Kasson Police Department

Jeanette M. Allee, 54, Hayfield, parking violation, $32; Lance D. Donovan, 20, Rochester, no license in possession and no insurance, $300; Shawn T. Eggert, 45, Byron, parking violation, $32; Trevor C. Harden, 25, Dodge Center, stop sign and suspended license, $330; Kody M. Mayer, 27, Kasson, DWI, $480 and 1 year of supervised probation; Matthew L. Peck, 30, Chatfield, parking violation, $32; Jason H. Watts, 45, Wabasha, plates violation, $110.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Melissa A. Adreon, 34, Dodge Center, speeding, $120; Jacob R. Dean, 33, Claremont, seat belt, $105; Matthew E. Dohrmann, 40, Rochester, failure to apply for USDOT number, $180; Nicholas J. Fritsche, 35, Hayfield, speeding, $140;
Jessica A. Harwood, 40, Kenyon, speeding, $120; Joel W. Lorenz Hansen, 38, Kilkenny, speeding, $120; Lowell H. Mollenhauer, 70, Claremont, speeding, $130; Matthew J. Myer, 41, Dodge Center, speeding, $130; Tyler N. Petit, 22, Plainview, speeding, $130.

West Concord Police Department

Hunter D. Thome, 20, Saint Ansgar, IA, speeding, $140.

OWATONNA FIRE

April 9

Burning. Fire fighters responded to an unauthorized burning in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 8:10 p.m.

April 12

Smoke. Fire personnel worked on removing smoke in the 300 block of Cedardale Dr. SE at 11:09 a.m.

April 14

Fire. At 12:03 a.m., fire fighters responded to a grass fire on 46th St. NE.

RECIPE CORNER

Orange-Cranberry Salad

- 1 pkg. raspberry jello
- 2 c. hot water
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1/2 orange, unpeeled
- 2 c. cranberries
- 1 can crushed pineapple

By Mrs.Ruben Carlson

Dissolve Jello in hot water, stir in sugar. Cool. Put orange, including peeling, and cranberries through a food chopper. Add the fruit, including all the juices. Put in a mold and let set.

Sponsored by:
Krejci Ford
14th Presidents Award Winner
Blooming Prairie • 583-2046

CFS
CENTRAL FARM SERVICE
4-H & FFA Show Clinic
Monday, April 25, 2016

4-H and FFA youth are invited to attend a Show Clinic for:
BEEF, SWINE, SHEEP & GOATS

Purina Feeds Show Animal Specialist **Tracy Coffland** & Purina Feeds Swine Specialist **Ed Hubly** will talk about how the right feeding program can make the difference between a purple or blue ribbon.

Monday, April 25, 2016
Blooming Prairie Senior Center
134 3rd St. SE • Blooming Prairie, MN

6:00 p.m. Registration
6:30 p.m. Clinic begins

***Parents are encouraged to attend.**

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE!
RSVP NOW TO MAXINE CURLEY:
mcurley@cfscoop.com
or
507-525-4241

Join us for Food, Fun & Prizes!!!

***Sign up for the CFS Youth Awards Program and learn how you can win cash prizes!**



PURINA HONOR SHOW CHOW
Sponsored by CFS CENTRAL FARM SERVICE

Ag & Truck Tire
Mike's REPAIR
We also offer Aluminum Wheel Polishing
Sales & Repair
Michelin • B.F. Goodrich • Firestone
870 32 Ave. NW, Owatonna • 455-0388
Emergency or on the farm repair
507-455-0388
(After hours 507-455-0483)
MICHELIN Firestone BFGoodrich TAKE CONTROL STEINBAUER

JENSEN AUCTIONS
JENSEN AUCTIONS

ANTIQUES
GUNS
FISHING EQUIPMENT
HOUSEHOLD
(2) LAWN TRACTORS

GUNS SELLING AT NOON

LAWNMOWERS SELLING AT 12:30

LOCATION: 909 Mineral Springs Rd., Owatonna, MN

Sun., April 24, 2016 10 A.M.

HOUSEHOLD



Whirlpool 4.3 cu. ft. HE top load washer (white, 2 mo. old); Frigidaire 30" gas stove (white); Whirlpool gas dryer; Frigidaire 14.1 cu. ft. frost-free upright freezer (white); Crosley top freezer refrigerator (white, like new); Absocold shop refrigerator; round oak table w/4 chairs; (2) Captain's chairs; 3-Piece 50s bedroom set; (2) Table lamps; Dirt Devil Easy Steamer (new); Plant stands; (2) End tables; (2) Floral design loveseats; (2) Rocker recliners; Single bed & mattress; Sears sewing machine; Dirt Devil Deluxe upright vacuum; TV trays & stand; Fern stand; Bentwood rocker; Small metal round table w/4 chairs; Sewing basket; Lots of canning jars; Knickknacks; Misc. glassware; Many other items not listed.

ANTIQUES



Norwegian Rosemaling trunk, 20"x40"x16" (was Leonard's parent's); Antique oak side by side secretary drop front desk bookcase; Oak corner hutch; Oak commode w/claw feet; Oak knee hole dresser w/chair; Oil lamp; Oak sewing rocker; Telephone desk w/seat; Records 33 & 45; Oak youth desk; Small drop leaf table; (2) Cane bottom chairs; Owatonna Elevator thermometer; Oil lamp w/shade; 1-Gallon stone jug; 4 Gallon Red Wing crock; National No 80 washboard; Single washtub w/stand; Double washtub w/stand; Hand corn planter; Mantle clock w/claw feet; Kraut Cutter; Pine depression glassware; Green depression glassware; Heritage Lefse Grill w/board, cloth & rolling pin; (12) Archer 2-cycle oil in metal cans, qts.; Chicken on nest; (3) Larger roosters; Decoy ice spears; (2) Jim Hansel prints (cabin & barn); Large print w/frame by Herb Booth; (2) Old Style lighted beer signs; Old Style pool table lighted beer sign; (6) Grain Belt lighted signs; (4) Bar stools; Hamm's glass pitcher; Grain Belt glasses; Lots of beer glasses; Conoco 5-gallon gas can; (2) Ice fishing spears



GUNS

J.C. Higgins model 20, 12 ga. Shotgun, SN58359 (nice); Overland (Rossi) 12 ga. Double barrel 20" short barrel shotgun, SNT147150; Remington Improved model "6" 22 rifle, 20" barrel (nice), SN474932-CPX; Llama .380 cal. pistol, SNB24936 (requires permit to purchase).



LAWN AND GARDEN & TOOLS

JD model 325 (1999) L & G Tractor w/48" mower deck, 18 HP, hydro, power lift, 863 hours, 1-owner, w/42" snow thrower, also includes weights, chains (nice); Craftsman 16 HP lawn tractor w/42" mower deck, automatic, lights, w/bagger (looks new), 1-owner; Fimco 15 gal. lawn sprayer (pull-type); Earthway lawn spreader (pull-type); 42" Lawn de-thatcher; Garden wagon; McCulloch FR2.0 14" chainsaw; McCulloch Silver Eagle 14" electric chainsaw; Remington electric pole saw; Skilsaw 1612 gas chainsaw; Homelite HB290 leaf blower; Homelite ZR gas weed whip; Sears 2 HP 12 gal. air compressor; Craftsman tool chest & top box; Power Mate 1200 PSI pressure washer (cold water), like new; 12 Gal. Shop Vac; Craftsman 8" table saw; 16' Aluminum flag pole; 5' Butcher block shop bench; Homemade fish cooler w/drain; Lots of hand tools; Johnson Sea Horse 4 HP boat motor with tank (10 hrs. of use only); 20+ Rods & reels; Lots of fishing tackle; 8' Fiberglass step ladder; Stanley 18' fibe glass ext. ladder; Troy-Bilt 2600 PSI pressure washer w/Honda motor, less than 5 hr. run time; Hose reel; Folding sawhorses; Lawn chairs; Folding tables; Roof rake; Log chain; 2.5-Ton floor jack; 1-Ton floor jack; 5' Bench vise; Buffalo 6" bench grinder; (3) Hedge trimmers; Large fi e pit on wheels; Weight set; New tow rope: Cybex exercise bike (like new); Coleman metal cooler; Hitachi 18V grill & light w/case; New ceiling fan; Ice auger; Craftsman 14.4 screwdriver set w/case; 1-Ton chain hoist; Handyman Jack; C-Clamps; Brady 3/8" to 1 ¼ Wrench set; (2) Battery chargers; (2) Schwinn 3-speed women's bikes; Lots more at sale date.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Leonard and Eleanor have lived at this home for 60+ years. But now has come the time to move into a small apartment, so we are selling all their nice items. Don't miss this day!! Thanks, Dennis.

Lunch and portable toilets available.

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

Leonard and Eleanor Johnson owners
909 Mineral Springs Road, Owatonna MN 55060

JENSEN AUCTIONS
Auctioneers Dennis Jensen Lic. #74-15, 507-456-1210
Larry Lee, Lic. #19-65

View auction on: www.auctionsgo.com (search by Jensen)

JENSEN AUCTIONS 507-456-1210

WET BASEMENT?
• Wet Basement?
• Basement Wall Bowed?
• Foundation Settling?
• Driveway/Concrete Slab Sinking?
• Radon Testing & Mitigation
FOUNDATION CRACKED?

AMERICAN WATERWORKS ★ Basement Systems ★
FREE ESTIMATES
FINANCING AVAILABLE
TOLL FREE 1-800-795-1204
www.american-waterworks.com
5% OFF Your Next Project (Cannot be combined with any other offers)



FREE Lifeline Service
Available for Income-Eligible Residents

If you participate in public assistance programs or meet monthly income level guidelines, you may qualify for a free phone* + 250 Minutes & Unlimited Texts.

To apply visit www.enroll.accesswireless.com

Free phone is provided by Access Wireless. Access Wireless is a service provider for the government-funded Lifeline Assistance program. Lifeline assistance is provided by i-wireless LLC, d/b/a Access Wireless, an eligible telecommunications carrier. Lifeline service is non-transferable. Lifeline benefits are limited to one per household. A household is defined, for the purposes of the Lifeline program, as any individual or group of individuals, who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Violation of the one-per-household rule constitutes violation of FCC rules and will result in the customer's de-enrollment from Lifeline. Only eligible customers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain a Lifeline benefit can be punished by fine, imprisonment, or can be barred from the program. Customers must present proper documentation proving eligibility for the Lifeline program. Your information will be validated against public records and any discrepancies could result in delays or denial of service.

access WIRELESS
A government-funded Lifeline Assistance Program.





YOUR AGRI CONNECTION

FARM LIVING PLUS

www.steeledodgenews.com

Eight steps to being a safe machinery operator

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION

Spring is a reminder of a new start and for me, farm safety. Farm safety is so important to those working in agriculture, their families, and those using rural roadways. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website has numerous resources related to workplace safety and health topics. Every day, there are 167 agricultural workers who suffer a lost-work-time-injury. Five percent of these injuries result in permanent impairment.

Although agriculture is safer than it once was, it still ranks among the most dangerous industries. Those working on farms risk fatal and nonfatal injuries, work-related lung diseases, noise-induced hearing loss, skin diseases, and certain cancers from prolonged sun and chemical use. Many of the mechanical, chemical, and environmental hazards increase the risk of accidents. There were 374 farmers and farmworkers who died from work-related injuries in 2012. The leading cause of death for farmers and farmworkers was tractor overturns.

Unfortunately, we continue seeing injuries and fatalities in the agricultural industry and often they can be prevented. Almost everyone working in the agricultural area knows of someone who has been injured or has died as a direct result of a farming accident. Farm equipment is safer than it used to be, but there are still injuries and fatalities that can occur.

Kansas State University Research and Extension highlight eight simple steps to be a safe machinery operator in their publication called "Machinery Safety on the Farm".

1. Be aware. Recognize where and what the hazards are.

2. Be prepared. Replace worn parts promptly and do daily pre-operational checks. Include preseason checks. Take advantage of the off-season to do additional maintenance work. This gives you time to order any shields and other parts you may need. Anticipate problems.

3. Read the operator's manual. The simple tips and precautions in this publication are no substitute for the operator's manual for each piece of machinery. If the manual is missing, contact your dealer or check online to get another one.

4. Shield all moving parts. Make the machine as safe as possible.

5. Respect PTO and hydraulics. Remember that any machine that is powered by a power takeoff driveline (PTO) or has hydraulic systems is inherently dangerous.

6. Shut it off. Before servicing any machine, disengage the PTO, turn off the engine, remove the key, and wait for all parts to stop moving.

7. Watch yourself. Try to avoid particularly hazardous jobs if you're physically ill or mentally distracted. Fatigue and stress cause many accidents.

8. Use a machine only for its intended purpose.

Often youth are utilized to help out with the farm work. Be sure to look out for their interests by keeping them safe. In 2012, an estimated 14,000 youth were injured on farms, 2,700 of these injuries were due to farm work. On average, there are 113 youth less than 20 years of age that die annually from farm-related injuries, with the most prevalent age group being those from 16 – 19 years of age. Of the leading sources of fatal injuries to youth, 23% involved machinery (including tractors), 19% involved motor vehicles (including ATVs), and 16% were due to drowning. Be safe in your work and look out for the safety of others as well.

Updates to corn fertilizer guidelines for 2016

ON THE FARM



Karen Anderson

The University of Minnesota State Extension Soils staff has updated the corn nitrogen guidelines for highly productive non-irrigated soils. These guidelines still use the maximum return to nitrogen approach. The updated nitrogen guidelines reflect additional sites of nitrogen response data collected starting in 2011 through 2015. The guidelines in Table 1 are for corn grown on non-irrigated soils in southern Minnesota.

Now is the time to plan your nitrogen management for 2016. The first important question is how much nitrogen should I apply? University of Minnesota N guidelines listed in Table 1 should be a starting point. The amount of N to apply depends on four factors, 1) productivity of the growing environment, 2) previous crop, 3) price of fertilizer N to value of corn crop ratio, and 4) amount of risk a grower wants to assume.

Table 1. Guidelines for use of nitrogen fertilizer for corn grown on soils considered to be highly productive when supplemental irrigation is not used.

N Price/Crop Value Ratio	corn/corn		corn/soybean	
	MRTN	acceptable range	MRTN	accepta
	lb. N /acre			
0.05	200	175 to 225	140	125
0.10	160	145 to 175	120	105
0.15	150	140 to 160	105	95 t
0.20	140	130 to 150	95	85 t

*In order to calculate the MRTN (maximum return to nitrogen) where the economic net return to N application is maximized. First calculate the ratio of the price of N per pound to the value of a bushel of corn. An example calculation of the price/value ratio is if N fertilizer costs $0.33 per lb N or $541 per ton of anhydrous ammonia, and corn is valued at $3.14 per bushel, the ratio would be 0.33/3.14 = 0.10.

The primary adjustment in the new guidelines is an increase in nitrogen rates. For corn following soybean, the old rate for the 0.05 price ratio is now the rate for the 0.10. A major change in the guideline for corn following corn at the 0.05 price ratio which is greater than was used for past guidelines.

One question this winter has been why there is a 40 lb difference in the nitrogen rate between the 0.05 and 0.10 price ratio. That difference manifested itself with the addition of the most recent data. Many of the University of Minnesota recent studies have shown that corn following corn will respond to nitrogen well up to 200 lbs of N or more but the efficiency of the N is very low. This means that the increase in yield produced per pound of N applied is very small. To put this in perspective, there is only a 1% difference in yield between the rates for the 0.05 and 0.10 price ratios for the corn following corn rates.

A more in-depth discussion of the recently nitrogen guidelines may be found in a University of Minnesota Crop News article: http://z.umn.edu/cornfertilizerupdate. For any additional information please refer to the University of Minnesota Extension Nutrient Management website http://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/nutrient-management/. Much of the work that went into modification of the current guidelines was funded through checkoff dollars from the Minnesota Corn and Minnesota Soybean Growers and the Minnesota Agricultural Fertilizer Research and Education Council.

Source: Dave Nicolai, Extension Educator, Crops, UMN Extension

Get the right combination for a better health plan

Whether you're looking for an individual health plan or a plan for your company, you have the right combination with your local Farm Bureau agent and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota. Expert service and outstanding health plans.



Darrell Ingvaldson, LUTCF
Brownsdale
507-567-2296

MN For the health of all.

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Authorized independent agent of Blue Cross® and Blue Shield® of Minnesota, a nonprofit independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Let Us Put A Drainage Project Like This On Your Farm



We can also help you with:
- Aggregate Products
- Waterway Cleaning
- All Excavation Projects
- Hauling
- Septic

LOKEN



Excavation & Drainage, Inc.

Call Dallas for all your Drainage Needs!
507-451-2873
Toll-Free 1-855-298-2568
3695 Hoffman Drive NW • Owatonna • loken@qwestoffice.net



SunOpta™
Grains and Foods Group
Hope • Ellendale • Blooming Prairie



Minnesota Crop Report:

Warm and dry conditions allowed Minnesota farmers to begin planting in earnest, with significant progress in planting small grain acreage during the week ending April 17, 2016, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Over one-half of the sugarbeet acreage was planted during the week, resulting in the largest percent of the crop planted by this date on record. There were 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork. Field activities for the week included spreading manure, applying anhydrous and fertilizer, and planting.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 3 percent very short, 18 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 12 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus. Warm and windy days have raised concerns about topsoil moisture in some areas.

Thirteen percent of Minnesota's expected corn acreage has been planted, 8 days ahead of the 5-year average and 3 days ahead of last year. Forty-six percent of the oat acreage has been planted, 17 days ahead of average, but only one day ahead of last year. Twenty-three percent of the spring wheat acreage has been planted, which is equal to the 5-year average, but 5 days behind last year. Fourteen percent of Minnesota's barley acreage has been planted, which is slightly behind average. Potatoes reached 11 percent planted, slightly ahead of average.

Pasture and hay ground are beginning to green up and pasture condition was rated 4 percent very poor, 16 percent poor, 44 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Respondents report that fall seeded forages look good and that alfalfa appears to have wintered well.

Minnesota Crop Report is sponsored by:
Owatonna • Belle Plaine • Hollandale • Northwood, IA • Osage, IA
agpowerjd.com
AgPower ENTERPRISES

X Slug Here

CYAN MAGENTA YELLOW BLACK REGIST.



YOUR AGRI CONNECTION

FARM LIVING PLUS

www.steeledodgenews.com

Farmers sought for water-quality certification program

Local producers are encouraged during April to contact Mower SWCD office

Mower County farmers and agricultural landowners whose conservation practices are protecting water quality have a new opportunity from the state offering formal recognition and regulatory certainty.

Those interested farmers and landowners are encouraged during April to contact the Mower Soil & Water Conservation District to learn more or start the process for the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP), which aims to show that the state's farms and waters can prosper together.

Under the voluntary program, those who implement and maintain approved farm management practices that benefit water quality will be certifie by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. They also then obtain regulatory certainty for a 10-year period in which they are deemed in compliance with any new water-quality rules or laws.

Certified farmers and landowners also can use their status to promote their ag business as protective of water quality. They will get field signs to show friends and neighbors how they care for Minnesota's waters.

"Water quality is a major focus right now in Minnesota, and this new program is a great way to recognize farmers who are meeting the state's expectations for water quality," said Steve Lawler, Mower SWCD resource specialist and the lead contact for the program in Mower County.

MAWQCP is tailored to each farmer's individual operation and can help everyone from a small organic farmer to a large conventional crop farmer make improvements benefitting water quality.

Producers seeking certific - tion also can obtain specially designated technical and fina - cial assistance to implement practices that promote water quality. MAWQCP certifie farmers and landowners through a comprehensive whole-farm assessment that puts producers together with SWCD staff to determine where risks to water quality exist on their farm, and empowers them to fix those risks when found.

Through the program, Minnesota citizens get assurance that certified producers are using conservation practices to protect the state's lakes, rivers and streams.

MAWQCP began in four pilot subwatersheds and recently became available to farmers statewide. It is offered by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Local conservation professionals are working with several hundred farms seeking certification across Minnesota. To date, the program has certifie 110 farms, covering more than 64,000 acres and generating 229 new conservation practices.

Farmers interested in seeking certification should contact Mower SWCD at 507-434-2603 or go to www.mowerswcd.org or www.mylandmylegacy.com to learn more.

Mower Soil & Water Conservation District

Since 1953, Mower SWCD has provided land and conservation services to Mower County landowners to help manage lands in a way that promotes a sound economy as well as sustains and enhances natural resources that are key to the state's environmental health. Mower SWCD is one of Minnesota's 91 SWCDs each are governed by an elected board.

MN Ag Water Quality Certification

Benefits of certification

* Regulatory certainty for a 10-year period of certification.

* Formal recognition for implementing practices that protect water quality.

* Increased priority for technical and financial assistance to implement best management practices.

Minnesotans receive:
Assurance that certified producers are managing operations in a way that does not harm water quality.

Minnesota Corn Growers, U of M Bee Lab partner with pollinator-friendly tips

As farmers take to the fields for spring planting, the Minnesota Corn Growers Association (MCGA) and the University of Minnesota Bee Lab are reminding farmers to keep their farms as pollinator-friendly as possible.

"By taking some simple precautions, farmers can continue making a big difference in protecting pollinating insects like bees and butterflies," said Noah Hultgren, a farmer in Raymond, Minn., and President of MCGA.

Both MCGA and the Bee Lab recommend the following while planting:

•Minimize dust. Follow planter manufacturer instructions when using treated seed to minimize abrasion. When possible, use deflector equipment to direct exhaust toward the ground.

•Timing. Apply pesticides near bee colonies at dawn or dusk, when bees are not flying

•Prevent drift. Spot spray pests when possible and prevent drift during application. Follow federal guidelines found on insecticide labels and do not allow insecticides to drift onto flowe - ing plants.

•Low toxicity. When possible, use pesticide formulations with low toxicity to pollinators, particularly bees.

According to Marla Spivak, a MacArthur Fellow, Distinguished McKnight Professor and Extension Entomologist with the U of M's Bee Lab, honey bees forage 3 miles or more, on average, around their colony every day when temperatures are above 55 degrees.

"It is important beekeepers and farmers have an open line of communication about insecticide use," Spivak said. "Beekeepers cannot move their bees or close them up to prevent exposure to pesticides, so it is important for applicators to follow the label and not apply bee-toxic insecticides, or allow them to drift onto flowers while bees and other pollinators are foraging during the day."

Spivak also highlighted the importance of working together.

"Farmers and beekeepers can coordinate activities if there is good communication between them," she said. "Beekeepers understand the need to control crop pests, and they welcome the opportunity to work together with farmers to ensure effective management of row crop agriculture while protecting and maintaining the health of bees."

MCGA and the Bee Lab also suggest taking the following steps to make your farm more pollinator-friendly:

•Floral resources. Plant abundant, diverse and appealing floral resources in areas in and around your farm, and keep those flowers from pesticide drift and contamination. Examples include forbs, shrubs and blooming trees. Use small and large spaces in the farm landscape to create habitat

•Plant diversity. Add pollinator-friendly plants along buffers near waterways, fallow fields, set-aside acres, field and road borders, ditches and wetlands.

•Inter-seeding. To increase species diversity, introduce pollinator-friendly plants into existing stands of grass.

•Grouping. Group individual flowers together to provide easier and more efficient access for bees.

For more information on pollinator-friendly planting practices and making your farm more accessible to pollinating insects, go to mncorn.org/research and click on MCGA's Pollinator Guide. Information from the Bee Lab is available at beelab.umn.edu.

With more than 7,200 members, MCGA is one of the largest grassroots farm organizations in the United States. The U of M's Bee Lab conducts research to promote the health of bee pollinators.



Steele County Livestock Hall of Fame nomination deadline May 2

May 2 is the deadline date to submit nominations to the Steele County Livestock Hall of Fame. Induction of the Hall of Fame inductees will take place on Tuesday afternoon, August 16, at the Steele County Free Fair.

Nominees will be considered based on impact/influence upon the livestock industry; county, state and national…(county being the priority), leadership in the livestock industry, length of livestock and/or community service and other relevant contributions or accomplishments of this nominee.

Nomination forms are available at the fair office or on the fair website at www.scff.org.







Renting Forklifts, Construction and Warehouse Equipment

Bringing the world's best forklifts to this area!
We have for rent or purchase forklift trucks from Toyota, Sellick and Kalmar

Service, Sales, Rentals and Parts. Your Region's One Stop Material Handling Source

Visit our new location in Byron MN. We are located at 1526 Voll Drive NW. We would be happy to show you through our showroom and fully equipped service area.



Toyota-Lift of Minnesota

507-444-0063 - 844-351-3777
www.ToyotaEquipment.com

CFS
CENTRAL FARM SERVICE
Building a STRONGER Cooperative TOGETHER
WFS Working for Farmers' Success
CentralValley COOPERATIVE
CORPORATE OFFICES:
233 W. Ciro St. • Truman, MN 56088 • 507.776.2831
900 30th Place NW • Owatonna, MN 55060 • 507.451.1230
Coming soon . . . cfscoop.com
Grain • Agronomy • Energy • Feed • Financing

Community

Obituaries

Jeanette C. Underwood, 84, Owatonna



Jeanette C. Underwood, 84 of Owatonna, formerly of Blooming Prairie, died Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at Traditions II of Owatonna.

Jeanette was born July 24, 1931 in Blooming Prairie Township, to Anhart and Ina (Hjelman) Hansen. She grew up in Blooming Prairie and graduated with the class of 1950 from Blooming Prairie High School.

Jeanette worked for a short time as a nanny, and then on October 25, 1952 she was united in marriage to Ronald L. Underwood in Las Vegas, Nevada.

For many years Jeanette was employed as a bookkeeper and cashier at Super Valu in Blooming Prairie. She loved sewing, gardening, cooking, wintering in Texas and spending time with family and friends. Jeanette was a long time member of Eastern Star, the Legion Auxiliary and First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie.

Jeanette is survived by her children, Brent (Roxanne) Underwood of Owatonna, Craig (Debbie) Underwood of Bloomington, Kurt (Terri) Underwood of Blooming Prairie, Corine (George) Hausen of Faribault; siblings Carol Wright of Austin, Robert (Judy) Hansen of Blooming Prairie, Marie Seykora of Owatonna, Eileen Peterson of Waseca, Helen (Virgil) Mehus of Rushford, Ann (Dale) Anderson of Ellendale, Karen (Wayne) Freiheit of Stewartville, Jim (Pat) Hansen of Austin, Judy (Dave) Livingston of Dodge Center, Gary (Lu) Hansen of Blooming Prairie, Terry (Robin) Hansen of Owatonna; sister-in-law Lois (Kenneth) Winzenburg; 13 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; a host of relatives and friends.

Jeanette was preceded in death by her parents; husband Ronald L. Underwood (August 14, 2005); brothers Axel Hansen and Dean Hansen; brothers-in-law Ralph Wright, Stu Hansen, Jim Seykora, Clayton Peterson; sister-in-law June (Richard) Trom.

Funeral services were held at on April 18, at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. Interment will follow in the Blooming Prairie City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to First Lutheran Church or recipient of donor's choice. Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

Dorothy F. Herron, 94, Bloomington



Dorothy F. Herron, 94, of Bloomington on April 9, 2016.

Mom was an avid golfer and traveled all over the world with her husband Larry. She loved dancing, card playing and bowling.

Husband, Lawrence, preceded her in death. Survived by children, Charlene Herron-Jordan, Gary (Judi), Don (Carolyn), Tammy O'Hearn, Bernie (Sandy); 14 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Kathy Herron; sister, Liz Fredrickson; sisters-in-law, Marilyn Fiebiger, Marilyn Herron; brother-in-law Bill (Annette) Herron.

Services were held at an earlier date. Interment Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Memorials preferred to Nativity of Mary Church or Donor's choice.

Dorothy's family gives a special thanks to Terese Hoelzer, her primary caregiver during her last year.

Birth

Milo Rudolph Koebele



Milo Rudolph Koebele was born February 8, 2016.

His parents, Sean Koebele and Kate Suchomel, welcomed him along with big brother Oliver, all of Minneapolis.

Maternal grandparents are Anne & Bob Suchomel of Byron. Paternal grandparents are Georgiann and Bruce Musolf of Kasson and Mark & Deanna Koebele of Ettrick, Wisconsin.

Milo is lucky enough to have two great-grandmas, Nancy Dukart of Tucson, Arizona and Madonna Koebele of Kasson.



Submitted Photo

Yet Another Birthday!

Otilla Anderson, formerly of Blooming Prairie and now from Mankato, celebrated yet another birthday this past week. Which one? Well, try 106. That's right, Otilla is 106 years old. She is pictured with her sister-in-law, Nobie Haberman of Blooming Prairie.

Otilla's family gathered for a big celebration Sunday afternoon in Mankato. Up until last year, Otilla lived on her own in an apartment, but has since moved to a nursing home after she fell and broke her hip. Happy birthday, Otilla!

Weekly crossword *on Page 6A*

PUZZLE SOLUTION

D	A	C	C	A			C	B	S		D	A	H	L
A	G	H	A	N		A	R	U	I		O	L	E	A
M	E	A	L		A	L	O	F	T		S	A	G	S
N	E	W	M	E	X	I	C	O		S	I	R	E	E
			S	A	L	E	S		T	A	M		L	D
P	B	S		T	E	N		S	O	R	E	S		
A	R	A	D		S	A	M	A	R	I	T	A	N	
C	A	F	E	S		T	I	U		S	E	B	U	M
	D	E	L	I	N	E	A	T	E		R	E	D	E
		S	I	R	E	S		E	B	N		R	A	D
A	S		V	E	E		T	R	O	N	A			
C	A	G	E	D		T	E	N	N	E	S	S	E	E
C	H	A	R		B	R	A	E	S		A	A	R	E
R	I	L	E		P	A	C	S		A	R	G	A	L
A	B	E	D		M	P	H			C	H	E	S	S

Milestones

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

April 19
Grady Steckelberg
Rachel Winzenburg
Donald L Bakke
Pam Doerhoefer

April 20
Rosa Rivera-Escondon
J J Stenzel

April 21
Ken Esplan, Ron Janning
Peter Vogt, Mary J Demmer
Kyle Spinler, Syerrah Martinez

April 22
Amy Schieck, Cindi Hansen
Marian Christianson
Elizabeth Miner

April 23
Jan Miner, Diane Jensen
Karl Steckelberg
Luke Heimgartner
Miles Miller

April 24
Kelly Braaten, Jane Gardner
Gladys Burr
Ada Mae Konecne

April 25
Brad Clark, Coleen Hanson
Laura Iversen, Clay Coleman
Shawn Blome
Cooper Weinberger
Leo Rendahl

April 26
Angela Noble, David Kramer
Matthew Worke, Marge Ilk
Mellisa Johnson
Missy Korman

April 27
Thomas Kramer
Margaret Noble

Anniversaries

April 20
Paul & Jennifer Wayne

April 22
Steven & Amber Brandt

April 24
Peter & LeAnn Vogt

April 25
Jason & Debbie Williamson

April 27
Linn & Shirley Thoen

Milestones is sponsored by:

Best kept secret!
Deli Sandwiches Daily Specials
ALL COME WITH A COOKIE & CHIPS
Tuesday - Ham
Wednesday - Turkey
Thursday - Your Choice
Friday - Beef
The Bakery
Main Street • Blooming Prairie • 583-4433

SEMCAC senior menu

April 19: Wild Rice Soup, BBQ on Bun, 3 Bean Salad, Watergate Dessert

April 20: Baked Chicken, Baked Dumpling/Gravy, Broccoli, Carrot Coin Salad, Flavored Ice Cream

April 21: Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Stewed Tomatoes, Homemade Wheat Roll, Melon Wedge

April 22: Hamburger on Bun, Potato Salad, Calico Beans, Fruit Cocktail Cake

April 25: Beef Stroganoff Over Noodles, Green Beans, Mixed Greens Salad, Rhubarb

April 26: Salisbury Steak, ALT: Liver & Onions, Baked Potato, Seasoned Peas/Celery, Pears in Caramel Sauce

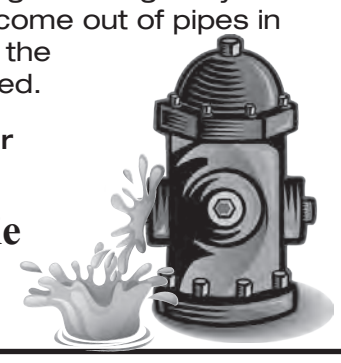
April 27: Cabbage Rolls, Green Beans, P/A Slices w/ Cottage Cheese, Tapioca Pudding

NOTICE
City Hydrant Flushing
APRIL 19-22

All city fire hydrants in Blooming Prairie will be flushed on Tues., Wed., Thurs., and Fri., April 19-22, beginning at 7:30 a.m. and continuing until 4 p.m., weather permitting. Flushing of hydrants can cause some rust to come out of pipes in areas; particularly where the water system is not looped.

Thank you for your cooperation

Blooming Prairie Public Utilities



ILLE ESTATE SALE
516 Memorial Drive SW
Blooming Prairie, MN
SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD
9:00 A.M. -2:00 P.M.
SUNDAY, APRIL 24TH
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Tons of Antique Glassware, Dept. 56 Villages, Oak Table, Love Seat, Full Bed, Books, Kitchenware, Chairs, Shelving, Silver, Linens, Corner Room Inventory, Norwegian Stitchery, Holiday Décor, Wheelchair and much, much more.
CandaceWilliamsEstateSales.com ◆ 507-261-5384

Jensen Heating, A/C, & Plumbing
Registered Showroom
24 hour service for all your plumbing & heating needs
We'll treat your home as if it were our own.
THE BOLD LOOK OF KOHLER
256•4712
Geneva, MN
TFN

Dean's SMOKE SHACK
Let's Get Some Grilling Done!
◆ Marinated Tri-Tips
◆ Dill Pickle Burgers
◆ Hot Dogs & Brats
◆ Fresh Local Salads
What are you waiting for?
Make the short drive to see us!
104 E. Main St. • Geneva, MN • 507-256-0025
www.deanssmokeshack.com

Vandal's FAMILY MARKET
Prices Good 4/19-4/25
Prairie Fresh Bacon Wrapped Pork Loin Kabobs $6.99
Turkey Valley Ground Turkey 4/$5 1LB
Prairie Fresh Whole Pork Tenderloin $3.59 1LB
Powerade Sports Drink 79¢ 32oz
Prairie Fresh Back Ribs $3.99 LB
Check out OUR DOLLAR Selection!
237 Hwy Ave. S. Locally Owned & Operated 507-583-6671

Area Church Reading



Pastor's corner

From the novel: *In The Always*

Would you change your affairs if you knew that you were dying, and would you forsake love, knowing that even its power couldn't change the mind of death? Unfortunately, there are some that believe that love has the power to alter our appointed time, but in essence, it remains a virtue that alters life and not death. To rightly discern love, perchance it may touch a soul that was left to your care, is an unselfish act of your will.

Do you know that from the moment you were created, you began to die?

Love is for the journey. It's borrowed, and entrusted to you so that you may keep it alive, so that at your passing, it will live and bring strength for the ones you leave behind. For those who inevitably will learn to carry this torch to the next generation.

I think that we all come to a point in our lives when we feel that love is not susceptible to the elements. We say boldly that, "love conquers all." We know that love is many things. It is patient. It's kind. It can withstand suffering and injustice, and it's gentle.

It waits and hopes when others give up, it does not envy, and it's not proud. It's mature. Its wisdom comes from years of experience, it will not blow its own horn, it will not lift a hand in anger, it does not judge.

It does not cheer on iniquity, but rejoices in truth.

It is said to bear all things, it believes all things, it hopes all things, and endures all things. You can not have faith without its working power, and it never fails.

But, I say that it is susceptible to the elements of this frail existence, and for all the wonderful and noble things it is, at times, it cannot be hailed as a conquering hero.

To all the authors who have penned phrases about love, I would not have the audacity to take away or dispute the writings from their hearts, which I believe is the home mailing address for love.

I do know this; that love cries, and it smiles out loud. It hurts, and it heals. It drives men to the very brink of disaster as easily as it can guide them through a stormy sea.

It can cause great things to be done, as well as infamous acts. It will lead you to either the act of fighting windmills or drawing water.

The fear of love and what it will cost us to keep it alive can make cowards of us all. The intensity from which it emanates can at times be almost too much. Almost. Too much. To exist without wishing to give or receive love takes a spirit of cowardice. It is a coward's will that rivals tempered steel.

It takes a visionary to live in the love, knowing full well the choices and perhaps the consequences. Without a vision… the people will perish. Few come to the full reality that once your heart has been touched by love, you cannot look to go back.

Area Church Schedule



Lutheran

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 38th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696
9 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
10:15 a.m. Sunday School

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
588 S.E. 118th St., Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worshp 10:45 a.m.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
434 First St. SW., Blooming Prairie
Charles Leonard, Senior Pastor
Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor
(507) 583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
8953 S.W. 37th Ave., Hope
Pastor Sandy Miller
(507) 451-3854
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday School,
Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH —LCMS
4532 S.E. 84th Ave., Claremont
The Rev. Alan Broadwell
(507) 528-2404
sjlcoffice@frontiernet.net
www.peaceclaremont.otshost.org
Weekly Church Service
Saturday Evening (Starts September 19th) 6 p.m. Sunday Morning Services held at 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion Offered each Saturday Evening Service and 2nd & 4th Sunday Service of each month. Sunday School - starts September 20th at 9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS
28959 630th Ave., Sargeant
The Rev. Ronald Prigge
Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

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

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

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

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

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165
Worship 8:30 AM
Sunday School 9:30 AM

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

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2781 S.W. 92nd Ave., Meriden
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165
Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship 10:30 AM

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

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

Catholic

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

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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St. Hayfield
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 477-2256
Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.
Reconciliation: Before Mass
Adoration: Tuesdays 9 to noon

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC PARISH
114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 583-2784
stcolumbanuschurch.com
Reconciliation: 4:30 p.m. Saturday
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5:15 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 a.m. Sunday.
Adoration: Mondays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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

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

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer
The Rev. Brian Sutton,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588
www.sacredheartowatonna.org
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., & 10:30 a.m.
Spanish Mass: 1 p.m. Sunday
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday
Adoration: Thursdays 9 a.m.- 10 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
512 S Elm, Owatonna
507-451-4845
Rev. Edward F. McGrath. Pastor
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: Vigil Sat. 4 p.m.
8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Reconciliation 3-3:30 p.m. Saturday
Daily Mass Tues.-Sat. 8 a.m.
Adoration in Chapel - 24 hours each day

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING
205 NW Second Ave., Medford
(507) 451-6353
The Rev. Edward McGrath,
Parochial Administrator
Sunday Mass: Vigil Saturday 5 p.m., 10 a.m. Sunday
Monday Mass: 8 a.m.

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH
Deerfield
507-451-4845
The Rev. Edward McGrath,
Parochial Administrator
Sunday Mass 8:30 a.m.
Easter thru Christmas
Winter at Christ the King, Medford

Christian

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

Methodist

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Medford
(7 miles west of Medford on CR 23)
Pastor Cindy Kennedy
(507) 835-8726
Service: 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday

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

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Worship: Sunday 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Non-Denominational

BRIDGES OF HOPE- LANSING
26875 539th Ave., Lansing
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Addictions program-
Fridays at 7 p.m.
Worship service-
Saturdays at 5 p.m.

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
303 North Cedar Ave, Owatonna,
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Sundays 10:00 AM
enter through Owatonna Fit Lab

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

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

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

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

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

Mennonite

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

Mormon

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

Presbyterian

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

Seventh-Day Adventist

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

UCC

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

Assembly of God

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

Baptist

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

LERBERG'S FITNESS CENTER
118 5th Ave.
Ellendale
507-684-2471
Andy & Mary Lerberg

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

FLOOR TECH
322 East Main St.
Blooming Prairie
507-583-2276

ALYSNE CONTRACTING CORPORATION
3249 N County Road 45
Owatonna
507-451-7121

Garlick's Water Conditioning
Sales • Service • Rentals • Leasing
Kinetico home water systems
800-722-1282
www.garlickswater.com

Koster's CAR KORNER
FOR THAT HOMETOWN PERSONAL TOUCH
Hwy. 218
Blooming Prairie
507-583-2018

Steele County Times
Always local, all the time.
411 East Main Street
507-583-4431

KERNEL Restaurant
1011 Hoffman Drive
Owatonna
507-451-2585
www.kernelrestaurant.com

Vandal's FAMILY MARKET
Locally Owned & Operated
237 Hwy. Ave. S.
Blooming Prairie
507-583-6671

FARMERS INSURANCE
Michael Bishman
121 W. Broadway St.
Owatonna, MN 55060
Phone: (507) 451-0193
Fax: (507) 451-6640

Steele County Times
Always local, all the time.
411 East Main Street
507-583-4431

CLAREMONT SERVICE CENTER
Service Center:
507-528-2233
After Hours Towing:
507-456-4158
111 Front Street
P.O. Box 282
Claremont, MN

Express EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS
www.expressowatonna.com
507-455-3002
800-832-3002
812 S. Elm Ave.
Owatonna, MN 55060

Owatonna GRANITE & MONUMENT
"Creating Your Story in Stone"
1180 Frontage Rd E • Owatonna
507-455-9551
www.owatonnagranite.com

REALIFE COOPERATIVE
Vibrant Living For Individuals 55 & Older at a Reasonable Price
Call Jon Arnett @
455-3735 for a tour
236 22nd St. SE • Owatonna

Jensen Heating, A/C, & Plumbing
We'll treat your home as if it were our own.
507.256.4712
104 Central Ave. N., Geneva
THE BOLD LOOK OF KOHLER Registered Showroom





TRUE OR FALSE?
ANIMAL CRUELTY PERTAINS ONLY TO PETS.

ANSWER: FALSE, LIVESTOCK AND WILD ANIMALS ALSO CAN BE VICTIMIZED BY ANIMAL CRUELTY

What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A



B



Answers: 1. Sneakers have darker trim 2. Toy missing in cage 3. Sign says "Friend" 4. Shirt has polka dots

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY



- **1901:** NEW YORK BECOMES THE FIRST U.S. STATE TO REQUIRE LICENSE PLATES ON AUTOMOBILES.
- **1944:** THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND IS INCORPORATED.
- **1959:** THE SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY OPENS TO SHIPPING. THIS SEAWAY LINKS THE GREAT LAKES AND THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.

New Word

CRUEL

causing pain or suffering

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Pet

SPANISH: Mascota

ITALIAN: Animale

FRENCH: Animal de compagnie

GERMAN: Haustier

Did You Know?

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES SAYS THAT MANY CASES OF ANIMAL CRUELTY ARE NEVER EVEN REPORTED. SPEAK UP IF YOU WITNESS AN ANIMAL BEING MISTREATED.

PREVENTION of ANIMAL CRUELTY MONTH

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: GUINEA PIG

This section is sponsored by these local businesses

Steele County Child Care Association

If you are looking for licensed child care and would like a free referral or if you are licensed provider looking for trainingor support, please call Diane 451-2775 for more info.
www.steelecountychildcareassociation.com

FAMILY FUN GUIDE

A Family Affair Crafts 3rd Annual
New Richland Spring Craft & Vendor Show
Saturday, April 26
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
New Richland High School
South Gym
Breakfast & Lunch Available
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Godfathers Pizza Fireman's fundraiser
**Same Day as the City Wide Garage Sales **
A wide variety of crafters and vendors attending!
For more information, contact
Sara Jo Vulcan 507-327-5837

Summer Reading Program
Blooming Prairie
Monday, June 6 • 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Blooming Prairie Branch Library
138 Hwy. Ave. S. • Blooming Prairie • 507-583-7750



Kid's Korner EDUCARE CENTER INC.
Ages 6 WEEKS to SCHOOL AGE
Enriching FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN
EDUCATING TODAY for a Brighter Tomorrow.
$50 OFF NEW ENROLLMENT
600 Florence Ave, Owatonna • www.kidskorner.org • 507-451-0312



SMILE!
LOWEST FEES
EXCEPTIONAL RESULTS
BEST FEE GUARANTEE

Did you know AGE 7 is the recommended age for A CHILD'S FIRST ORTHODONTIC EVALUATION?
Schedule your child's FREE smile evaluation today!

KingBraces.com • Faribault 507.332.0022 • Owatonna 507.446.9000

Hometown Living

B Section | www.steeledodgenews.com | Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Fireworks expansion bill

3 of 4 area legislators support expansion

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

KABOOM!! BANG!!

No, those sounds are not utterances from a Batman movie. They actually signal sounds that will be more prevalent if Minnesota House of Representatives legislation is moved to Gov. Mark Dayton's desk for signature.

The House on a 75-56 vote Monday, April 11 passed a bill to expand the state's list of legal fireworks.

The bill has yet to pass through committees of the Senate. The bill is sponsored in the Senate by Sen. Torrey Westrom, R-Elbow Lake.

If it passes the Senate, the bill then goes to Gov. Dayton's desk for signature. Many are speculating that Dayton will veto the fireworks bill. "A veto is very possible," said Matt Swenson, press secretary for Dayton. Dayton vetoed a similar bill in 2012. That bill did not have a provision allowing local control.

Rep. Jason Rarick, R-Pine City, is the main author of the bill which would give city and township officials the option of continuing a ban locally.

Of the four area State Representatives, three, all Republicans, voted in favor of the House bill. Casting "aye" votes were: Rep. Peggy Bennett, R-Albert Lea, District 27-A; Rep. Brian Daniels, R-Faribault, District 24B and Rep. John Petersburg, R-Waseca, District 24A.

Rep. Jeanne Poppe, DFL-Austin, District 27B voted against the bill.

Rarick's bill would make it legal to sell "aerial and audible devices" like bottle rockets, Roman candles and firecrackers. Currently, state law allows only sparklers and other novelty devices to be sold legally in Minnesota. Legislation authorizing minimal fireworks sales was authorized during Gov. Jesse Ventura's administration in 2002.

Supporters of the Rarick bill say it will boost the state's economy.Rep. Bennett said she voted in favor of the bill because it allows local governments to determine if fireworks should be allowed to be used in their area. "As well, the bill does limit the size of fireworks sold in the state," she said.

Rep. Daniels was a co-author of the fireworks bill. The bill allows sale of aerial and audible fireworks in Minnesota from June 1 through July 10 of every year, Daniels said. The bill adopted in the House would give local municipalities the ability to charge a license fee for sellers as well as prohibiting the sale of fireworks in their communities, Rep. Daniels explained.

Local control over the fireworks was the key component appealing to Rep. Petersburg. He said if the bill becomes law, it will have a positive impact on local economies. Petersburg said he shares other legislators' concerns about safety precautions.

Rep. Poppe voted against the bill and said she did not know what path the legislation will take through the Senate and to the governor's desk. She said she believed the governor may veto the bill.

Rep. Petersburg is optimistic and says "there is a good chance" Gov. Dayton will sign the bill.



Staff photo Howard Lestrud

Warmer spring temperatures have finally allowed Steele County farmers to get into their fields and do some preparatory field work for the 2016 growing season. Here, Butch Lembke drives a John Deere tractor pulling a 50-foot tiller.

Saddle up and ride on

By ANNA SEGNER
Staff Writer

No one is more excited for spring than the students of Morning Glory Hill Stable and Riding School northwest of Blooming Prairie, the only riding school in Steele County.

Dan, Leona and their daughter Mary-Rose Suchanek run the stables and riding school.

Dan has lived at the farm for his whole life, and he has been married to Leona for 40 years. When Leona moved in, she brought her horse Nickers that her father gave to her as a gift.

Her passion grew, as she started giving riding lessons 30 years ago to neighbor kids that were curious to learn.

"It grew from there. Soon I was giving lessons three days a week," said Leona. After riding for her whole life, it took a bit of pulling a part and re-examining the steps that had become so natural to her in order to teach.

Last year, they had over 40 students learning and expanding their riding skills. Camp Pillsbury visits Morning Glory Hills three times a week.

The Suchaneks have about 30 horses, but there are ten horses that board there. The horses live a happy life at Morning Glory Hill stables and riding school, as they have plenty of attention and area to roam.

When it comes to lessons, the personality of each horse is matched with the student, something that Suchaneks find very important when matching a beginner to a horse.

"Usually really slow horses usually get matched with beginners. We don't want the horse to scare the kid or vice versa," said Leona. "We walk around with them on the horse, and pretty soon they are riding by themselves."

Leona said that it strengthens the rider's skills to ride different horses. "You can get too comfortable riding one horse," said Leona. "That is how Mary-Rose got to be so good, from riding all of the different horses here."

At the start of a lesson, students have responsibility to groom and put the saddle on the horse. "A lot of time kids want to help. These 'chores' are part of learning to ride a horse," commented Leona.

During the lesson, students learn everything about riding a horse, including mounting the horse, steering, and directing the horse. Posture and balance are two major aspects for students to maintain.

Beginners learn to walk and trot the horse. Beginners II learn to do more advanced trainings. Obstacles and games are played to strengthen skills.

Mary Rose said that her favorite part about teaching is watching the students catch on to ideas. "Their faces light up once they get something down," she said. "Seeing them win is priceless."

"The little ones' faces get so intense when they are concentrating," laughed Leona.

All students are required to wear proper clothing, boots with a heel, and an equestrian helmets. Each rider is required to have a signed liability waiver.

While students are completely safe, accidents do happen. "When a kid falls off a horse, they have to get back on," said Dan. "It is just like riding a bike."

The school has an unpaid apprentice program for students 16 and older. "It gives them an opportunity to learn more," said Leona. She said that the apprentice program prepares students to be qualified to work in stables at various summer camps.

10th grader Elizabeth Deml has been taking lessons at Morning Glory Hill for about eight years, and she is considering the apprentice program to expand her equestrian skills.

"I love working with animals and horses," said Deml. "I have learned so much here."

Morning Glory Hill also offers day camps and birthday parties, where kids have the opportunity to learn about and ride horses.

6th grader Gabby Trenda has been riding since she was small. She first started when she attended a birthday party at their stables. She said that with some begging to her parents, she convinced them that she should take lessons. "I've been here since," she said. "I love it. I love horses."

Each year, Morning Glory Hill hosts a horse show in August. Leona said that this is the students' opportunity to show their parents and family what they have learned. Everyone celebrates the year at the show with a potluck.

The Suchaneks admit that their favorite part about running the stables and riding school is, without a doubt, the kids.

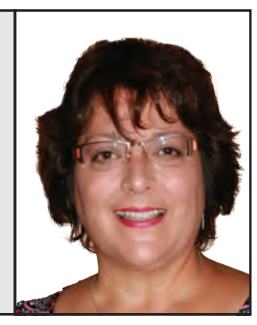
"This is the best combination of my two favorite things: kids and horses," said Leona. "It is very rewarding. You get to watch these kids grow up. What could be better than that?"



Students receive high honor

Marissa Larson and Kaci Gwilt were recently inducted as members of the Phi Kappa International Honor Society (the worlds largest and most prestigious honor society for two year colleges).Both students are BPHS juniors attending Riverland Community College as full time pseo students.

STEELE TALKIN'



JANE NYQUIST

Air in Steele County just got cleaner

On January 26 the Steele County board of Commissioners adopted the Steele County Clean Indoor Air Ordinance #39 which prohibits electronic delivery devices, more commonly known as e-cigs or e-cigarettes from being used everywhere conventional tobacco products (cigarettes and cigars) are prohibited by the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act.

The purpose of the ordinance is to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the people of Steele County from the adverse effects of unregulated e-cigarettes.

Electronic delivery devices produce an aerosol of undetermined and potentially harmful substances which may appear similar to smoke emitted by conventional tobacco products. Their use in workplaces and public places, where smoking of conventional tobacco products is prohibited, creates concern and confusion and leads to difficulties i enforcing smoking prohibitions and may also renormalize the act of smoking.

Many people think these products are safe. These devices aren't regulated by any official agenc . Studies performed on them show they contain nicotine which is highly addicting and harmful to the developing brain of our youth. They also contain carcinogens and other toxic chemicals such as antifreeze. Manufacturers are not required to disclose any ingredients in the products. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that electronic delivery devices not be used indoors, especially in smoke-free environments, in order to minimize the risk to bystanders of breathing in the aerosol emitted by the devices and to avoid undermining the enforcement of smoke-free laws.

This ordinance applies to all of Steele County including Owatonna, Blooming Prairie, Medford, Ellendale, and Hope. These cities can adopt more restrictive measures to protect their citizens from the dangers of electronic delivery devices if they so choose.

Certain refillable electroni delivery devices (e-cigs) can also be filled with marijuana meth, and heroine – any drug in a liquid form. This should concern worksites who allow e-cig use on their premises.

Business proprietors have responsibilities relating to this ordinance. They shall make reasonable efforts to prevent the use of any electronic delivery device in the public place, public transportation, place of employment, or public meeting by posting appropriate signs or by asking people to refrain from using these products indoors.

Tobacco retailers may not allow smoking for the purposes of sampling tobacco, tobacco-related devices, or electronic delivery devices in their stores. This is called sampling and it is prohibited under this ordinance.

Jane Nyquist is a health educator with Steele County Public Health, 507-444-7650. To learn more about tobacco free living, go to www.4cornerspartnership.org

Blooming Prairie Living



Staff by Howard Lestrud

The Blooming Prairie Country Club Board of Directors meets monthly at the club, located three miles north of Blooming Prairie. Shown from left to right are: Jeremy Doerhoefer, Tony Motl, Melody Benson, Aaron Ressler, Lori Lysne, Kyle Strunk, Barb Waggie (clubhouse manager), Roger Hanson (course manager) and Kurt Blome.

Still putting at 81 years old

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

A lot of moving parts are necessary to run the Blooming Prairie Country Club and those parts have been in motion since the clubhouse opened on Thursday, March 31.

Warmer temperatures late last week brought more golfers to the nine-hole course, one of the more popular courses located in southeastern Minnesota. The BP Country Club was founded in 1935, thus this year marks the 81st opening for the course. The clubhouse was built in 1976.

"We try to make the course look nice and better every year," says Kurt Blome, president of the BP Country Club Board of Directors. The board met on Tuesday of last week to address golf club business and meets monthly.

Board members include Kurt Blome, president; Tony Motl, vice president; Melody Benson, treasurer; Lori Lysne, secretary; Aaron Ressler, club pro; Jeremy Doerhoefer and Kyle Strunk.

Barb Waggie is clubhouse manager in her third year and Roger Hanson is grounds manager in his sixth year. Hanson directs a crew including Ken Behnken, Alan Benson and Andrew Hardecopf. The crew has been working on the course since early April. "Their work is critical and they do a great job," said Blome about the grounds crew's work.

"The course survived the winter very well but a cold spell in early April set us back a bit," said Hanson.

Behnken mows the roughs and Benson takes care of the greens, tees and fairways. "Anything and everything" is how Hanson describes his duties at the golf course. Prior to joining the BP Country Club crew six years ago, Hanson worked 10 years at the Green Lea Golf Course in Albert Lea and logged five years at the Austin Country Club.

The country club is open from 8 a.m. until sunset. Opening will be an hour earlier at 7 a.m. beginning in mid-May, says Waggie.

The club has a roster of 140 members and always encourages new members including younger golfers to join, says Waggie and Ressler. Golfers come from Blooming Prairie, Owatonna, Austin, Albert Lea, Medford and from other surrounding communities.

A special new member package is offered to adults at $19.99 a month for 10 months. These memberships require a cart to be rented. Youth memberships for BP residents are available at $50 for the season. College students can also take advantage of a special membership at a cost of $125 for the season.

Ressler says he plans to run junior camps again, ages five and up. He also gives private lessons for adults. Ressler will give lessons at the course and also at the site of his simulator range downtown.

"Many people are threatened by golf and many be embarrassed by their play but golfers should realize they don't have to hit every shot," Ressler said. "It's a sport that people can carry with them the rest of their lives," Ressler added. "Golf is time consuming but also very rewarding," Ressler said.

Men's League play begins at the BP Country Club on Monday, May 2. Women's League action starts on Wednesday, June 1. A special pancake breakfast is planned for Sunday, May 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. A three-person scramble begins with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

Other season highlights include: Tuesday, June 7, KC/Masons Dinner; Saturday, June 18, 4-Person Fun Tournament; Saturday, July 2, 2-person scramble; Wednesday, July 20, Chamber outing; Saturday-Sunday, July 23-24, Men's/Women's Junior Club Championship (members only); Wednesday, Aug. 3, Women's Cancer Tournament; Sunday, Aug. 7, Couples Tournament; Saturday, Aug. 13, Calcutta Tournament, 2-person scramble and Sunday, Sept. 10, 2-person 6-6-6 Tournament (best ball, scramble, alternate shot -- flighted -- end of year prizes with discounts on food and beverage

The BP Country Club is well known for its quality food. "It has the best food ever," says board member Lori Lysne. A complete bar menu is offered with appetizers, burgers, sandwiches and Friday night specials (Memorial Day through Labor Day).

The club, available for private parties including graduations, offers 3.2 beer sales and byob.



Staff by Howard Lestrud

30 years of spirits

Harvey and Nancy Farr are owners of J & H Liquor's of Blooming Prairie. They hosted a special customer appreciation day to celebrate their 30th year in business in BP. J & H Liquor's is a Chamber member.

Harvey and Nancy are active in their community and on local organizations. Harvey is currently president of the BP Lions Club.

DESIGN/DRAFTING POSITION

We are seeking (Experienced) customer-focused draftsperson to work with our residential contractors. Residential experience a must Requirements:

- **Be self-motivated, able to create and sustain business relationships.**
- **Able to organize and complete many tasks and take responsibility for the results.**
- **Able to design complete plans for residential and light commercial construction. (Soft-Plan software)**

We offer generous benefits and extraordinary 401(k) match

Apply in person or send resume to:

Arrow Building Center
102 1st SW, Kasson, MN, 55944
mhennessey@abc-clc.com
Fax: (507) 634-4770

Prairie Manor Care Center — Quality Care with Small Town Touch

Prairie Manor Care Center is seeking a

PART TIME HOUSEKEEPER

- Weekdays
- Every 4th Weekend
- Some Holidays

Inquire at 507-572-6194 or fax 507-583-2401.
Email gsnyder@prairiemanorinc.com or apply in person at Prairie Manor, 220 3rd ST NW, Blooming Prairie

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"



Achieving a state of ease

The word "disease" comes from "diss" and "ease". You're sick when your body lacks "ease". Your body's "ease" is directed by your nervous system - The focus of chiropractic care.

Prairie Family & Sports Chiropractic

The City of New Richland

will be accepting "sealed bids" for a 2008 Chevrolet Impala 4 door sedan – Police package, without lights, siren and graphics. Mileage is 108,000. Payment to be made by certified funds. Any questions or to arrange to view vehicle, please contact (507)-465-3514 or wbilling@cityofnewrichlandmn.com.

Deadline for bids is Monday, April 25, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. Sealed bids will be opened at the Council Meeting, Monday, April 25, 2016. The City of New Richland reserves the right to refuse any or all bids.

WE'RE CELEBRATING 21 YEARS
of helping Blooming Prairie live pain free

Don't waste another minute suffering from:

- Headaches
- Chronic Pain
- Ear Infections
- Bed Wetting
- Auto/Work Injuries
- Personal Injuries
- Lower Back/Neck Pain
- Carpal Tunnel

We have 21 years of experience helping people say goodbye to headaches, neck pain, back pain, stiffness, soreness and sleepless nights. We'll help you too!

NEW PATIENT SPECIAL
$21 Includes Consultation, Complete Examination and X-Rays!
Valid April 11 - April 22
All additional services billed at our customary fees.

Prairie Family & Sports CHIROPRACTIC
Chad M. Eischens
Doctor of Chiropractic/Certified D.O.T. Medical Examiner
www.drchad.org
507-583-2271
Toll Free: 866-537-2423
344 East Main Street
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

Blooming Prairie Cancer Group

Cancer Corner

Support the fighters, Admire the survivors, Honor the taken.

Everything's coming up pink

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

You might say that pink is Manami Holmes' favorite color.

Manami, a Blooming Prairie resident, is a cancer survivor and wears pink every chance she gets to demonstrate her support for the pink ribbon, an international symbol of breast cancer awareness. She has fought endometrial cancer and breast cancer.

Manami even has a pink wig. She has worn it on special occasions, one notable appearance in her pink wig came at her two granddaughters' volleyball tournament in Plymouth. She purchased the wig on Amazon.com after seeing someone wear a pink wig on a Home & Family TV show.

"If you can't have a little fun, it makes the battle against cancer a bit tougher," Manami remarks. She and a friend have also participated in a 5K breast cancer awareness walk and have worn survivor shirts proclaiming Manami's team as Manami's Minions.

Mananmi is often asked to explain the meaning of her name. "My mother was Japanese; it means pure beautiful waters and a promise." Manami came to the United States from Japan when she was five years old with the help of an act of Congress. Her mother died 17 years ago in Elgin, Illinois.

Manami and her husband Everett moved to Blooming Prairie from Milltown, WI in 1984. Her father moved to Blooming Prairie in 2000.

Her initial bout with cancer came in 2006 with endometrial cancer. Seven years later in May of 2013, she was told she was cancer clean. Two months later, she learned that she had breast cancer. "I was not prepared to fight cancer again," she said.

After a biopsy was taken and said to be malignant, Manami underwent a single mastectomy. Her surgery lasted 13 hours.

Her recovery went well with nine weeks of chemotherapy at the Owatonna Clinic and five weeks of radiation in Rochester. "I put on lots of miles going for treatment but the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group was very helpful," Manami says. Cheri Krejci of the BP Cancer Group gave Manami gas cards and a bag of hats. "I also never expected to get a fruit basket at Christmas from the Cancer Group," she says with appreciation.

Manami finished treatment in August of 2014 and rang the bell happily to signal the end of radiation, she says.

Manami opted for reconstruction and faces one more surgery. Her surgery is slated for August. But before surgery, Manami, 68, is determined to go water skiing with family in Cumberland, WI this summer. Manami says she received an OK to ski from her surgeon, Dr. Nguyen Tran, Mayo Clinic. She has been water skiing since age 19.

Manami and husband Everett will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this November. "He asked me to marry him on our first date, a blind date," she recalls. She responded, "Before dinner or after dinner." She and her husband hope to celebrate their anniversary with a trip to Hawaii next year.



Manami Holmes of Blooming Prairie has been fighting two forms of cancer since 2006 and is winning the battle.

Manami and Everett have four children, 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Another great grand child is coming in July.

Currently, Manami is working as office manager for Keith Johnson Construction Co., Blooming Prairie. She previously worked at Federated Insurance as a claims processor.

Talking about her favorite things to do, Manami says she loves her grand kids, loves to garden and enjoys sewing. She also officiates volleyball.

In her battle with cancer, Manami says she tries to be encouraging to her friends who are also battling the dread disease. "We pray for each other," she says. "I've lived a good life but I want to keep living," Manami confides.

Sponsored by **Krejci** Ford

'Medford Squadron'

brings vision to reality for Veterans Memorial

Story and photos by Mark DeLap



Ronald "Butch" Schultz stands next to the Medford Stone which was delivered and set last Thursday in Medford. Schultz standing with tears in his eyes remarked, "It's almost done."

No man left behind and no man left without a memory. That is the creed and the challenge of those who survive the battles and the rigors of protecting this country. They live to honor those heroes who never made it home alive and those who did.

Such is the group of veterans in Medford who would not let their own go gently into oblivion. "It had to be done," said Butch Schultz, U.S. Army veteran and leader of the newly dubbed "Medford squadron." These veterans took a vision and turned it into the reality of Medford Veterans Memorial. It was a way of bringing the memory of the dead back to life and to preserve the names of those who remained and who had fought so valiantly to carry on.

Before Thursday, the cement slab and sidewalk had been completed, the lighting had been installed, the memorial benches were set, the donor sign was erected and welded and the two massive stone tablets with the names of those Medford veterans etched upon them were in place. The names are accompanied by the branch of the service they served in. Some are names of soldiers past, some present, and there is room left for those who will one day honor Medford by choosing to be a part of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Veterans who wish to have their names upon the tablets must submit their information to the veteran's committee. The information is then verified with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and once confirmed, the etching price is $250.

Last Thursday, "The Medford Stone" arrived into the city just before 9 a.m. as another completed puzzle piece for the Veterans Memorial. The stone, which is a five-sided granite monument weighing over 10,000 pounds was delivered by a flatbed truck, and offloaded with a special crane that could accommodate lifting and setting a stone of that girth. The crane was donated by Metcon of Faribault, MN and the stone itself was set by John Heerema, president of Owatonna Granite and Monument Company along with Brad Woods of Sunburst Memorials out of St. Cloud.

Each branch of the military is represented with an etching on a side of the polygon along with a round bronze plate that haloes that etching.

This entire project was a monumental task. It began in 2013 and now, with the placing of the stone, it is nearing completion. There are yet, cement eagles that are being delivered and perhaps two smaller tablets that will hold additional names. Landscaping is also planned for later this Spring by Nagel Sod and Nursery.

> "One person told me that it couldn't be done."
>
> ~ Butch Schultz

"We're looking to get an eagle on the top of the stone," said Schultz. "We are hoping to get that done within the month." For a while, there was a question as to what was going to grace the top of the stone and the committee agreed that the eagle would be the perfect topper. It will be a grand addition to the two cement eagles that will eventually sit as stone sentries on either side of the entrance to the memorial. There is also an eagle taking flight over each one of the flags that fly above the monuments.

The stone itself cost $28,000, the memorial benches were $1,200, and each of the stone tablets were over $5,000. Although the original plan was to raise $70,000, Schultz said that the figure would probably be closer to $80,000 once everything was completed.

"We don't owe anything," Schultz said. "We wanted to make sure that we purchased things that we had money for."

For a project of this magnitude to be close to completion in just three years time is a testament to the committee, the city council and the community itself. It wasn't without its challenges, however.

"I got the idea for the memorial when I visited my nephew in Long Prairie," said Schultz. "They have a pretty spectacular memorial, complete with even a helicopter. The moment I saw it, I knew that we had to do something in Medford.

"It was quite a fight. One person told me that it couldn't be done. That made me mad and I made up my mind that I was going to do it just to spite him."

It may have been a bit tongue in cheek, but at times it is that exact adversity that causes something to rise up in each of us and drives us to accomplish greatness. This accomplishment certainly falls into that category along with the dedication of the veterans committee in Medford.

The Veterans Memorial site which currently resides at the corner of Third Street Northeast and Second Avenue Northeast was originally going to be set downtown, but the town could not gain access due to a railroad easement. It was just another challenge in the journey of the vision and an attestation to the grit of those who wouldn't take "no" for an answer.

It was hard to be patient. It was hard to believe that finally the dream in theory would turn to a vision of reality. Schultz certainly is not just a dreamer, but is, in fact, a visionary. A visionary finds a way to drive the project from the dream to the real.

Thursday morning came and Shultz's daughter Heidi Langeslag said that he was up and dressed at 3 a.m. The moments couldn't move fast enough. Just a few hours later, the truck and crane were in position and Schultz watched in amazement as the stone was strapped and moved into position. A group of a few dozen family, veterans and community members also joined the audience for the impressive display.

As Schultz stood next to the newly set stone, tears came to his eyes as he said, "I couldn't have done this without the help of these guys (the veterans committee) and the support of the community. He pointed to the donor sign and continued, "And without them, this could have never happened."

Langeslag commented about her father, saying "I don't know what he's going to do with himself now that this is done." Knowing Schultz, it will be another grandiose plan for Medford and another reason for the community to be proud of all it accomplishes.

For more information about the Medford Veterans Memorial, you can go to their website at: http://www.medfordminnesota.com/council/medford-veterans-memorial/

Also, to see a video of the first dawning on the Medford Stone, please visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ctV51yc0S8





Above: Just before dawn in Medford, the Veterans Memorial is illuminated for all who wish to come and pay tribute to the veterans of Medford who served in the United States Armed Forces.

Left: John Heerema watches as Brad Woods directs the crane operator to bring the stone "a little bit right" in preparation for touchdown.

Below: The Veterans Memorial flags fly high against the backdrop of the special crane donated by Metcon of Faribault.



Owatonna Living

Greater Minnesota Gas to put line in Hope

By ANNA SEGNER
County Staff Writer

Greater Minnesota Gas Inc. is doing work in Steele County, and came before the Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, April 12 to answer any questions that the Steele County Commissioners might have about the line being placed in Hope.

Greater Minnesota Gas is a natural gas distribution company based out of Le Sueur, Minnesota. GMG serves approximately 20 counties in the state.

The company has been working in Steele County for about ten years, but they mainly serve rural agriculture areas and now the small community of Hope.

President and CEO of GMG Greg Palmer said that GMG has reached an agreement with Crystal Valley Co-Op to run a six inch line through Hope to their elevators.

A four inch line is also going beneath the railroad track to support potential businesses along the highway. GMG aim for lines to be at least three feet deep.

Therefore, most residents and businesses of Hope will soon be able to gain access to natural gas.

Palmer said that the whole project is about a $1.5 million dollar investment in Steele County. He reported that natural gas is important because it saves customers a lot of money on annual energy bills.

Palmer said that residential access to natural gas can save a customer approximately $500 to $1,000 on their annual energy bill. Businesses save 20 to 40 percent on their annual energy bills in comparison to the cost of propane.

"In addition to that, there is also the reliability issue because there has been some changes in the propane infrastructure in the state," said Palmer. "It took some of the flexibility out of the propane gas delivery system. Natural gas system is much more flexible, especially for the agricultural market."

Natural gas' economic impact on an area is vast.

"If you look at the kind of projects we do in general, communities reduce their energy costs by $250,000 to a million dollar a year in energy costs," he said. "They do it in a way that allows them to keep the money locally, so they can reinvest it in their business, tuition for their kids, and can spend it at the local restaurant."

Their lines are primarily driven by agriculture; however, Palmer said that if there is a residential customer along the line, they can provide access for those customers.

Palmer said that the number one goal of GMG is safety, and he said that they will work with absolutely every necessary entity to make sure that all work is done safely around their pipelines.

Severe weather season is upon us: Be prepared

By ANNA SEGNER
County Staff Writer

Awareness of severe weather can save lives. That is the message that Dave Purscell of Steele County Skywarn shared with employees of local companies at the Steele County Safety Council meeting on April 13.

Many probably noticed the tornado sirens sounding on April 14 at 1:45 and 6:55 p.m. Purscell said that those sirens were sounding throughout the state to test first and second shift tornado drills at workplaces. It is also important, he said, to discuss tornado drills with the family.



"It is an important drill to participate in," said Purscell. "Even if you've done it, it's good to refresh."

Despite the past couple years being milder in terms of severe weather, Purscell said it is important to keep those emergency plans active.

Steele County sees two major severe weather types, winter storms and severe thunderstorms. Given the time of year, Purscell focused on severe thunderstorms.

He shared that at any given time, approximately 2,000 thunderstorms are taking place somewhere on the earth. Of those 2,000 thunderstorms, less than 1% end up being severe.

The severity of the storm is decided if there is hail one inch in diameter and wind is at or above 58 miles per hour.

Besides winter storms, severe weather starts as early as March and can last as long as into November. Purscell said that the peak is late May, June and July time period.

"There is chance for severe weather anytime, day or night, so it is very important to be aware of them," he said.

Within the state of Minnesota, not a single county has not had a tornado at some point since 1955. "There aren't any spots within the state of Minnesota for tornados," he decided upon looking at the map.

2010 was a rough year for severe weather, with 113 confirmed tornados in Minnesota that year. The average is typically 40 tornados per year in Minnesota.

"People don't think of Minnesota as the bastion of tornadoes, and yet, we're the top of the tornado alley," said Purscell.

Despite the fear surrounding tornados, the number one killer in thunderstorms is lightening. To stay safe from lightening, Purscell encourages people to stay indoors.

The number one activity that people are involved in for lightening deaths, Purscell shared, is fishing. Playing soccer and golf is also an activity in which people were engaging upon being struck by lightning.

If outdoors, Purscell encourages individuals to crouch down in the stance of a baseball catcher.

When it comes to flooding, he strongly urges drivers to never pass a roadway with standing water. The force of the water could sweep the vehicle away, and the stability of the road bed underneath is not guaranteed.

The best way to stay safe in case of tornado is to anticipate and plan.

He listed www.weather.gov.twincities and www.spc.noaa.gov as wonderful sites for weather planning. He also mentioned that phone aps can be useful in maintaining weather news all day long.

Weather radios are important in staying informed. He was astounded that only a couple attendees had weather radios, and he encouraged the rest of the crowd to go to a store and purchase one.

The radios sounds alerts for severe weather when necessary. Radio owners can personalize settings to their own needs.

Purscell said that if anyone is in need of assistance in setting up the radio, they can bring it to the Owatonna Fire Station office, and they will get in touch with someone from Skywarn to set it up.

"Just always be prepared to take action in the chance of a storm. Be ready," said Purscell.







GRIEF RELIEF

Many people aren't quite sure what to say when they visit a funeral home. The fact is nothing can be said to adequately express our lost or make the bereaved family member to feel better. Words are not important. But it is appreciated that you care enough to express your sympathy. When a friend loses a loved one convey your feelings at the funeral home with a hug or a word. And offer your assistance. You'll be appreciated for caring.

Direction with dignity from Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna.



Cory Michaelson

Michaelson FUNERAL HOME
Direction With Dignity
www.michaelsonfuneral.com
507-451-7943

KIK GRAPHICS & PRINTING
YOU PICK IT WE STICK IT













CHAMPTRUCK WORLD SERIES

612.360.9934 Tyler@kikgraphics.biz
www.kikgraphics.biz
110 Highway Ave. N.
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

THE CLASSIFIEDS- Where the Deals Are!
APARTMENTS FOR RENT
SITUATIONS WANTED
AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
GARAGE SALES
HOMES FOR SALE
Steele County Times
Always local, all the time.
Call to place an item in the Classifieds today:
507-583-4431

HometownLiving

Community Calendar

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

♦ ♦ ♦ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ♦ ♦ ♦
MAY 3: Wine Tasting Gala
BENEFIT FOR:
THE BOYS & GIRL CLUB OF BLOOMING PRAIRIE
7:00-9:00 PM @ J&H LIQUORS
TICKETS: $12 adv/$18 door
(Buy ticket by Apr 16th - enter a drawing)
MUST BE 21 TO ATTEND.

BAR BINGO: MONDAY @ 6:30 P.M.
WINE + WOMEN: WED @ 6-10 P.M.
MEAT RAFFLES: FRIDAY @ 5:30 P.M.
BEAN BAG LEAGUE: JUNE 2 - JUL 28
STREET DANCE: JULY 2ND
JULY 4TH: OPEN 10 AM TO CLOSE
♦ ♦ ♦ CRUISE FOR A CAUSE ♦ ♦ ♦
CRUISE FOR CANCER RIDE: JUNE 25TH
B.O.B RIDE "Toys for Tots" JULY 23RD
RIDE DETAILS AVAILABLE AT THE BAR

Blooming Prairie

April 19:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime
4:45 p.m. Boys N Girls Club Board Meeting
5:30 p.m. BP Ambulance Commission Mtg
April 20:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime
April 25:
6:30 p.m. BP Fire Relief Assoc Meeting
April 26:
Blooming Prairie Card Club & Luncheon
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime
6 p.m. BPBL Book Club
7 p.m. Planning and Zoning Board Meeting
April 27:
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. The April 2016 Monthly outreach office hours for the Steele County Veterans Service Officer. Rene Gilormini, Steele County Veterans Service Officer will be at Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club.
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime

Servicemen's Club
210 Fourth St. N.E. • Blooming Prairie • 507-583-7884
• Happy Hour 3 p.m.- 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday
• Taco Tuesdays every Tuesday at 5 p.m.
"BURGER NIGHT" SPECIAL:
#1 HOT TURKEY COMMERCIAL WITH CORN
#2 EGG SALAD SANDWICH WITH CHIPS
LUNCH SPECIAL (4/21 & 4/22):
BACON, LETTUCE & TOMATO WITH FRIES

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

Ellendale/Geneva

April 19:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North
April 25:
6:20 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, Media Center,
April 26:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North,
April 27:
11 – 11:30 a.m. The April 2016 Monthly outreach office hours for the Steele County Veterans Service Officer. Rene Gilormini, Steele County Veterans Service Officer will be at the Ellendale Community Building.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
Waseca | Ellendale | Hope | Member FDIC
fnbwaseca.com | 507-684-2691

Medford

April 19:
6:30 p.m. Court St. Anne Catholic Daughters Meeting
April 20:
7 p.m. Ft Robert Carlin Knights of Columbus Council
April 21, 25:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner

KECK'S REPAIR INC.
507-455-2679
We are here to help you with Repair and Service on Auto, Truck and Tractor
7123 SW 82nd Ave, Owatonna, MN

Owatonna

April 19:
Hope Curbside Recycling S of 42nd Ave
9:30 a.m. Owatonna Public Library, It's TALE TIME!
10 a.m. Owatonna Public Library, So Many Books… So Little Time Book Club
4:30 p.m. Owatonna Public Library Board Meeting, Gainey Rm
7 p.m. Owatonna City Council,
April 20:
Hope Curbside Recycling N of 42nd Ave
4 p.m. Owatonna EDA, Council Chambers, City Hall, Owatonna
April 21:
2 p.m. Owatonna Public Library Independent & World Films
6:30 p.m. Owatonna Public Library Family Story Time
April 22:
7 p.m. Movie Night, New Beginnings Church, Owatonna
April 23:
9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Bark & Rec sponsored by Owatonna Parks & Rec and the Steele County Humane Society, Steele County Fairgrounds, Four Seasons Centre, Bring your furry family member. Demonstrations include K-9 Kash from OPD, dog obedience and agility! Call 444-4321 with more questions.
9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Munchkin Market, Four Seasons Centre West Arena. Youth ages 6-15 will have tables selling toys, games, books, sporting goods and more. Entertainment includes RAD Zoo, a magician and Tae Kwan Do demonstrations.
April 25:
4 p.m. Owatonna Housing & Redevelopment Authority, 2nd Flr Conference Rm, City HallApril 26:
9:30 a.m. Owatonna Public Library, It's TALE TIME!

Express EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS
www.expresspros.com
812 S. Elm Ave. • Owatonna • 507-455-3002 • 800-832-3002

Other counties

April 19:
Calico Hutch Quilter's Retreat, Holiday Inn Conference Center, Austin
12 p.m. Tuesdays with Toastmasters, Hormel Foods Corporate Office, Austin
1 p.m. History of Austin and Mower County Presentation, The Cedars, Austin
3:30 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
6 p.m. Handbuilding Flower Planters, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
6:30 p.m. Lion's Club Meeting, Lyle Community Center, Lyle
6:30 p.m. Straw Bale Gardening, Austin Public Library, Austin
7 p.m. Stan Tekiela – Feathers: A Beautiful Look at a Bird's Most Unique Feature, Ruby Rupner Auditorium, Jay C Hormel Nature Center, Austin
April 20:
Calico Hutch Quilter's Retreat, Holiday Inn Conference Center, Austin
9 a.m. Rummage Sale and Salad Luncheon, First Congregational Church, 1910 3rd Ave NW, Austin
11:30 SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, City of Lyle
12 p.m. Tater Time, Mower County Senior Center, Austin
4:30 p.m. Circus Pages, Minnesota National Guard – Austin Armory, Austin
6:45 p.m. Adult Hockey, Riverside Arena Rink, Austin
7 p.m. Circus Pages, Minnesota National Guard – Austin Armory, Austin
April 21:
10 a.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum, Mower County Historical Society, Austin
3:30 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
6 p.m. Brownsdale Public Library Puzzle Night (subject to change)
6 p.m. LEGO Club, Austin Public Library, Austin
6:30 p.m. Austin Page Turners: Big Book Club Night, Austin Public Library, Austin
6:30 p.m. Twilight Tales: Evening Storytime, Austin Public Library, Austin
7:30 p.m. Young Frankenstein, Frank W Bridges Theatre, Riverland Community College, Austin
April 22:
Austin High School Elks Softball Tournament, North Todd Complex, Todd Park, Austin
Friends of the Library Collection for Spring Used Book Sale, Austin Public Library, Austin
April 24:
Friends of the Library Collection for Spring Used Book Sale, Austin Public Library, Austin

Chamber Spotlight

Southern Minnesota Electric Inc. does it all

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Southern Minnesota Electric Inc. of Geneva can answer all of your electrical needs. Ready to go out on a call is owner Jason Tieskotter, a Master Electrician.

Southern Minnesota Electric Inc. is able to provide services "for all your electrical needs" as its business slogan states.

"We can do small jobs from changing a light bulb to doing major agricultural electrical work," says Jason Tieskotter, Master Electrician and owner of SME. Offices are located at 105 N. Central in Geneva.

Southern Minnesota Electric, licensed in Minnesota and Iowa, specializes in LED lighting and does more work on alternative energy including solar and wind power. He has a half dozen solar projects on the books and also has done service work on wind turbines including one at Riverland Community College in Albert Lea.

Reach Jason and his staff at 507-271-2033 or smejason@gmail.com.

Tieskotter, a Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce member several years ago, just recently rejoined the BP chamber. "We hope to get more business from the Blooming Prairie area and have a variety of services to offer," Tieskotter said.

Southern Minnesota Electric is also a member of Business Network International (BNI), a referral group of business owners. Tieskotter said his business organization involvement and word of mouth help him grow his business.

Tieskotter started his own business 16 years ago and located at the present location 10 years ago. He and wife Valerie, an apprentice electrician, currently reside in Austin but will soon move to Geneva to occupy an apartment they are remodeling over their business location.

Following his earning a two-year degree at a community college in Albert Lea, Tieskotter worked six years for Cole's Electric in Owatonna. He resided in Geneva at the time and advanced through the steps as an apprentice, journeyman and master electrician. He obtained his contractor's license in 2000.

"It was time for a change," he said in explaining his entry into private business.

Early in his business start, Tieskotter emphasized residential work, housing and remodeling. Agricultural work then became a big part of Tieskotter's business including bin work and wiring of pole sheds. "Farmers are great to work for because when they make up their mind to do a project, they want to get it done as quickly as possible," Tieskotter said.

Jason and Valerie worked together on a huge project last year in Algona, Iowa. They did 90 percent of the wiring for a new hotel, Brookstone Suites. The two-story hotel has 41 rooms. It opened last Christmas.

In addition to Jason and Valerie, SME has three employees: Ryan Pedersen, Hartland; Matt Horan, Hollandale and Jacob Jacobsen (stepson), Austin. Matt and Ryan are both journeymen. Jacob is an apprentice.

Southern Minnesota Electric has the latest in equipment to meet the customer needs. The equipment includes a bucket truck, scissors lift and three utility trucks.

Tieskotter has two daughters, Alexis, 22 and Taylar, 18 and two step children, Jacob, 19 and Kayla, 17. "We have two high school graduations and a wedding all planned this year," he says proudly.

WE UNDERSTAND SMALL BUSINESS
BECAUSE WE ARE A SMALL BUSINESS.
Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
583-7528
314 E. Main St. • Blooming Prairie
WWW.JOHNDOERCPA.COM

Sports

TISCH DISH



JOE TISCHLER

Wolves on the rise

Normally, a team that finished their season with a 29-53 record would have little optimism about the future. The Minnesota Timberwolves, however, are the exception. I'll repeat that, the Minnesota Timberwolves are the exception.

I am amazed at that statement because, in a league where more than half of the teams in the NBA make the postseason, Minnesota has not had qualified for 12 straight seasons, the longest active streak in the league and tied for the second longest playoff drought in NBA history (the Los Angeles Clippers hold the record with 15 straight seasons with no postseason appearances, 1977-91).

The late Flip Saunders constructed a team that is similar to the mold of the Oklahoma City Thunder. In 2007, the Seattle SuperSonics drafted Kevin Durant out of Texas with the second pick in the NBA Draft. He was named the 2008 Rookie of the Year, was named NBA MVP in 2014 and is considered one of the five best players in the league.

The following year, after the franchise moved to Oklahoma City, the Thunder drafted Russell Westbrook out of UCLA with the fourth pick. He is considered one of the best point guards in the league and led the NBA in scoring a season ago.

In 2009, the Thunder then selected James Harden out of Arizona State with the third overall pick. He helped lead Oklahoma City to the NBA Finals in 2012 before he was traded to Houston and was second in the MVP voting last season.

In Durant's first season, Seattle had only 20 wins. That win total went to 23 with the addition of Westbrook. By Durant's third season (Harden's first), the Thunder more than doubled their win total to 50 and qualified for their first postseason appearance since 2005 and have been considered title contenders every year since.

Minnesota is following that same pattern that will hopefully lead down a similar path to success.

Prior to the 2014-15 season, the Timberwolves traded Kevin Love to Cleveland in exchange for No. 1 overall pick, Andrew Wiggins. The University of Kansas product averaged 16.9 points and was an overwhelming winner of the Rookie of the Year award.

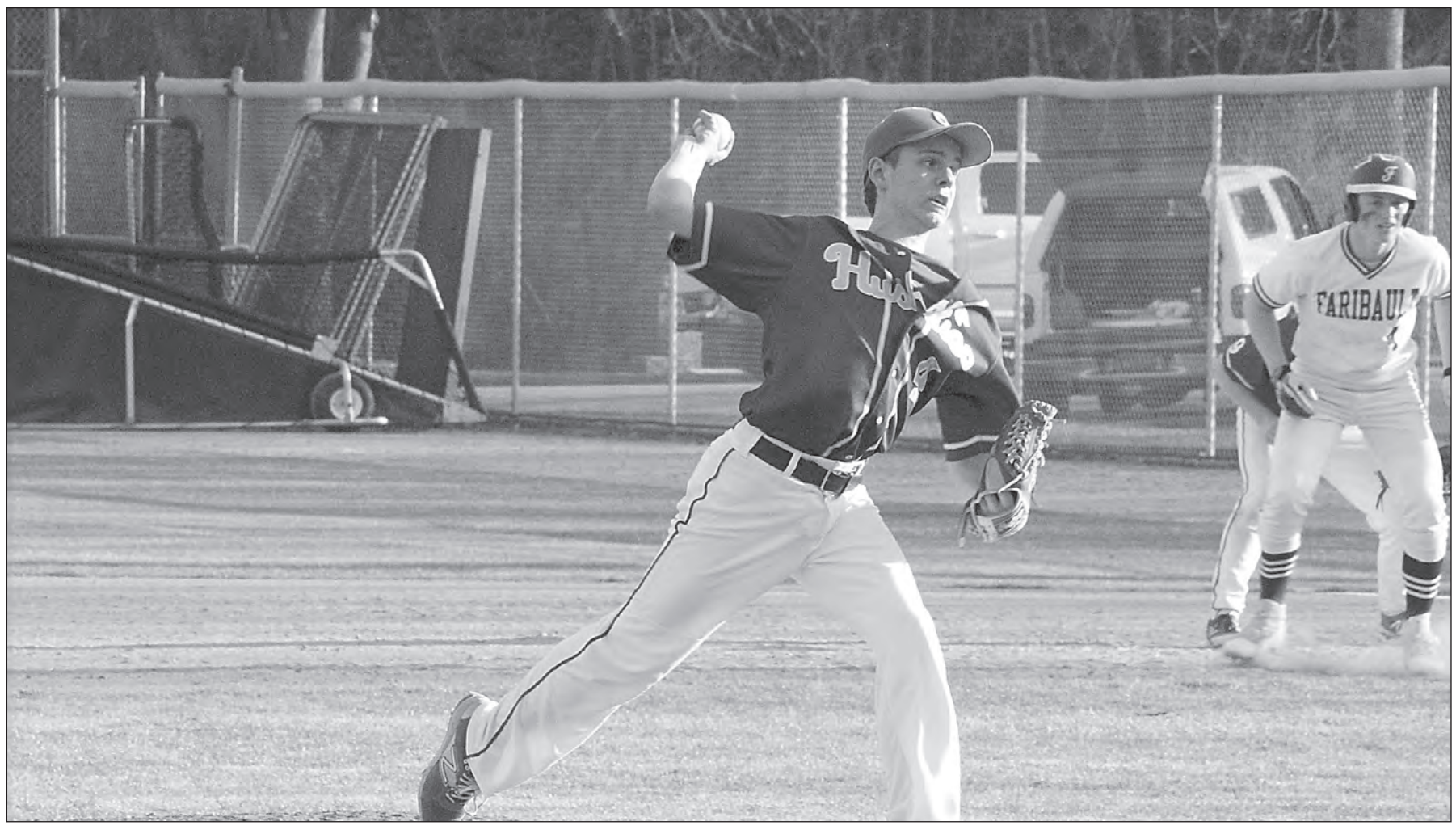
Last summer, Minnesota won the draft lottery for the first time in franchise history and selected Karl-Anthony Towns out of Kentucky with the first overall pick. He put together one of the finest rookie seasons in NBA history where he averaged 18.3 points and 10.4 rebounds a game and was named Western Conference Rookie of the Month every month. If he isn't the unanimous choice for Rookie of the Year, they should do away with the award. The Timberwolves will be the first team to have players win back-to-back Rookie of the Year honors since the Buffalo Braves' Bob McAdoo (1973) and Ernie DiGregorio (1974) performed the feat.

Minnesota currently holds the No. 5 pick in this summer's draft, but that could go

WOLVESONTHERISE

Continued on Page 7B

Leidall's shutout propels Huskies to first win



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Senior Clay Leidall tosses a gem in Owatonna's home opener Thursday against Faribault. The Huskies shut out the Falcons 10-0.

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

After a tight opening game loss at conference and section rival Northfield, Owatonna bounced back strongly, thanks to the 10-strikeout, complete game shutout performance of senior Clay Leidall as Owatonna topped Faribault 10-0 Thursday at Dartts Park.

"We know Clay can throw a game like that," said Owatonna head coach Tate Cummins. "We kind of expected him to do that today, not the ten strikeouts so much, but he throws strikes, he throws fast, which is good for our defense behind him."

The Huskies gave all the run support Leidall would need in the first. Blake Westphal doubled to right center to lead off and scored two batters later on a single to right by Josh Burns.

After scoring two more in the second, Owatonna broke the game open with four more in thr fourth all with two outs. Jacob Gauthier, Westphal, and Kodey Kiel all started the rally with singles and Burns and Nathan Deason followed with doubles to give the Huskies a 7-0 lead.

"The temps warmed up a little bit and our bats were a little more ocmfortable," said Cummins. "It's nice to see the runs and hits on the board after not playing exceptionally well in Northfield."

While Owatonna's bats were busy scoring runs, Faribault's continued to be stymied by the arm of Leidall. He struck out at least one Falcons' batter every innings and only allowed four hits.

"The Curve ball was working good today," said Leidall. "I was able to keep it down and it had a pretty sharp break on it."

As part of balanced hitting attack, 11 of the 14 Owatonna batters collected a hit against the Falcons, including Westphal, Alec Holcomb, and Noah Budach for grabbed two apiece. Holcomb also drove in two runs.

Owatonna has a busy week in store with five games, including a doubleheader Friday against Mankato East at the University of Minnesota's Siebert Field.

After beating Blossoms, Medford drops two

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

After three games on the road to start the season, the Medford baseball team opened the home portion of their 2016 baseball as they entertained Blooming Prairie Monday, April 11.

Medford put croaked numbers on the scoreboard in each of the first two innings as Blossoms' starting pitcher Brad Staska had difficulty finding the strike zone. He walked seven Tigers' batters as Medford led 7-0 after two.

Seth Peterson came on relief and shut down Medford the rest of the way.

Alex Gengler started for Medford and pitched 4 1/3 innings of shutout baseball and struck out five while allowing four hits.

Blooming got to reliever Cole Volkmann scoring four times in the fifth to trim the deficit to 7-4.

Wyatt Volkmann pitched two scoreless innings while giving up only one hit to pick up the save.

The following day, Medford was on the road again for a non-conference tilt against Kenyon-Wanamingo.

Nick Meixner threw a complete game, but didn't get the run support as the Tigers fell 7-3 to the Knights.

After scoring the first, the Knights put a pair on the board in each of the second, sixth, and seventh innings before Medford crossed the plate twice in the final frame. Nick and Nate Meixner both picked up two hits in the loss.

In their final game of the week, Medford returned home to face Tri-City United.

The Tigers led 3-0 after three before Volkmann surrendered four runs in the fourth. After tying the game in the bottom of the frame, the Titans scored twice in the sixth to make the final 6-4.

Volkmann struck out four in the loss.

Medford starts the week with a pair of road games before coming home Thursday and Friday against WEM and LCWM, respectively.



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Blooming Prairie's Brad Staska found himself in early jams in their game at Medford Monday, April 11. The Tigers won the game 7-4.



Submitted photo

Winners from the Blooming Prairie Pack 260's Pinewood Derby held Sunday, March 20. 1st-Ben Riley, 2nd-Dylan Anderson, 3rd-Lucas Schammel, 4th-Drew Reinke.

Racers tear it up in BP

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

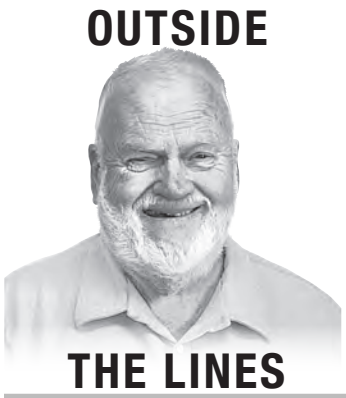
The BP Cub Pack 260 held its annual Pinewood Derby at the local Servicemen's Club on Sunday, Mar. 20, with Ben Riley taking first place in the event. Dylan Anderson claimed second, Lucas Schammel third, Andrew Reinke fourth

Twenty-one of 34 Cub scouts grades 1-5 enrolled in the pack participated n the event, and the car kits had been handed out in January. Kids were allowed to have parents or other adults give them aid in working on the car, which had to meet a minimum weight of no more than five ounces.

The race was a double elimination contest, with the top four racers awarded ribbons. They were also able to earn a badge for the event, which would go towards graduating to the Boy Scouts in 6th grade. According to pack Co-Leader Craig Schammel, the event gave the entries and parents a great day of racing, and participation satisfied the kids and spectators alike.

Sports

OUTSIDE THE LINES



LeMar Nelson

A mixed bag

Last week provided both success and defeat in the first really full week of spring sports. Although the softball team won its season opener, the girls then lost two games. Errors played a big part in the losses, but the season is still young, and Coach Ali mach declared that the team would improve.

The baseball team lost its first two games, and their failure can be directly attributed to wildness on the pitching mound. The opposition took 22 walks in the two, and it made winning a near impossibility. Here, too, Coach Kittelson is trying to find pitching among several young hopefuls, and it will be very interesting to see if that can happen.

On the other hand the golf and the track teams had some good results. The boys' golf team won a conference invitational, plus having Taylor Christianson take medalist honors for the girls at two different meets. Excellent balance has been a big aid to the boys, with Tommy Braaten taking up where he left off a year ago.

The track teams have also had some success. Four relay teams have won at two meets last week, and several individuals have also had winning events. Anthony nelson, Alec Ille, and Quentin Kubista all won their specialties in meets, and Alison Pryor and Marissa Larson won individual events for the girls. Those teams have provided highlights for their seasons already, a tip of the hat this week goes to all the spring athletes, as they get deeper and deeper into their seasons.

CLEAN UP

Amidst all of the spring sports now in play, I want to step back just a little and tie up some loose ends from the wresting and girls basketball season. Both of those sports have had their awards programs in the last month and deserve some last notices of their seasons.

For the wrestling team Jon Hansen earned MVP honors, Ethan Arett received the Outstanding Wrestler award, and All-Conference honors went to Colton Krell and Arett. Arett finished second r better in five meets, and Krell duplicated that in four meets.

Arett had the most pins (22) in the season, and Krell had the most takedowns (85), most reversals (25), most 2-point near falls (12), most wins (35), most escapes (28). and most major decisions (5). Seth Peterson led the team in 3-point near falls with 11. Ten wrestlers lettered in the 2015-2016 season and five Blossoms made the Academic All-Conference team.

Three notable records went to Ethan Arett for the fastest pin at 106 pounds when he won a bout in ten seconds, to Jon Hansen at 138 for a 39 second pin, and two for Mitchell Oswald in two different weights-twenty-five seconds at 195, and fifty-nine seconds at 220. So, despite the difficulty in winning team duals because of the lack in numbers, a number of the local wrestlers had very good years with great accomplishments. A tip of the hat goes to the team and individuals for their efforts.

Twelve girls earned letters fetters the Blossom girls' basketball team last season, and Kalyn Naatz was named MVP of the team. Naatz and Lauren Larkoski made the All-Conference team, with Hannah Ahrens an Honorable Mention. Eight of the girls were named to the Academic Akl-Conferewnce team

Naatz scored 199 points, with Marissa Larson at 192, Kylie Forystek 185, and Larkoski with

OUTSIDE THE LINES
Continued on Page 9B

Nihart, Dodge duo impresses



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Medford's Kiley Nihart smashes a shot to right field that results in a trip around the bases in Thursday's 16-6 win GHEC-ML.

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Medford may be the busiest softball team in the state in this early season. They were one of a few teams to play multiple games in the first week due to the poor weather conditions. With much nicer conditions, the Tigers played a slate of five games winning three of them, including two on Saturday at the Glenville-Emmons Tournament.

After falling to Blooming Prairie Monday, the Tigers bounced back nicely with a 16-6 win Thursday over Granada-Huntley-East Chain/Martin Luther. Medford committed seven errors, but belted out 17 hits to more than make up for the mistakes. Kori Dodge went 4-for-6 with two doubles and two triples and Kiley Nihart went 2-for-4, including an inside-the-park home run.

"Our hitting saved us this game," said head coach Alyssa Strunk. "We had too many errors in the field, but made up for our mistakes with our bats. This young team is still learning and working to get better each game."

The duo of Dodge and Nihart were making tracks along the basepaths all week. They combined to go 21-for-35, scored 17 runs, and drove in 12 runs, 9 by Dodge.

After falling to on the road to Tri-City United 11-5 the next day, Medford was back on the diamond Saturday for a pair of games in Glenville and once again, the bats were on a tear.

In the first game against Alden-Conger, the Tigers scored four times in the first inning and five more in the second to take a commanding 9-1 lead. Nihart had four hits at the plate and struck out eight on the mound to propel Medford to a 15-3 win. Isabel Reuvers and Emma Kniefel each had three hits.

Nihart was back at it again in the next game against Glenville-Emmons. She belted out four more hits while Mackenzie Paulson did the work on the mound striking out six in the 13-3 win.

"This team is moving in the right direction and working hard to get better every game," said Strunk. "We are trying to minimize our fielding errors and being aggressive at the plate."

Three more games are on tap this week including a Friday home tilt with St. Clair.



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Blooming Prairie's Abby Wayne is tagged out by HRHEG's Rachel Collins in a game Tuesday, April 12 in New Richland. The Panthers would win 9-2.

Blossoms fall to Panthers

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Two straight loss left the Blossom softball team with a 1-2 record in the first full week of play After an opening win at Medford, the girls had successive setbacks at New Richland and a latest loss at Mankato Loyola 7-0.

Two runs in each of the last two innings gave the Awesome Blossom softball team a little breathing room in an 8-4 conference victory over Medford in the season opener.

"We had a little trouble in the fifth and sixth innings", commented Coach Ali Mach, "but overall I thought Strunk pitched a very good game. Only two of the runs allowed were earned, she walked only two batters, and she struck out 12 in the seven innings."

Linnea Sunde led the offense for the Blossoms, as she stroked 3 hits in 5 trips to the plate, and Emma Christianson had two hits and an EBI. McKenna Hein, Maya Lembke, and Abby Wayne all added two hits each in the 13 hits for the locals.

BP's first two runs were unearned in the first inning, and the girls scored a single run in the third on Bria Baldwin's RBI single, and another in the fourth on singles by Wayne and Sunde and a groundout.

Two three-run innings for NRHEG pushed a tie game into a 7-2 lead over BP at New Richland Tuesday, Apr. 12, and the Panthers went on to a 9-2 victory in a Gopher conference contest. The home team splashed 11 hits around the park, while the Blossoms managed just six hits, including doubles by Bria Baldwin, McKenna Hein, and Elly Strunk.

The Panthers scored their third inning runs on a walk, a hit batter, and Kayley Camerer's home run. In the fourth, three straight singles, a groundout, and another single plated the three tallies. NRHEG had scored a run in the second on two singles and a passed ball, and they ended the scoring in the sixth with a Blossom error, two singles and a fielder's choice.

BP tallied a single run in the second inning on Baldwin's base hit, a stolen base, and and a Strunk single. The final BP run came in the sixth, when Baldwin doubled, Anika Nowlan singled, and two walks forced in a run. The threat ended with a fly ball out.

"We had a tough two innings in the middle", commented Coach Ali Mach. On the other hand, Coach Wendy Schultz remarked," We played a very good game, and the hitters came alive in this one."

Huskies drop three of four

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

After having a pair of games postponed, the Owatonna softball team took the diamond for the first time for four tight games, all of which were decided by three runs or less.

Runs came early and often in the home opener last Tuesday against Northfield at Morehouse Park. Northfield scored seven times in the third before Owatonna countered with four in their half of the third, thanks to an Ellie Rohman grand slam, and four more in the fourth to take an 8-7 lead as Rohman delivered again with a run-producing triple. Rohman went 2-for-3, scored three times and drove in seven runs.

The lead changed hands twice more before the Huskies took a 12-11 lead into the seventh. The Raiders scored three times thanks in part to a 2-run double from Jillian Noel and would hold on for 14-12 win.

Two days later, the Huskies traveled to Big 9-foe Faribault for another conference matchup. After surrendering six unearned runs in the second, pitcher Alexa Sommers settled down and held the Falcons scoreless the rest of the way. Millie Wanous started Owatonna's comeback attempt with a solo home run in the fourth to cut Faribault's lead to 6-2.

Owatonna crossed the plate four times in the fifth to tie the game at 6 and scored three times in the sixth to claim the game 9-6. Riley Sheehy went 2-for-4, scored twice, and delivered the game-winning RBI in the 3-run sixth.

The Huskies then traveled to Mankato Saturday for a doubleheader with the Cougars of Mankato East with the first game counting towards the conference standings. After losing the opener 5-3, Owatonna gathered 15 hits in the nightcap, including two extra base hits from Sheehy, but the Huskies still fell 9-7. Wanous, who went 3-for 4, got Owatonna on the scoreboard first when her double plated Sheehy in the first inning. After East scored four times in the second, Owatonna countered with four of their own in the fourth to take a 6-4 lead. The Cougars scored three times in their half of the frame to retake the advantage, a lead they would not relinquish.

WOLVESONTHERISE

Continued from Page 6B

anywhere from No. 1 to No. 8 depending on where the ping pong balls fall in the lottery.

The Timberwolves had only 16 wins in Wiggins' first season and raised that by 13 wins this season with the addition of Towns.

Ricky Rubio, Zach LaVine, and Gorgui Dieng joined Wiggins and Towns to established a strong starting unit that could compete with anybody in the league the second half of the season. Minnesota had a number of high quality road wins including wins at, aforementioned, Oklahoma City, and were one of only two teams, to win at Golden State, a team that set an NBA record for wins in a season with 73.

Minnesota decided not to retain interim head coach Sam Mitchell after their season finale last week meaning the Wolves are now searching for a new man to lead the pack.

According to ESPN NBA reporter Brian Windhorst, the Timberwolves head coach opening is the 'best job to come onto the open market in years.' That is another statement I have never heard in regards to this squad.

When you combine a great young core with another high draft pick, say, maybe Oklahoma's Buddy Hield to help with the team's outside shooting needs, Minnesota is line for a big name coach to take the reigns of the pack and turn this team into a consistent winner.

Sports

Schedule/Results

BASEBALL

- Monday, April 11
Medford 7, Blooming Prairie 4
WEM 15, NRHEG 5
- Tuesday, April 12
Kenyon 7, Medford 3
Northfield 3, Owatonna 2
- Thursday, April 14
USC 13, Blooming Prairie 4
Owatonna 10, Faribault 0
Maple River 6, NRHEG 0
- Friday April 15
TCU 6, Medford 4
Albert Lea 7, NRHEG 6
- Saturday, April 16
Maple River 6, Blooming Prairie 1
Maple River 7, Blooming Prairie 2

- Monday, April 18
WEM at Blooming Prairie
Medford at NRHEG
Owatonna at Minnetonka
- Tuesday, April 19
Blooming Prairie at Randolph
NRHEG at Martin Cty. West
Medford at Maple River
Owatonna at Albert Lea
- Thursday, April 21
Blooming Prairie at NRHEG
WEM at Medford
Owatonna at Century
- Friday, April 22
Blooming Prairie at JWP
Fairmont at NRHEG
LCWM at Medford
Mankato East vs Owatonna (DH)

- GOPHER CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, April 17 according to Minnesota-scores.net)

Faribault BA	3-0	4-2
USC	2-0	2-1
Maple River	3-1	3-1
WEM	2-1	2-2
Medford	1-2	2-4
NRHEG	0-3	0-4
Blooming Prairie	0-4	0-4

- BIG 9 CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, April 17 according to Minnesota-scores.net

Mankato West	2-0	3-0
Red Wing	2-0	3-0
Northfield	2-0	3-1
Rochester JM	2-0	2-1
Rochester Mayo	2-0	3-2
Albert Lea	1-1	2-1
Owatonna	1-1	1-1
Austin	1-2	2-2
Winona	0-2	1-3
Faribault	0-2	0-4
Rochester Century	0-2	0-2
Mankato East	0-3	1-3

SOFTBALL

- Monday, April 11
Blooming Prairie 8, Medford 4
NRHEG 22, WEM 3
- Tuesday, April 12
NRHEG 9, Blooming Prairie 2
Northfield 14, Owatonna 12
- Thursday, April 14
Medford 16, GHEC-ML 6
Mkto. Loyola 7, Blooming Prairie 0
Owatonna 9, Faribault 6
- Friday April 15
TCU 11, Medford 5
- Saturday, April 16
Medford 15, Alden-Conger 3
Medford 13, Glenville-Emmons 3
Mankato East 5, Owatonna 3
Mankato East 9, Owatonna 7

- Monday, April 18
WEM at Blooming Prairie
Medford at NRHEG
- Tuesday, April 19
Albert Lea at Owatonna
- Thursday, April 21
St. Clair at NRHEG
Medford at WEM
- Friday, April 22
Blooming Prairie at Austin Tourn.
Blue Earth at NRHEG
St. Clair at Medford
Century at Owatonna
- Saturday, April 23
Blooming Prairie at Austin Tourn.
Owatonna at Shakopee Tourn.

- GOPHER CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, April 17 according to Minnesota-scores.net)

USC	1-0	1-3
NRHEG	2-1	2-1
Faribault BA	2-1	3-2
Maple River	1-1	1-1
Blooming Prairie	1-1	1-2
WEM	1-2	2-3
Medford	0-2	4-3

- BIG 9 CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, April 17 according to Minnesota-scores.net

Mankato West	3-0	6-0
Rochester JM	2-0	2-0
Winona	2-0	2-0
Mankato East	2-1	3-1
Faribault	2-1	2-1
Rochester Century	1-1	2-1
Northfield	1-1	2-2
Owatonna	1-2	1-3
Red Wing	1-2	1-3
Austin	1-3	1-3
Rochester Mayo	1-4	1-4
Albert Lea	0-2	2-2



Submitted photo

Owatonna's Marie Otterson takes a swing Friday at the Faribault Invitational. The sophomore is a first-time varsity member.

Owatonna girls' golf off to a solid start

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Four full-time varsity players return to the Owatonna girls' golf team in 2016. Those returners along with up and coming newcomers should make for a competitive season.

One of the newcomers seemed un-phased in her varsity debut in the season opener Thursday at the Red Wing Invite at Mississippi National Golf Course. Sophomore Marie Otterson carded the Huskies' low round of the day by shooting an 89. Veterans Megan Peglow, Shannon VanReeth, and Maddie Zulk were close behind as they shot a 91, a 96, and a 97, respectively.

Owatonna finished fourth in the 9-team competition with a score of 373 behind defending State Class AA champion, Red Wing (294), Lakeville North (322), and Rochester Mayo (339).

The Huskies proved how balanced this team can be as the next day at the Faribault Invitational, Zulk turned in the team's best performance by carding a 90 as Owatonna finished fifth in the 14-team event.

VanReeth followed with a 98, Otterson shot a 102 and Peglow scored a 103 as Owatonna totaled a score of 393. Chanhassen won the team event by scoring a 355. New Prague (372), Lakeville South (383), and Prior Lake (391) finished ahead of the Huskies.

The balance this team is portraying at the season's onset should be a precursor to the type of season head coach Tim Hunst will be happy to see throughout.

"This is a great group of kids that brings no drama," said Hunst. "They know how to get the work done and play hard."

Also competing for varsity time this year is veteran Jayce Bogen and newcomer Tori Urch.

Owatonna Boys

The Owatonna boys' golf team had a busy start to their 2016 campaign with three straight days of competition. Thursday, the team traveled south of the border to compete at the Decorah (Iowa) Invitational. Owatonna finished seventh with a score of 332 in the 10-team event. Holy Family took the crown by shooting a 299. Lakeville South was second (300) and Chaska placed third (307). Gage Schuster had the Huskies low round with a 76. Andrew Wall was right behind with a 77. John Swenson carded an 85 and Issac Smith shot a 94.

In the 2-day Litchfield/Willmar Golf Invitational Friday and Saturday, Owatonna finished in fifth place with a total team score of 670 in the 14-team event. Hutchinson came in first place with a score of 642. BOLD placed second (661) and Willmar and Sartell tied for third (662). Schuster led Owatonna again with a low total of 159, good for fifth place out of 82 golfers. Andrew Wall finished 11th with a score of 164 and John Swenson placed 18th with a card of 168.

BP Boys have great week, Braaten takes a first

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Good balanced scoring for the Blooming Prairie boys led to a team title at a Gopher Conference Invitational golf meet at Blue Earth Area Tuesday, Apr. 12. The Blossoms bettered second place Maple River by 9 strokes165 to 174 in the five-team meet. USC trailed the Eagles by one stroke at 175, and USC and NRHEG shot 205 and 211 respectively.

Nick Neubauer of USC claimed medalist honors in the meet with a 37 over the nine holes, but BP's Tommy Braaten trailed by just one stroke for second with a fine 38. Ryan Pederson of USC and Brandon Sohre of Maple River tied for third with a 40, and the Eagles' Andrew Hoppe and BP's Jon Hatch both carded a 41 to tie for fifth individual.. Ethan Strunk and Brody Carlson both shot a 43, Jake Ressler added a 47, and Lucas Noble carded a 49 for other BP scores.



Submitted photo

From left to right: Jake Ressler, Ethan Strunk, Brody Carlson, Tommy Braaten, and Lucas Noble. Blooming Prairie won the Gopher Invite Tuesday, April 12 then finished second at the BP Invite Saturday. Below. Braaten is adorned with medals from the week.

Braaten takes first

BP's Tommy Braaten continued his excellent spring golf, taking medalist honors at the annual BP Invitational Saturday, Apr. 16. Cannon Falls took the team title in the five-team meet with a 352, and the home team Blossoms claimed the second spot with a 365 total.

Braaten finished seven strokes better than second place Andy Pike of Hayfield in carding an 18-hole score of 74. Pike shot an 81, and Cannon Falls' Jackson Bahr shot an 84, trailing Pike by three strokes. Janesville-Waldorf- Pemberton placed third in teams with a373 total, Hayfield finished fourth at 390. A BP JV team shot 474, and NRHEG had an incomplete team.

"We just can't say enough about Braaten right now", exclaimed Co-Coach Cory Hendrickson. " To finish ahead of the second place golfer by 7 strokes is quite a feat, and Braaten continues to impress everyone. First year golfer Ethan Strunk and Brody Carlson also placed in the top twelve indvduals, which was promising."

The day was ideal for temps, and a brisk wind couldn't spoil the day for the golfers. Nathan Schmitz of JWP shot an 86 for fourth individual, and Dalton Tanner of Cannon Falls rounded out the top five individuals with an 89. Strunk placed 9th with a 94, and Carlson slipped into twelfth at 98. It ended another successful BP Invitational at the local country club course.

NRHEG girls win

In a twelve-team meet hosted by Stewartville at Rochester on Tuesday, Apr. 12, Rochester Mayo took the team title, with host Stewartville grabbing the runner-up spot. Taylor Christianson was the lone golfer for the Blossoms, and she placed 8th individually in the meet with a 97 over the 18–hole course.

A four-team invitational hosted by Blooming Prairie found NRHEG winning the meet with a 260 total, while Maple River finished second at 275. Neither USC nor the Blossoms fielded a full team at the local course on Monday, Apr. 11.

Conditions were cold, and it was windy", commented Co-Coach Cory Hendrickson, "but I thought the girls played well, considering the conditions." BP"S Taylor Christianson claimed medalist honors with a 54, and Jessica Ressler improved her scoring with a 66.

SALUTING OUR FUTURE FARMERS



Brett Miller

Brett Miller has been in FFA 2 years. He participated in the Toy Show, Spring Leadership Rally, Ag in Motion, Fruit Sales and FFA Day at the Capital.

His favorite FFA activity was the Fruit Sales and his favorite memory of FFA was going to the Ronald McDonald House. Brett planes to work and take some college classes.

Rinks Thoughts: Brett has only been in FFA for a few years but did participate in a number of activities, and went on two Ag in Motion trips. Brett has a big heart and is very humble and honest.

CFS
Building a STRONGER Cooperative TOGETHER
AUSTIN
75530 Hwy 56
507-437-2644
HAYFIELD
75530 Hwy 56
507-477-2251
BLOOMING PRAIRIE
10060 Hwy 30
507-583-6661
cfscoop.com
CFS
Agronomy • Energy • Grain • Feed • Financing

Sports

Great start for OHS lacrosse

Both boys and girls squads win season openers



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Owatonna's Tyler Johnson unloads a shot against Rochester Mayo Saturday night at Owatonna High School. Huskies won their season opener 11-3.

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Owatonna Girls

Head coach Bill Bernard is entering is tenth season as head coach of the Owatonna girls' lacrosse program. This tenth season is going to be his last. He was already moved to Sioux Falls, S.D. to be closer to his family, but is staying in Owatonna during the season.

"This will definitely be my last year," said Bernard. "This team has a tremendous group of girls that are a joy to be around. This is our largest senior class so it's a good way to finish out."

Bernard has a strong group returning from a team that finished 9-5 last year before losing to eventual state-runner up Lakeville South in the second round of the section tournament.

Four-year starter Becky Sedivy will captain the midfielders along with Meghan Rethemeier. Gabi Zeman will lead the defenders along with Emma Smith who saw significant minutes a year ago.

Other seniors expected to contribute include Meghan Schuler, Katie Skalicky, and Laura Bloomenrader.

"These seniors will be stability and keep everyone grounded," said Bernard. "They're going to be the ones to tell the younger players we're okay and to help them stay calm."

Some of the younger players new to the varsity who are expected to contribute right away are midfielders Jade Museby and Laura Ebeling.

Junior Maddie Seykora will get her chance to net for the Huskies. She will replace Kacy Borwege who was named Owatonna's girl athlete of the year.

Owatonna will compete for a Big Nine Conference championship for the first time as the conference is now sanctioning the sport with the addition of Mankato.

"This is great for the kids," said Bernard. "They now have a chance to win a conference title, be named all-conference; they've never had that opportunity. This shows that lacrosse is growing."

Bernard figures to be competing for the first-ever Big Nine championship as Owatonna has an .825 winning percentage against the other five teams in the conference. They have the talent and the experience to do so.

Owatonna got off to a great start to the season as they traveled to the shores of Lake Superior for a pair of games against programs in their first year of lacrosse. Friday, the Huskies defeated Hermantown 20-1 where Bloomenrader, Sedivy, and Huseby all scored three goals apiece and Skalicky, Schuler, and Lauren Arthur each scored twice. They followed that up with a 14-1 win Saturday at Duluth.

Owatonna kicks off conference play Thursday at Northfield before hosting their home opener Saturday against Mankato.

Owatonna Boys

The Owatonna boys' lacrosse season started their season nicely with an 11-3 win over Rochester Mayo Saturday night at Owatonna High School. The win equals their win total from all of last year.

Owatonna, which led 7-1 at halftime, was led by Josh Nelson who tallied six goals. Mitch Wiese, Tyler Johnson, and Nate Smith each added a pair of goals. Ryan Johnson stopped ten shots in goal.

After a road game at Park in Cottage Grove Monday, the Huskies return home for a game Thursday against Northfield.

Area schools compete at Hayfield

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Track and field teams from Blooming Prairie, New Richland-H-E-G, and Medford competed at the eight-team Hayfield Invitational Tuesday, April 12.

On the boys' side, Pine Island won the meet with 123 points. Blooming Prairie and NRHEG tied for second with 90 points and Medford scored 56 points, good for seventh.

Anthony Nelson had a great day for the Blossoms on the track taking first in the 100 meter dash in 12.05 seconds and placing second in the 200 meter dash in 24.08 seconds. He also claimed the long jump title with a leap of 19-feet, 5 inches.

Also taking home top place finishes were Alec Ille in the 1600 meters (4:45.99) and quentin Kubista in the pole vault (10-feet).

Tyler Schlaak pulled in a first place performance in the 800 meters for NRHEG with a time of 2:11.98, a second and a half in front of BP's Elijah Baker. Schlaak teamed with John Cole, Josh Flemming, and Nathan Krause to clock a winning time in the 4x400 meter relay in 3:46.36.

For Medford, Preston Hanson was the Tigers' lone winner as he took the shot put with a heave of 47-feet, 7.5-inches). He also came in the second in the discus (122-feet, 8-inches).

Alex Goetze pulled in second place running in the 1600 meters in 5:03.72 and Greg Larson did the same in the triple jump with a leap of 38-feet, 10-inches.

Waterville-Elysian-Morristown won the girls' team competition with 108 points. NRHEG came in fourth with 92 points, while Medford placed sixth with 61 points and Blooming Prairie came in seventh with 51.5.

NRHEG's Hailey Schuller had a stellar day taking first place in two events, the 100 meter hurdles (17.31) and the 300 meter hurdles (54.59). Teammate Kelly Harden placed second in the both the 800 meters (2:47.26) and pole vault (7-feet, 6-inches).

Medford were led by three girls who placed either first or second in their respective events. Callie Nagel bested Harden in the pole vault with a height of 8-feet. Ashley Gilbertson claimed a first place toss in the discus with a distance of 105-feet, 11 inches and she took second in the shot put in 33-feet, 2-inches. Rachael Luebbe came in second in both the 100 meters (14.08) and high jump (5-feet).

Blooming Prairie's 4x800 meter relay team of Lauren Larkoski, Alison Pryor, Samantha Wurst, and Taylor Wurst clocked a first place time of 10:55.25. Pryor also placed second in the 3200 meter run (13:03.75) and Asia Thostenson came in second in the 300 meter hurdles (56.62).

Minnesota Twins Schedule

11 - H CHW Loss 1-4	12	13 - H CHW Loss 0-3	14 - H CHW Loss 1-3	15 - H LAA Win 5-4	16 - H LAA Win 6-4	17 - H LAA Win 3-2
18 - H MIL 7:10pm	19 - H MIL 12:10pm	20 - A MIL 7:10pm	21 - A MIL 12:40pm	22 - A WAS 6:05pm	23 - A WAS 12:05pm	24 - A WAS 12:35pm

OUTSIDETHELINES

Continued from Page 7B

with 166. Forystek and Kaci Gwilt had 62 and 40 assists respectively, Larson led the rebounders with186, and Ahrens and Naatz added 157 and 152. Larkoski had 50 steals, Forystek 42, and McKenna Hein 40. The team compiled a 15-11 overall record and took 4th place in the conference with a 7-3 mark. Another tip of the hat this week to the Blossom girls for another winning season.

ODDS AND ENDS

A tip of the hat this week goes to the Owatonna Buffalo Wild Wings. The establishment donated ten percent of their day's profits last Wednesday to the Blooming Prairie boys and Girls Club, and the club is most grateful to the business.

It is just one more example of the support that businesses and individuals give for this worthy organization. That helps ensures that the local club can continue to provide programming and activities for the youth in the Blooming Prairie and surrounding area.

A word of congratulations to Lauren Larkoski, as she recently signed a letter of intent to play volleyball for RCTC next fall. Add her to the growing list of BP athletes who are continuing athletic careers as they pursue college educations as well. Larkoski and Anthony Nelson are 2016 graduates who will continue athletics in college.

They join Shelbi Swenson playing softball at Bethel, Madison Worke and John Rumpza playing basketball and football respectively at Winona State, and Taylor Hagen who made the Northern Iowa varsity basketball team as a freshman. We wish all of those former blossoms the best of luck, and we will follow them closely, as they progress through their careers.

Ladies Bowling League

Week 13	Won	Lost
Kosters' Car Korner	30	22
F&M Bank	29	23
J&H Liquor/Dairy Queen	27	25
Pizza Cellar/Cue Comp.	26	26
Epic Contracting	25	27
DOE	20	32

HIGH TEAM (scratch)	
F & M Bank	562
HIGH TEAM (handicap)	
J&H Liquor/Dairy Queen	597
HIGH TEAM SERIES (scratch)	
F & M Bank	1573
HIGH TEAM SERIES (handicap)	
J&H Liquor/Dairy Queen	1678
HIGH GAME INDIVIDUAL	
1. Kathy Meyer	166
2. Joann Nielsen	164
HIGH SERIES INDIVIDUAL	
1. Joann Nielsen	461
2. Becky Noble	459

2016 MINNESOTA VIKINGS SCHEDULE

Preseason

Fri, Aug. 12	at Cincinnati	6:30pm
Thu, Aug. 18	at Seattle	9:00pm
Sun, Aug. 28	SAN DIEGO	12:00pm
Thu, Sep. 1	LOS ANGELES	7:00pm

Regular Season

Sun, Sep. 11	at Tennessee	12:00pm
Sun, Sep. 18	GREEN BAY	7:30pm
Sun, Sep. 25	at Carolina	12:00pm
Mon, Oct. 3	N.Y. GIANTS	7:30pm
Sun, Oct. 9	HOUSTON	12:00pm
Sun, Oct. 16	OPEN DATE	
Sun, Oct. 23	at Philadelphia	12:00pm
Mon, Oct. 31	at Chicago	7:30pm
Sun, Nov. 6	DETROIT	12:00pm
Sun, Nov. 13	at Washington	12:00pm
Sun, Nov. 20	ARIZONA	12:00pm
Thu, Nov. 24	at Detroit	11:30am
Thu, Dec. 1	DALLAS	7:25pm
Sun, Dec. 11	at Jacksonville	12:00pm
Sun, Dec. 18	INDIANAPOLIS	12:00pm
Sat, Dec. 24	at Green Bay	12:00pm
Sun, Jan. 1	CHICAGO	12:00pm

Legal Notices

Steele County

Steele County Commissioner's Synopsis for 3/22/2016
Complete minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website.

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
1. Huntington/Brady to approve the agenda. Ayes all.
2. Schultz/Glynn to approve the following consent agenda items.
   A. Approve the minutes of March 8, 2016.
   B. Approve the Bills.
   C. Approve the Personnel Report:
   D. Award of Bid for the Farmland Lease in the amount of $6,340.
   E. Approve the quote for the Parking Lot Sweeping in the amount of $1,565 for Spring Clean-Up Sweep and $975 for Additional Sweep if requested by the County.
   F. Approve the quote for Gravel Hauling from Rod Anderson & Sons at $82.00/hour, Timm's Trucking Inc at $88.00/hour and Loken Excavation & Drainage Inc. at $88.00/hour as needed for 2016 belly dump trucking rates.
   G. Approve the quote for the Four Seasons Centre East Rink Reconfiguration from Athletic Sport System in a not-to-exceed amount of $36,742.
   H. Approval of Bids for Seasonal Materials.
   I. Award of Bid for CP 074-016-01for 2016 County wide striping contract to Sir Lines-A-Lot in the amount of $115,672.40.
   J. Award of Bid for CP 074-016-02 for 2016 Sealcoat Project to Asphalt Surface Technologies Corp. in the amount of $558,030.05.
   K. Approve IV-D Child Support Cooperative Agreement with MNPrairie & Steele County Attorney/Sheriff.
   L. Approve MNPrairie Finance Committee Alternate as County Administrator Laura Elvebak.
   M. Acceptance of Land Use and Records Policy Committee Minutes.
   N. Acceptance of the Land Use Records Committee Minutes (Addendum).
   O. Acceptance of PWPC Minutes.
   P. Acceptance of Internal Central Services Minutes.
   Q. February 2016 IT Dashboard.
   R. Four Seasons Centre 2016 Activities Dates.
   S. Acceptance of the AMC Legislative Policy Positions 2016 Document.
3. Steve Schroht, Four Seasons Centre/Park & Rec Director presented Bill Hartle and Doug Voss with a Certificate of Appreciation for their service on the Park & Recreation Committee.
4. Brady/Schultz to approve the request to send the Assistant Director of Information Technology job description in for a rating. Ayes all.
5. Huntington/Glynn to approve advertising for a Records Specialist Position at the LEC. Ayes all.
6. Glynn/Brady to adopt the Resolution of a negative declaration for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and to adopt the prepared Findings of Fact. Ayes all.
7. Glynn/Brady to approve the Amendment to CUP #302 for Southern Minnesota to expand their existing limestone quarry to the north onto 7.82 acres located in the SE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 33, Clinton Falls Township with 25 conditions per the Planning Commission and to accept the Findings of Fact. Ayes all.
8. Brady/Huntington to approve the Local Option Abatement for Jacob R. Standke, 8009 24th Ave SE, Owatonna MN 55060, PID # 05-024-4402 for 1 month for pay 2014 and 3 months for pay 2015 in the amount estimated at $118.92. Ayes all.
9. Brady/Schultz to approve the SSTS Low Income Fix-up Grant Policy from the Clean Water Fund in the amount of $36,390 to be used to assist low income households in replacing non-compliant septic systems. Ayes all.
10. Glynn/Huntington to approve the Cooperative Agreement with the City of Blooming Prairie for Design & Construction of 2016 Seal Coat project. Ayes all.
11. Glynn/Schultz to approve the Cooperative Agreement with the City of Ellendale for the Design & Construction of 2016 Seal Coat project. Ayes all.
12. Huntington/Brady to award the bid for SAP's 74-607-22 and 74-645-34 to Ulland Brothers Inc. in the amount of $6,939,289.60. Upon the vote being taken four Commissioners voted in favor thereof, Commissioner Glynn abstaining.
13. Schultz/Huntington to award the bid for the CSAH 34 & CSAH 45 Traffic Signal project (SAP 074-634-023) to James Brothers Construction, Inc. for the low bid of $527,611.10. Ayes all.
14. Brady/Huntington to approve the quote from Wolff & Son's for Highway Sweeping in the amount of $935 for spring sweeping and $770 for fall sweeping. Ayes all.
15. Huntington/Glynn to approve the Contract Amendment No.1 to the professional services contract with Stonebrooke Engineering for CSAH 7 & 45 not to exceed $17,876.40. Ayes all.
16. Huntington/Schultz to award the bid for the 4 Seasons Centre Bleachers to Seating and Athletic Facility Enterprises LLC in the amount of $194,599. Ayes all.
17. Glynn/Brady to approve the quote from Seating & Athletic Facility Enterprises, LLC for a portable aluminum handicap ramp in an amount not to exceed $10,000. Ayes all.
18. Huntington/Brady to approve the quote from R & K Electric to provide three phase power to the new power retractable bleachers in an amount not to exceed $18,470. Upon the vote being taken three Commissioners voted in favor thereof, Commissioner Glynn & Brady voting against.
19. Huntington/Brady to allow all Landfill Waste Delivery Contracts to auto-renew for one year, through 2017 with the exception of Y Waste Removal and Waseca out of county contracts. Ayes all.
20. Glynn/Brady to approve the Contract with Evergreen Land Services in the not to exceed amount of $13,000 to proceed with the acquisition process for the Kath Property. Ayes all.
21. Huntington/Schultz to authorize advertising for bids for the Public Works Building Project- Phase I and set the bid opening for April 28th at 10 a.m. Ayes all.
22. Huntington/Schultz to approve restructuring the Water Management committee and making committee appointments. Ayes all.
23. Huntington/Schultz to approve restructuring the Water Management committee and making committee appointments. Ayes all.
24. Huntington/Glynn to adopt the updated Investment Policy. Ayes all.
25. Huntington/Schultz to approve sending out a request for Proposal for Independent Financial Advisory Services. Ayes all.
26. Commissioner Reports:
Glynn reported on his attendance at the Soil & Water, MNPrairie and the Cannon River Watershed meeting.
Huntington reported on her attendance at the AMC Conference and the MNPrairie meeting.
Brady reported on his attendance at the AMC Conference and SE MN Water Resources Board
Schultz reported on his attendance at the SEMCAC and the AMC Conference.
Ebeling reported on his attendance at the AMC Conference, KODA, Blooming Prairie Chamber and the Ellendale EDA meeting.
27. Schultz/Glynn to approve the following listing of bills. Ayes all.

LISTING OF BILLS
3/22/2016

A'viands, LLC	10,590.93
Alsdurf, Ph.D./James M	7,500.00
American Solutions for Business	3,345.87
Anoka County Secure	12,338.00
APG Media of Southern Minnesota, LLC	2,343.33
Block Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	2,357.63
Christine Bluhm	2,031.25
CDW Government, Inc.	4,906.20
Central Valley Cooperative	4,020.47
Erickson Engineering, Co. LLC	4,804.00
Evergreen Land Services	3,057.26
Four Seasons Centre	5,610.00
Hillyard- Hutchinson	2,366.07
Innovative Office Solutions, LLC	4,544.22
Kris Engineering, Inc.	13,094.80
Kronos Incorporated	2,340.00
Leo A. Hoffmann Center, Inc.	8,352.00
Magtech Ammunition	4,605.41
Mayo Clinic	3,876.50
Moore Md/Kellyanna	2,500.00
NACO	2,475.00
Ortel Architects	72,570.20
Ratwik Roszak & Moloney PA	3,794.20
Roger & Sons, LLC	3,500.00
Steele County Treasurer	9,323.49
Stonebrooke Engineering, Inc.	34,877.70
Thomson Reuters – West	4,413.69
Trane U.S. Inc.	2,834.00
Turnkey Corrections	14,427.36
126 Warrants under $2,000	65,164.77
Total:	**$317,964.35**

28. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m. for a closed session.
29. Huntington/Glynn to re-open the Board Meeting at 8:10 p.m.
30. Glynn/Brady to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 8:12 p.m. Ayes all.

4/19

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

COUNTY OF STEELE

Court File No. 74-PR-16-661

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

Estate of
Jerome J. Lee,
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on May 17, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, May 5, 2009, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Evelyn M. Lee, whose address is 12969 72nd Avenue SW, New Richland, MN, 56072 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

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

Dated
2016.04.04

BY THE COURT
Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court

Kim Wobschall
Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner
Eric J. Mattison
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 151609
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: mattison@owatonnalawyers.com

4/12,4/19

Foreclosure

14-095442

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 26, 2007
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $134,400.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Larry D Larson and Kim M Dougherty Larson, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100037506567766788
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: GMAC Mortgage, LLC dba ditech.com
SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed July 19, 2007, Steele County Registrar of Titles, as Document Number T000061882, thereafter reformed by Court Order recorded on March 15, 2016 as document number T000073525
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Lot 12, except the East 90 feet; Lot 13, except the East 90 feet; and the East 62.1 feet of Lot 14, in Block 1, all lying and being in Elm Heights Addition to the City of Owatonna
REGISTERED PROPERTY
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 239 16th NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-164-0114 COT# 16503
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $179,215.02.
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: June 7, 2016, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on December 7, 2016, or the next business day if December 7, 2016 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: April 5, 2016

Nationstar Mortgage 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
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

4/12,4/19,4/26
5/3,5/10,517

Foreclosure

13-092746

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: August 26, 2010
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $198,200.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Thomas D. Breuer, and JoAnn D. Breuer, as husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Bank of America, N.A.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Bank of America, N.A.
SERVICER: Seterus, Inc.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed September 1, 2010, Steele County Registrar of Titles, as Document Number T000066242
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Federal National Mortgage Association
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Lot 3, Block 1, Brooktree No. 4
REGISTERED PROPERTY
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1738 Greenhaven Ln NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-350-0103 COT# 18305
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $202,893.87
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: May 31, 2016, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2016, or the next business day if November 30, 2016 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: April 8, 2016

Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA)
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

4/12,4/19,4/26
5/3,5/10,517

STEELE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That on Monday, May 2nd, 2016 starting at 7:00 pm., the Steele County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing in the Commissioner's Room of the Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, Owatonna, MN, to receive comments on the following permit application.
Don Redman has requested to rezone a parcel described as Block 1, Lots 3, Hagen Addition from General Business to Residential.
All persons interested are invited to attend said hearings and be heard on these matters.

Dale Oolman
Steele County Zoning Director
630 Florence Ave. P.O. Box 890
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 444-7482

4/19

ADVERTISEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION BIDS

Project: Steele County Public Works Service Center - Phase One.
Owatonna, MN

Owner: Steele County
630 Florence Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060

Description: Phase one will include: Site grading, Site utilities, Curb & Gutter, Bituminous paving, Concrete paving, Landscaping, Fuel island, Site Electrical, Foundation excavation, Concrete foundations, Masonry foundation walls and Salt/Sand storage building.

Schedule: Award project contracts: May 31, 2016
Project Start – June 13, 2016
Project Completion: November 4, 2016

Wages Paid: This is a prevailing wage project. All Steele County requirements shall be incorporated into contracts including Prevailing Wages and State & Federal Statutes.

Bid Opening: Thursday, April 28, 2016 by 10:00 a.m. at Steele County Board Room

Proposals: Sealed Bids will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Steele County, Minnesota at the Office of the County Auditor, Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Ave, Owatonna, Minnnesota 55060.
Bids will opened and publicly read in the Steele County Board Room, Administration Center
Envelopes should be labeled accordingly:
Project Name
Name of Contract being bid (Example: C-01 Grading)
Name of Bidder

Documents: Contract documents will be on file on or about 3/29/16 and are available at the following locations.

1. Construction Manager's Office, Amcon Construction Company, LLC, 5565 Blaine Avenue, Sutie 250, Inver Grove Heights, 55076
Construction Manager's Website, www.amconconstruction.com Click on Construction Zone then Bid Center. Contact Julie Bennington at 651-379-9005 for Log in Project # and Password.
2. Minneapolis Builders Exchange, 1123 Glenwood Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55405
3. St Cloud Builders Exchange, 110 6th Ave South, St. Cloud, MN 56301
4. Builders Exchange of Rochester, 108 Elton Hills Lane NW, Rochester, MN 55901
5. St. Paul Builders Exchange, 445 Farrington St. St. Paul, MN 55103
6. Austin Builders Exchange, 329 North Main St., Suite 102, MN 55912
7. Albert Lea Exchange, 701 Marshall Street, Albert Lea, MN 56007
8. Steele County Auditor's Office, 630 Florence Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060
9.Steele County DPW/Engineer's Office, 635 Florence Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060

Bid Guarantee: All bids to be accompanied by a certified check or bid bond for 5% of the base bid.

3/29, 4/5, 4/19

Dodge County Independent
Dodge County ADvantage
Steele County Times

Classifieds

3-WEEK SPECIAL: $30
BUY TWO WEEKS, GET THE THIRD FREE
UP TO 20 WORDS; 10¢ FOR EACH WORD AFTER







REACH OVER 17,000 IN OVER 12 COMMUNITIES

To place an ad: Call: 507-583-4431, E-mail: bptimes@frontiernet.net, Mail: P.O. Box 247, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

EMPLOYMENT

Taking applications for experienced P/T: receptionist, stylist, or booth renter w/ manager/operator license. Stop in to fill out an application Expressions Hair Studio & Tanning at 211 W. Main St. Kasson. 16, 17c & 18 nc

The Dodge Center Library is looking for a part-time Library Aide to assist with shelving, processing, and service to the public. Applicants must have a high school diploma, enjoy working with people, be tech savvy, and able to multitask. Some evenings and weekend hours, previous library or customer service experience preferred. Applicants available at the library's website dodgecenter.lib.mn.us or at Dodge Center City Hall. Send cover letter, resume, and application to dc_dir@selco.info or mail to PO Box 430, Dodge Center MN 55927. For more information contact Ingvild Herfindahl at 507-374-2275 16,17,18c

Painters wanted. Experience preferred, interior and exterior. Call (507) 254-4171, ask for Josh. 17-19c

Hiring for concrete construction. Hard working, reliable, laborers and finishers needed. Wage based on experience. Call Dobbs Construction now! Luke @507-259-9180 7tfc

Carpenters wanted. Experience preferred but will train. Health Insurance/401k/Paid Holidays/PTO. Established company. Great starting wages! (507) 775-7068 17tfc

Concrete/cement workers needed: 1 concrete laborer, $16-17/hour, and 1 experienced cement finisher, $20+/hour, KM area, start immediately. Call or text Steve at (507) 272-6292 17-19c

Now accepting applications for the spring season for cashiers and customer service. Please inquire at Houston's Greenhouse, 507-634-7113. 18-20c

Full time night position available working with Elderly Clients At Wellington Adult care in Dodge Center. The hours are 11PM to 6:30 AM Sunday through Wednesday. Applicant must be 18 yrs. old and have a valid drivers license. and submit to a background check. For more info and an interview contact Jane or Bill @ 507-374-2198 or 507-319-4821 17tfc

Taher is now hiring for a cashier/food prep position at the Kasson-Mantorville High School. Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Applications are online at komets.k12.mn.us. Go to services, food service, then employment application, or at the K-M Middle School Food Service office. Please call 507-634-4462 with questions. 18-20c

FOR SALE

1993 Chevy P-Van, Retired Fire Truck, 454 Engine, 61,207 miles. Call Bill (507) 251-6539 with questions. Sealed offers due to West Concord City Hall, April 22, 5:00 p.m. 17,18c

FOR RENT

2 bedroom - Dodge Center Opening for June! $700 p/mo. Spacious unit, large closets, 1 1/2 bath, AC, DW, blinds, garage and much more! 507-633-2178 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO 16,17c, 18nc

Apartments for rent, 1, 2 & 3 BR, gas & elec. included. 507-273-7386. 50-1p, 2tfc

Prime office spaces for rent on Main Street, Kasson. High traffic location. Call 634-4307 for more information. 37tfc

Spring Rent Sale- Great Western Apartments, Hayfield, will reduce your rent by $100 per month with a one-year lease. Newly renovated with large rooms, hardwood floors, and utilities included. We have the 1, 2, or 3 bedroom apartment you want. Call (507) 796-0152 or (701) 330-9706 for sale details 12tfc

MCAN

Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

HELP WANTED - DRIVERS

NOW HIRING
Company OTR drivers. $2,000 sign on bonus, flexible home time, extensive benefits. Call now! Hibb's & Co. 763/389-0610

LINSMEIER TRUCKING
A MN based company is now hiring Owner Operators and Company Drivers to pull hopper bottom in the upper Midwest. Home weekends. Call 320/382-6644

Classified Advertising that is Easy!
The Minnesota Classified Ad Network
Make an impact with your advertising dollar with classified advertising that reaches over 3 million readers!
mcan STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS
Your newspaper representative can provide complete details.
The 2x4 Network is a program of the MNA, phone 800-279-2979

FARM EQUIPMENT

OUR HUNTERS WILL
pay Top $$$ to hunt your land. Call for a free Base Camp Leasing info packet & quote: 866/309-1507 www.BaseCampLeasing.com

MISCELLANEOUS

GOT KNEE PAIN?
Back Pain? Shoulder Pain? Get a pain-relieving brace -little or no cost to you. Medicare patients call health hotline now! 800/755-6807

DOES YOUR AUTO CLUB
offer no hassle service and rewards? Call Auto Club of America (ACA) & Get $200 in ACA Rewards! (New members only) Roadside Assistance & Monthly Rewards. Call 800/279-8096

DONATE YOUR CAR
truck or boat to Heritage For The Blind. Free 3 day vacation, tax deductible, free towing, all paperwork taken care of 800/439-1735

MISCELLANEOUS

DISH TV
190 channels plus High-speed Internet Only $49.94/mo! Ask about a 3 year price guarantee & get Netflix included for 1 year! Call Today 800/297-8706

Your ad here!
One phone call & only $279 to reach a statewide audience of 3 million readers!!!
1-800-279-2979

GEOTHERMAL HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS
Commercial, residential & shop buildings. Economical heating & cooling. Federal tax Credits/electric rebates. Earthloop Geothermal Systems, Fosston 218/435-6379 or 218/230-5533

STOP OVERPAYING FOR YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS!
Save up to 93%! Call our licensed Canadian and International pharmacy service to compare prices and get $15.00 off your first prescription and free shipping. Call 800/259-1096

SERVICES

HAMM'S WELDING - All types, aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, fabrication work and repairs. HAMM'S WELDING, 528-2524, rural Claremont. 9tfc

Dodge County Printing, wedding invitations, bumper stickers, graduation invitations, pens, can holders, letterheads, envelopes, business cards, carbonless forms, computer stationary. Ask about other items available, 507-634-2661. 33tfp

TUTORING. Learning can be fun! All grades - most subjects. Linda L. Greene 507-374-2363. 38tfc

WANTED

Looking for pasture 2016, please call Paul at 456-5329. 15-18sct

REAL ESTATE

5 bedroom, 3 bath home, 3 car attached garage, deck, new carpet and paint, private master suite, Kasson. NP/NS, $239,900. Call Jenni at 424-6063. 13tfc

GARAGE SALE

60936 254th Ave. Mantorville, One day only-Sat. 8- 2 p.m. Kids clothing, outdoor furniture, brand new screened in canopy, old bikes, lots of knick-knacks (Halloween, Christmas, Easter) Christmas tree, Christmas houses, dishes, cameras, bedding and much more.

Jeff Dohrmann's 7 Hillcrest Court, Pine Island, Wed. April 27 & Thurs. April 28 4-8 p.m. Fri. April 29 7- 4 p.m, Sat. April 30 7 - 12. Huge moving sale. Framed pictures, bikes, Pack-n-play, king bookcase headboard, computer desk, Duncan Phyfe drop leaf table, misc. furniture, hunting equipment, tools, shop supplies, collections, Coors steins, owls, figurines, Bradford wildlife plates, NASCAR, cookie jars, Christmas village, VHS movies, no clothing.

Annual Garage Sale, new location, 409 5th St. West Concord. Randy Dessner resident. Kids clothes, couch, kids, bikes, misc. Sat. 8- 1 p.m.

Annual Ellingson Garage Sale, West Concord American Legion Hall, Sat., 8:30 - 4 p.m. Toddler bed, double stroller, single stroller, infant walker, booster car seat, Toro power shovel, Hoover vacuum, 18'' wide Yard Master tiller, natural gas water heater (brand new), misc. furniture, infant-adult clothing (name brand in exc. Cond.), Radio Flyer wagon, IH Farmall pink pedal tractor, toys, household, and much misc. No early sales!

208 Concord Street, West Concord, Sat. 8-2 p.m. Moving sale! Couches, wall décor, end tables, beds and dressers, dining room table, Tupperware, pot and pans, dishes, ladies clothing, antiques. Everything is priced to sell.

62358 190 Ave Dodge Center, Thurs. 5- 7 p.m. Fri., 8-12. Daycare & rummage sale. Lots of toys, books, clothes, bed, Pack-n-plays, something for everyone.



KRUEGER TRUCKING
CDL driver over the road dry van.
Driver benefits included. Paid holidays, vacation pay, and 401K health plan.
Krueger Trucking
Austin, MN
1-800-634-3317
5-7c

Join us for REM Woodvale's *ULTIMATE Hire Day!*
WITH REM WOODVALE & THE MENTOR NETWORK!
REM WOODVALE
Enrich Yourself, Empower Another
• On-the Spot Interviews! • Flexible Full & Part-time Schedules! • Rewarding Career Opportunities!
•H.S. Diploma/GED
•Ability to pass criminal background study required
Tuesday, April 26th 2016 | 2:00-6:00pm
TWO Locations!
301 N. Main St – Austin
592 Adams Ave – Owatonna
Apply Today!
http://jobs.thementornetwork.com/search/woodvale
AAE-EOE
18c

WHEN A NURSING HOME IS NOT FOR YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONE...
Wellingtonadultcarehastrainedsta˜ whowork24hrs.adaytoprovideyou withservicessuchasprepared meals,medicationmanagement,personal care such as bathing, dressing and grooming, as well as other activities of daily living. All meals are served family style in the dining room. Special dietsarenotaproblem.Wealsoarrangetransportationtoandfrommedical appointmentsaccompaniedbysta˜ orfamily.Wesupplylaundryservices, andhousekeeping.Ourhomeiswheelchairaccessible.Wehavea1to5sta˜ toclientratio.Allroomsareprivate.Weserveavarietyofclientsovertheage of 55. We are licensed by Dodge County and the State of Minnesota.
For more information please contact
Jane Hill @ 507.374.2198 or 507.319.5134
20tfc

DEVELOPMENTAL COGNITIVELY DELAYED (DCD) TEACHER
Triton Public Schools will be hiring a Developmental Cognitively Delayed (DCD) Special Education Teacher Grades K-5 for the 2016 – 2017 school year.
All postings and applications for Triton Public Schools can be found at: www.triton.k12.mn.us - under the District Office menu. EOE
18c

PT COOK/WAITSTAFF
needed at Prairie Meadows in Kasson.
Apply in person.
Ask for Kabrie.
EOE.
Prairie Meadows SENIOR LIVING Kasson
13-23c

WANTED:
DIRECT CARE STAFF
Immediate openings for Direct Care Sta˜ for 4 bed group home in West Concord. FT and PT PM positions available. Must be 18, have current MN driv lic & pass background check. $11.00 – $11.25. Full Beneÿts Package for FT positions. Call Heidi or Karla at 507-527-2456 or apply at 205 Southview St., West Concord. EOE
17-21c

80% of people who have cable DON'T LIKE IT
Is this you?
It's time to divorce cable and satellite TV!
TIME WARNER CABLE · at&t · COX COMMUNICATIONS · DIRECTV · dish NETWORK · comcast · Charter COMMUNICATIONS

WANT TO MAKE EXTRA CASH?
Interested in a home-based business?
MAKE $$$$$$$$ QUICKLY & EASILY
triniti communications international
The revolution of IPTV (Internet protocol TV) is here and features better quality and sound at a greatly reduced cost.
Check us out with an on-line presentation at
www.mediaexpansion.trintitakeover.com
"We're aiming to help people understand the importance of having a home business."

Cleary Building Corp.
MINI STORAGE
New Building
Large Units Now Available
10 x 24....$70.00/month
Weekday hours:
8-12:00 & 1-5 p.m.
Saturday hours:
8-12:00
Excellent Location
At **Cleary Building Corp.**
702 7th St. Circle SE
Kasson, MN
(507)634-6640
35tfc

FAIRVIEW CARE CENTER
Fairview Care Center is seeking a Part-time Housekeeping Aide.
- Day Shifts & Every Third Weekend/Holiday
- 40 hours/Pay period
- PTO and PERA

For application or more information call:
Brenda Vieths, Director of Environmental Services
Fairview Care Center
702 10th Ave. NW
P.O. Box 10
Dodge Center, MN 55927
PH# 507-374-2578
brenda.vieths@co.dodge.mn.us
EOE
18c

Casting call for aspiring journalists

Are you a high school student who loves to write?

Can you enable people to see what they are looking at as you paint pictures with your words? Our newly developed intern program may be JUST what you have been waiting for. Mark DeLap, the new Managing Editor of the Steele County Times is accepting the challenge to mentor and teach two students from each of our area high schools both now and through the summer session.

DeLap is a published author, a veteran writer, a respected educator, and a successful coach, and he is making himself available to mentor students with a passion for journalism and mass media. Here is a quote from one of his former journalism students: "Hey Mark! It was you who got me hooked on this whole spoken word thing. I also think it was you who gave me a Garrison Keillor tape that I replayed and replayed and replayed.

These kids don't know how little access we had to TV and radio archives before YouTube." That quote came from CNN columnist, legal analyst, television personality and successful defense attorney Daniel Cevallos. Perhaps you will one day aspire to become a media sensation, or perhaps you just want to touch the hearts and lives of your community with your thoughts

Here is your chance to take some pictures, write some stories and make some memories.

The mentoring class will be an hour in length each week and from that platform, you will be assigned to write and edit stories, lay out pages and bring your thoughts to life on the printed page.

If you have any interest or questions, you may contact Steele County Newspaper Managing Editor, Mark DeLap at 507-676-0679 or via email at markdelap@hotmail.com. Together we can tell the world, or at least our little corner thereof, the stories of the events that are shaping history.

Seeking volunteer families to host students

"Hosting an international exchange student is a wonderful way for American families to learn about another country and culture without ever leaving their homes," says Laura Stahl, Special Services Director for Organization for Cultural Exchange Among Nations. "It is also a great way to promote cultural awareness while providing young people with the opportunity of a lifetime."While participating in the exchange program students learn how Americans celebrate holidays that may be new to them, such as Halloween and Thanksgiving. They also participate in the family's daily life while attending American Students are fully insured, proficient in English and come with their own spending money to cover personal expenses.

Organization for Cultural Exchange Among Nations(OCEAN) is currently sponsoring students from the countries of Brazil, China, Colombia, Italy, Ecuador, Germany, Slovakia, Spain Viet Nam, Ukraine and more.

Families of all types are able to participate in our program, to include single persons and senior citizens, as well as married couples who are either with or without children. Host families are volunteers and are asked to provide the student with room and board, as well as a loving family environment. For more information about hosting contact Janet Sinning 507-251-1657 or email her at jsinning@ocean-intl.org









STEELE COUNTY TIMES PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

Collision



Electrical

AMERICAN ENERGY LLC
507-383-1547
Jay D. Peterson
Electrical Contractor
www.americanenergyllc.us
email americanenergyllc@gmail.com
Geothermal | Solar PV
IR Thermal Imaging | 3D Concrete Imaging

Excavating



Farm

Mike & Jeff Custom Farms
We offer:
Seed
Chemical
Fertilizer
Custom Farming
Crop Scouting
MJC Farms, LLC
13324 89th Ave SE
Blooming Prairie, MN
55917
Fax 507-572-1337
High Yields Start Here
Mike Ingvalson 507-456-1436
mikeingvalson@hotmail.com
Jeff Ingvalson 507-456-1439
jeffingvalson@hotmail.com

Lawn Care



Maintenance



Monuments



Pets



Sanitation & Recycling



Tires



Advertise Here



Truck Accessories

